



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2017 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Isaac De Lara	Project Number J0405
Project Title TV Madness	
Abstract Objectives/Goals The purpose of this project was to find out if violent cartoons affect the way people think. Methods/Materials The subjects were shown either a violent cartoon or nonviolent cartoon. They were then given a survey to measure their beliefs regarding aggression and violence. After the survey, they were shown five different images. Each image was ambiguous, where there were two different things that people could see. One of the things in each image was good and one was bad. For example, the words good and evil were in the same image. The subjects were asked what they saw first. Results The results showed that the violent cartoon and the nonviolent cartoon barely affected the subjects. The survey showed less than one point difference between the people who watched the nonviolent and violent cartoon, and the images had less than a 2% margin. Conclusions/Discussion The results suggest that the mind is not affected by violent cartoons. The hypothesis that said people who saw a violent cartoon would be desensitized and see scenarios as less violent was not supported. The hypothesis that stated that they would identify the violent words in the picture more often was supported. The results may have turned out this way because watching only 2 minutes and 16 seconds of a cartoon doesn't affect the way people think. It is possible that the cartoon was not violent enough and it appears that the nonviolent images were easier to identify which probably affected the results.	
Summary Statement I found that children's aggressiveness and empathy were not affected by watching violent cartoons.	
Help Received My teachers, Mr. Bessler and Ms. Rivard, supported me throughout my project. Dr. Haim Belzer helped me get background information and tips for my project.	