

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2005 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

J1702

# **Project Title**

# **Physical Attractiveness**

#### **Abstract**

# **Objectives/Goals**

My objective was to figure out how a pre-teen's or teenager's own physical features affect his/her choices on what's attractive on the opposite sex.

#### Methods/Materials

Firstly, I collected images, such as eye colors from google.com and hair colors/lengths from 4 hairstyle magazines. I then cut them up neatly and pasted them on blank, white sheets of papers. The next step was testing 80 individuals (40 males and 40 females) who were showed those 6 sets of pictures:

- 1. Eye colors. I asked them which color they prefer on the opposing gender.
- 2. Hair colors. I asked them which color they like most on the opposite sex.
- 3. Based on what they chose for #2, I showed them 4 different hair lengths in that color. They were to state which hair length they find most attractive on the opposite sex.
- 4. After all those steps, I asked them why they made those choices. (Answers were provided.)

## **Results**

Among 80 students whom I conducted my experiment on, 41% picked a partner who has a physical feature similar to theirs, while having one that they themselves want. The second most popular answer was being attracted to someone who has no similar feature or whatsoever, coming in at 36%. Lastly, there's the one about liking a person who's a carbon copy, with the result of 22%.

## **Conclusions/Discussion**

My results completely support the hypothesis I'd made in the beginning process of my science fair project. The new information I've just discovered proves that majority of preteens/teenagers DO care about looks, even if they say otherwise. One of the main reasons for this is that deep inside, they really are quite insecure about themselves. Thus, they are out there looking for mates who have features that they desire. But then again, there's also a close amount of people who completely despise what they look like, so they're attracted to someone who's a total opposite.

# **Summary Statement**

My project is about how a preteen's or teenager's own physical features/appearance affect his/her judgment of the opposing gender, such as the way they look.

## Help Received

Ian Kastelic (My 8th grade science teacher who was there to approve of this idea, and actually offered extra credit in order to obtain the amount of people needed for my project.); Roy and Cora Anorico (They're my parents who bought me most of the materials, such as magazines, for this experiment.)