

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2005 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) **Project Number** Rachel J. Bernhardt **J1704 Project Title** Mother of the Groom: The Role of Personality in Choosing a Wife Abstract **Objectives/Goals** My project is a study in personality and how it may affect a person's decisions. I wanted to see if men really marry women with personalities like those of their mothers'. Methods/Materials Twenty-three trios of husband-wife-mother were tested. A total of sixty- eight people took two different personality tests. One test was the True Colors test and the other was the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator test (MBTI). The True Colors test has four possible personality types, the MBTI sixteen types. A comparison of the results of the tests by the wife and mother of each husband was done. **Results** Fifteen of the twenty-three or sixty-five percent of mothers and wives matched in the True Colors Test, while six of twenty-three, or twenty six percent, of the wives exactly matched their mother in law in the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. When looking at whether three of the four letter characteristics of the MBTI matched, fifteen of twenty-three, or sixty-five percent, matched. **Conclusions/Discussion** I conclude that men really do marry women with personalities like their mothers'. A mother's personality does play a significant role in the choice of a spouse for men. **Summary Statement** Men choose a wife with a personality similar to that of their mothers'. Help Received none