# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
## 2005 PROJECT SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Caitlin A. Killmer</td>
<td>S0314</td>
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### Project Title

**Visual Perceptions and Handedness**

### Abstract

**Objectives/Goals**

The goal of my project was to determine if there is a correlation between handedness and the way one interprets a picture. I wanted to prove my hypothesis, which was that left-handed individuals would be more likely to pick a *sensitive* interpretation than right handed people were, and that right-handed people would be more consistent in the interpretation that they chose—essentially, that there would be more continuity among righties than among lefties.

**Methods/Materials**

I tested approximately 30 subjects by showing them Thomas Cole’s *The Oxbow* and having them choose the interpretation that best matched their own personal interpretation, from a total of three possible interpretations. The three possible interpretations were all written by me, and are all subjective. I consider the first interpretation to be the most traditional, the second to be somewhat pessimistic, and the third to be very sensitive and optimistic. After testing, I tallied the results.

**Results**

I found that of the three left handed subjects, two identified best with the second interpretation, and one identified best with the third interpretation. Of the twenty seven right handed subjects, 7 best identified with the first interpretation, 9 best identified with the second interpretation, and 11 best identified with the third interpretation.

**Conclusions/Discussion**

My results are inconclusive. With such a limited sample size, I am not able to draw any real conclusion from my data. However, I believe that with further testing, I may be able to prove my hypothesis.

### Summary Statement

My project tests whether handedness is related to visual perceptions.

### Help Received

Brother helped make header board and titles.