

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2005 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

S0317

Project Title

Human Asexuality

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The objectives of this project were to establish trends and common traits among asexuals, to examine possible causes, and to debunk or uphold commonly-held beliefs about asexuality and its causes.

Methods/Materials

Since large amounts of prior research and face-to-face contact with such a small group of people was out of the question, we relied on online polls, surveys and articles and studies done. The computer, therefore, was the only tool needed for research.

Results

While common assumptions made about asexuality's causes were proved to be partially and sometimes entirely untrue (i.e., religious celibacy, bad family life, marijuana use and low self esteem), other factors that are extremely rare in the general population, such as high IQ, Asperger's Syndrome and intersex (being biologically neither male nor female) had a relatively high frequency worth further study, according to polls and surveys.

Conclusions/Discussion

Though establishing cause-and-effect relationships between asexuality and the factors tested was impossible given the methods available for research, astounding correlations were found, while several factors that would seem to be important in terms of their effects on asexuality were not. Further research into the subject could not only provide more knowledge about (what causes) asexuality, but also bring new knowledge about related subjects like high-functioning autism and gender identity.

Summary Statement

This project examined an approximate 1% of the population who has no interest in sex, specifically examining why that is, and establishing what factors do and do not play a role in lack of sex drive.

Help Received

Shain's mom helped with gluing and cutting materials for the board.