



# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2010 PROJECT SUMMARY

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Tara M. Dolin</b>	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J0306</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>How Obstacles Influence the Speed of Cars</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Abstract</b></p> <p><b>Objectives/Goals</b> I was interested in this topic because I wanted to know if people actually slow down when there are children or children's equipment placed on the street.</p> <p><b>Methods/Materials</b> The materials I used were a radar gun from local police department, a tricycle, a neighborhood street, paper, a pencil.</p> <p><b>Results</b> I averaged out the speed of the cars without any obstacles. Then I averaged the speed with a tricycle and with a child on the tricycle. After comparing the data, the speed of the cars without the tricycle was the highest. The speed of the cars with only the tricycle the cars slowed down. The cars slowed down the most when there was a child on the tricycle. This confirms that when the bike was in the street, many cars slowed down. For additional information, I also recorded whether the driver was male or female. I then averaged out their speeds with and without the bike in the street after comparing the speeds; I determined that when the bike was not in the street, the males drove faster than the female#s drivers. When the bike was in the street, the female#s drivers drove faster than the male drivers. Without anything the 40 car average of both the genders was 28.35. There were 22 cars driven by females and it averaged to 28.91. There were 18 cars driven by males and it averaged to 27.67. With only the tricycle the 40 car average of both genders was 25.33. There were 19 cars driven by females and it averaged to 24.31. There were 21 cars driven by males and it averaged to 26.24. With the tricycle and the child the 40 car the average of both genders was 22.98. There were 16 cars driven by females and it averaged to 21.81. There were 24 cars driven by males and it averaged to 23.75. I did the test on Hacienda Ave, San Mateo, California. It was dry and sunny conditions. The speed limit is also 25 miles per hour.</p> <p><b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> I measured the speed of 40 cars without any obstacles going down the street. I put a tricycle on the side of the street and then I measured the speed of 40 cars. The cars did slow down about 3 miles per hour. Then I decided to put a child on the tricycle and then it slowed down even more by 2 miles per hour. So people slowed down about 5 miles per hour when they saw the tricycle and a child and they slowed down about 3 miles per hour for just the tricycle.</p>	
<b>Summary Statement</b> I wanted to see how a tricycle, a child, and a tricycle with a child makes traffic slow down on a residential street.	
<b>Help Received</b> Dad drove me to the street	