



CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) Sarah E. Crowley	Project Number 38821
Project Title Discrimination against Women Going into STEM	
Abstract Objectives/Goals This project was to determine if there is discrimination against women pursuing STEM careers and a stereotype of men being more competent in STEM fields that is preventing young women from pursuing these fields Methods/Materials I created my survey with a flowchart and rough draft. I bought a SurveyMonkey account and inserted my final survey into my account. I shared my survey via email and in person, to as many students and adults as possible. Supplies: Computer, iPad, SurveyMonkey account Results Within just the high school and middle school age respondents, 52% of the 255 females and 49.7% of the 207 males I surveyed say they are reluctant to go into STEM fields because they: feel a bias or discrimination against their gender, weren't encouraged enough, think they don't have the grades for STEM, would rather be a full or part-time parent, or were afraid they would not be able to have a romantic relationship. I also found that there is a bias against both genders shown in STEM college classes, more female than male, but there is still a bias against both genders. My survey also showed that a majority of both genders say that they have seen more male bosses than female in their STEM workplace, and when comparing the amount of people who said that they have seen men paid more than women, to the people that said women were paid more than men, the total that answered men paid more than women, had almost 20 times more responses. There is discrimination and a bias against women pursuing STEM, for 30.2% of the 1,473 respondents I surveyed said they would not encourage women to pursue STEM, think men are more competent in STEM than women, and think a woman can not outrank a man in a STEM field Conclusions/Discussion I discovered that there are current stereotypes and discrimination against women pursuing STEM careers, and this discrimination does affect how young females, and males, see STEM careers. I now understand that there is a bias against both genders shown in STEM college classes, and incredible discrimination against women in STEM workplaces. By surveying almost 2,000 people, being rejected several times, and persevering through 6 months of hard work, my project helped me build more social skills and get comfortable in my own skin. This project brings awareness to communities about how to not target the idea that just more females should go into science, but that everyone should	
Summary Statement By online surveying nearly 1500 I determined biases do exist for women entering or working in STEM fields; I was able to redirect questions that lead to clarity of experiences in STEM, men and women, varied ages, regardless of education level	
Help Received My parents purchased a membership with Survey Monkey and provided transportation to and from locations for me to distribute my survey.	