

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J0321

Project Title

Mission Impossible? Your Blood Pressure

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The purpose of this project was to discover whether or not action movies had an effect on children#s blood pressure. The change in blood pressure was also compared between boys and girls. The expectation was that boys would show a stronger response in blood pressure variation than girls.

Methods/Materials

In order to test this, permission slips were sent out to parents at Soille San Diego Hebrew Day School to request their approval for student participation as human subjects. After permission slips were collected, each subject was administered a blood pressure reading with a sphygmomanometer prior to an intense two minute video clip of #Mission: Impossible#. Immediately after the film was shown, one additional blood pressure readings were taken.

Results

The results showed that male student blood pressure levels changed slightly after the movie clip, while the females# had stayed approximately the same. Therefore, it was concluded that, as the hypothesis, the males had a greater stress reaction to the movie, which increased their blood pressure.

Conclusions/Discussion

The results support the hypothesis. They show that in general children#s blood pressure is affected by action movies. Males showed higher response in blood pressure variation than females.

Summary Statement

The effect of action movies on blood pressure.

Help Received

Jake Levi helped type report:; Erin Willard helped organize board; Dr. Michael Welch and Dr. Alan Maisel provided important information; Ms. Julie Reynolds, my science teacher provided guidance throughout my entire project.