



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2009 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Mitzi H. Pierson</b>	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J2121</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>The Dirt on Soap</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Abstract</b></p> <p><b>Objectives/Goals</b> The objective of my project was to find out if antibacterial soap works more effectively at eliminating bacteria than non-antibacterial soap.</p> <p><b>Methods/Materials</b> Using both the antibacterial and non-antibacterial soaps, I grew bacteria on sterilized petri-dishes with agar. The materials I used were: antibacterial hand soap, non-antibacterial hand soap, nutrient broth (bacteria food), agar powder (beef extract &amp; gelatin growth medium), petri-dishes, autoclave (pressure-cooker), laminar flow hood, beef broth, latex gloves, incubator, rubbing alcohol, water, beakers, eye-droppers, pipette, spray bottle, and test tubes.</p> <p><b>Results</b> My results showed that there was no difference in the effect of eliminating bacteria between antibacterial and non-antibacterial handsoaps.</p> <p><b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> My results showed that antibacterial and non-antibacterial soaps had an equal effect. I discovered that "antibacteria" is only a name that makes soaps sell better, because in reality, antibacterial soaps do not work any better than non-antibacterial soaps at eliminating bacteria.</p>	
<b>Summary Statement</b> The main idea of my project was to determine if antibacterial soap really was any better than regular soap.	
<b>Help Received</b> Mr. Potter assisted and supervised my project.	