

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2010 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Ilana S. Skikos

Project Number

J0324

Project Title

The Greatest Mind (Adult Version)

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The purpose of my experiment is to see if men and women see different things in abstract pictures. It is also to see which of these genders agree with suggested answers more. The final thing I tested this year was whether the thoughts and answers of men and women were the same as the boys and girls answers from last year.

Methods/Materials

I showed adults abstract pictures that I had taken from the Rorschach test. For pictures 1-5, each adult would circle one of four suggested answers. For pictures 6-10, each could choose one of the four answers or they could write in their own answer. In the second part of the test, I showed the adults the same 10 pictures. I told them what other groups of people thought the pictures looked like. They could agree or disagree with the suggestions. I then compared the results that I received this year to the results I had taken from last year on seventh grade boys and girls. I had given the seventh grade boys and girls the same test that I gave the adults.

Results

The biggest differences between the groups were: Men saw women. Women saw rats. Girls saw Christmas. Boys saw aggressive animals. Also, I found that the acceptance of suggestion for girls and women is almost the same, but the acceptance for males is opposite. Boys are the most accepting group and men are the least. Finally, women and girls chose to write in answers 42% more often than men and boys did.

Conclusions/Discussion

My first hypothesis was mostly correct. Both females and males saw similar things in abstract pictures. However, they did see some things that were completely different. My second hypothesis was correct. Women agreed with suggestion more than men did. Finally, my last hypothesis was partially right. Women and girls agreed with suggestion about the same rate, but men agreed to suggestion far les than boys did.

Summary Statement

I tested what men, women, boys and girls see in abstract pictures and which group agreed with suggested answers more often.

Help Received

Grandma and mom went with me to administer test. Dad helped me with the board and the analysis.