

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2004 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

**J1709** 

**Project Title** 

## **Middle School Intolerance**

#### **Abstract**

### Objectives/Goals

The objective of this project is to learn what my middle school's greatest prejudice is.

#### Methods/Materials

Procedures: 1.Research prejudice and get ideas for questions to ask on test 2.Design test, making it not obvious to a moral response. 3.Print enough copies for each student in your middle school to take 4.Talk to teachers and plan a good free time for students to take test 5.Pass out tests to students 6.Collect all finished tests from teachers.

Materials: Pencil; Paper; Notebook; Calculator; Enough survey forms for everyone in your middle school.

#### **Results**

Every individual class had different results but all together I discovered that style is what these people prejudice the most. Weight and homosexuality came in a close second and third, but religion and middle-eastern society apparently isn#t what the middle school kids prejudiced against.

#### **Conclusions/Discussion**

Results proved my hypothesis to be incorrect. It turns out that instead of homosexuality being the biggest overall prejudice in our school, it is style. Although the seventh grade results did show that homosexuality was the greatest bias that they witnessed, it was not the case in the other grades.

This project taught me a lot about people in general. It showed that everyone has there own prejudice, with some greater than others. The answers people wrote also showed me that even though I don#t see some of these things demonstrated, they still go on. The project also taught me the vast difference in ideas between grade levels.

What I liked best about this project was the element of surprise. When I tallied the votes, I assumed that everyone would have the same opinion as me. I was stunned to see that my ideas were dominated by other prejudices.

This project doesn#t need any changes, but if I had to think of one it would be to add another question on the survey that specified the person#s sex. With this information I could have come up with more graphs that specified differences between male and female. This would show the different ways of thinking between the two genders.

I think this project helps humanity in the sense that people now can figure out prejudices in their community and stop them earlier. Hate crimes could be reduced significantly. I will end this by saying that everyone has prejudices, we just need to recognize these and learn to accept the differences of others.

## **Summary Statement**

This project is to determine the greatest prejudice in my middle school.

#### Help Received

Father helped spray paint the board; Mother helped tally all of the surveys.