



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2007 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Caitlin M. Carey	Project Number J0303
Project Title Do People's Fears Change as They Get Older?	
Abstract Objectives/Goals To prove or disprove the hypothesis that age (and gender) do effect a person's fears. Methods/Materials The first step was to compile a list of commom fears and list them on a survey form. A section on the bottom of the survey asked the age group of the person filling out the survey. Also, the survey forms asked for the subject to check off their gender. 1200 surveys were created and then disributed at various locations around Orange County. Locations were chosen that would provide a cross section of age and gender. Those who took part were advised they could add any fear they had that was not listed. Finally, all the surveys were collected and the results were compiled by age and gender. Results The reslts of the surveys did not show that people were more, or less, afraid of things because of their age. The survey results also indicated that gender didn't have much of an impact on a person's fears either. Conclusions/Discussion The original hypothesis was that a person's age would have an effect on a their fears and phobia's. The results of the 1200 surveys did not support this belief. After speaking with many of the people who had completed the surveys, it was learned that past life events had more of an impact on a people's fear than age(or gender) did. A person would more likely have a fear of bee's becasue they had been stung before, rather than because they were young or old.	
Summary Statement This project was to show if a person's age(or gender) effected their fears or phobia's.	
Help Received Parents & siblings helped distribute, collect, and compile survey results.	