



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2011 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Juanita Fernandez; Ingrid E. Talavera-Gutierrez</b>	<b>Project Number</b> <b>S0411</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>Who Am I?</b>	
<b>Abstract</b> <b>Objectives/Goals</b> Our objective is to distinguish how many of our peers have a clear sense of who they are using James Marcia's Four Adolescent Identity States. If an adolescent is an upperclassman, then he/she is more likely to have reached the Identity State of Achievement. <b>Methods/Materials</b> Our materials include, a self- created survey and approximately 200 human subjects. We distributed the surveys to several advisory classes ranging from 9th-12th grade levels. Depending of the individual's results, they were categorized into one of James Marcia's Four Adolescent Identity States. After all the surveys were received, the results were graphed by grade levels and then by gender. <b>Results</b> The results show the percentage that reached the Identity State of Achievement: Seniors-54% Juniors-30% Sophomores-40% Freshman-37% <b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> The hypothesis is not entirely correct. Seniors proved to have the highest percentage in the Identity State of Achievement, whereas the Juniors showed to have the lowest percentage. We expected a linear growth; however Juniors went against the pattern, due to external forces such as peer pressure. This project allows us to understand the several steps and various factors that lead to acquiring one's true identity such as one's relationship with parents, social class, and self- esteem.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> Our project classifies our peers into the Four Adolescent Identity States by James Marcia using a self - created survey that explores several aspects of a person's individuality.	
<b>Help Received</b> Dr. Krapes explained the Identity Statues in depth, which allowed us to formulate our questions for our surveys.	