



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2013 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) E. Elle F. Peterson	Project Number J0498
Project Title ADHD or Immaturity?	
<p style="text-align: center;">Abstract</p> <p>Objectives/Goals The objective of my project is to find out if children who are younger than the rest of their classmates being misdiagnosed with ADHD/ADD just because they are more immature.</p> <p>Methods/Materials Acquire 100-200 participants ages 7-14, have these students take a written test answering the following questions, 1) How old are you? 2) What is your birthday? 3) Are you older or younger than most of your classmates? 4) Do you have trouble paying attention in class? 5) Have you ever been tested for something called ADHD? 6) Do you have ADHD? 7) If you have ADHD, do you take medicine to help you with your ADHD? With the ADHD positive tests, compare the age of these subjects to the age of their classmates. Materials: 100-200 participant subjects ages 7-14 and grades 1st through 8th, 100-200 testing documents with the questions listed in the procedure.</p> <p>Results From my data, I can conclude that my hypothesis is true, in that more than 92% of kids with ADHD/ADD that I tested were younger and more immature than their classmates.</p> <p>Conclusions/Discussion After following the necessary steps to complete my project, I have proved that my hypothesis was correct and discovered that in more than 92% of kids with ADHD that I tested were younger and therefore more immature than their classmates. I learned that some ADHD children are probably being diagnosed and treated for a disorder they probably don't even have! If I had to change this project in any way, it would be that I wish I would have had more testing subjects from possibly other schools because that would have also given me more accurate results. My project helped humanity because it hopefully shed some light on the ever-growing problem of over-medicating America's kids. Western doctors today are obsessed with labelling children with anything they can, just so they can get the money for the treatment. Even if those children don't have the disease! I have found many people have the issue with doctors trying to diagnose their children with ADHD/ADD, even when the child had no clear symptoms except for being more immature than their classmates. And what did I find? That most kids diagnosed with ADHD/ADD are those who are younger than their classmates! That means they are more immature! I believe it is the duty of the patient to themselves, their family, and their future to take charge of their health and well being, not just be told what to do and who you are by your doctor.</p>	
Summary Statement My project is about finding out if children who are younger than the rest of their classmates being misdiagnosed with ADHD just because they are more immature and bringing awareness to the ever-growing problem of overmedication of children.	
Help Received Teacher helped me expand on my idea of having a project having to do with overmedication and ADHD.	