



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2014 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Joshua Fields; Riley Magidow; Zachary Magidow	Project Number 34320
Project Title Post High School Exposure and Its Effect on Post High School Decisions	
Abstract Objectives/Goals Our objective was to determine whether high school students who are exposed to post high school options, such as college choices, are more likely to make more informed decisions about their future. Methods/Materials Our materials were human subjects (Juniors and Seniors at Thousand Oaks High School) and an online survey (surveymonkey.com) The experiment was conducted via a survey. The questions on the survey ranged from topics of parent education level and GPA to visiting colleges. There is a question asking what number a student was assigned in class. This number is the determining factor between the experimental and control group. This number was randomly assigned to classes via a random number generator. After the basic data was gathered, the experimental group went on and looked at several pages of statistics and facts regarding college admittance rates, the availability of financial aid, and the effects of a degree on annual income. Then, they were asked a series of questions regarding the changes in their attitudes towards post high school options and how it might affect their decisions towards the future. Results Based on results dependent on parental education level, hours of research, and college visits, more exposure to higher education options trends towards positive responses. Conclusions/Discussion Our data supports our hypothesis that exposure to post high school option are more likely to make more knowledgeable choices regarding their future. In almost all instances, a person coming from a position of lesser exposure, whether it be with a parent having a lesser education level or not having a chance to visit colleges, was more affected by the statistics and information provided in the experimental portion of the survey.	
Summary Statement The amount of exposure a student has to options for a higher education positively correlates with decisions a student makes regarding their future.	
Help Received None	