34th Annual Western Pennsylvania Undergraduate Psychology Conference

Gannon University
Erie, PA
April 22nd, 2006

Welcome to the 34th Annual Western Pennsylvania Undergraduate Psychology Conference

Contents

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Conference Schedule

Time	Event	Location
8:00-9:00	Registration	2nd floor, Palumbo
8:00-10:00	Breakfast	2nd floor, Palumbo
8:30- 9:50	Poster Session One	3rd floor, Palumbo
10:00-11:30	Paper Sessions	
	One (Attitudes & Stereotyping)	Palumbo 3207
	Two (Relationships & Body Image)	Palumbo 3201
	Three (Cognition & Perception)	Palumbo 3206
	Four (Family, Children, & Parenting)	Palumbo 3216
	Five (Clinical, Counseling, & Health)	Palumbo 3223
	Six (Gender, Culture, & Personality)	Palumbo 3243
11:30-12:30	Poster Session Two	3rd floor, Palumbo
12:30-1:30	Lunch	Waldron Center
1:45-2:45	Keynote Address: *From theoretical basics to real-world applications: A conceptual and historical journey* Dr. A. Charles Catania	Zurn 104

Please use the 8th St. entrance to Palumbo Hall (next to the bookstore) and the 7th St. entrance to the Waldron Center. The other entrances may be locked.

Free parking is available in two parking garages. The entrance to the first garage is on 8th between Peach St. and Sassafras St. The entrance to the second garage is on Peach St. between 7th St. and 8th St.

Keynote Speaker

Dr. A. Charles Catania
Professor of Psychology
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

"From theoretical basics to real-world applications: A conceptual and historical journey"

A. Charles Catania is one of the world's leading experts on the experimental analysis of behavior. He has published over 90 scientific articles and numerous books and book chapters, including the seminal *Learning*, which is now in its forth edition and has been translated into several different languages.

Dr. Catania's research interests are broad, and he has published on such diverse topics as the evolution of language, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, breast self-examinations, Ivan Pavlov and B.F. Skinner, computer modeling of operant behavior, and many others. In 1998, he received the prestigious Don F. Hake Award given by the American Psychological Association in recognition of work which strengthens the integration of basic and applied research within behavior analysis.

In addition, Dr. Catania serves as an associate editor of the prestigious interdisciplinary journal, Brain and Behavioral Sciences, and has past served as editor of the Journal of Experimental Analysis of Behavior. He has also been president of the Association for Behavior Analysis and the Maryland Association for Behavior Analysis.

Dr. Catania received his Ph.D. in psychology from Harvard University and is currently a professor of psychology and the director of the MA track in Applied Behavior Analysis of the Human Services Psychology Program at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Poster Session I

1. Is CBT the Most Efficacious Treatment for Adult Anxiety Disorders?
Leigh F. Pasek, Monica Erbacher, and (Dr. Glen Spielmans)
SUNY Fredonia

Research has suggested that cognitive and/or behavioral treatments are more efficacious than no treatment and placebo treatments; however, it is uncertain whether this phenomenon is due to therapeutic ingredients specific to cognitive-behavioral (CBT) treatments. Results indicated that bona fide CBT treatments were no more efficacious than bona fide non-CBT treatments. When comparing complete CBT treatments to their components, analyses showed that full treatments were no more efficacious than components of treatment. Differences between bona fide therapies were homogenously distributed around zero, suggesting that the efficacy of CBT treatments is due to therapeutic factors common to all therapies, not just CBT.

2. Effects of Different Types of Dance on Anxiety Levels
Jacqueline Bette Noel (Thomas Hershberger)
Chatham College

The purpose of this research is to examine the effects of different types of dance on anxiety. The theoretical basis for the study is based on current evidence regarding the benefits of dance on relaxation. This study includes three different types of dance: recreational, formal and culturally rooted dance and suggests an existing relationship between different types of dance and their effects on anxiety. Independent variables include the type of dance engaged in (modern dance, Latin dance and aerobic dance) and the dependent variable is the level of anxiety relief experienced after dance as compared to two control groups (weight training and yoga). The results will show how each type of dance has a different affect on the body by producing different levels of anxiety relief.

3. The Effect of VPA on the Diposgenic Effect of NMDA in Female Sprague-Dawley Rats
Tara Clark
Allegheny College

N-methly-D-asparate (NMDA) has dipsogenic effects in rats when administered with a one-hour presession injection time. This study was done to see if Valproic Acid (VPA) would suppress this effect if administered thirty minutes prior to the NMDA. The study used six female Sprague Dawley rats. The rats were given 3, 10, 17, and 30mg/kg doses of NMDA and 50,75,100mg/kg doses of VPA. Once the curve was determined the rats were then given 30mg/kg of NMDA as well as 50mg/kg of VPA, which significantly decreased the effects of the NMDA. The rats then were given 30mg/kg of NMDA as well as 100mg/kg of VPA, completely suppressing the dipsogenic effects of the NMDA.

4. Depression and Anxiety Amoung College Students

Jackie Barko, Brandy Mitch, Jamie Patsilevas, and Jen Sala
Edinboro University

A major change in either one's current role in life or residence can be a source of significant distress. For Freshman entering university, and for seniors leaving it, both sources of potential stress are present, and the uncertainty of the outcome of these changes might provoke substantial anxiety and depression in some. The current study investigated this issue. This quasi-experimental, between-subjects design involoved 272 university students. the hypothesis was that freshmen and seniors would report significantly higher levels of both depression and anxiety than sophomores and juniors. Dependent variables included the Positive and Negative Affectivity Schedule (PANAS), the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS), and the Beck Depression Inventory. The results of a multivariate analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) and subsequent comparisons revealed that freshman attained significantly higher scores on the HADS Depression subscale than senior students. In contrast, senior students had significantly higher scores on the HADS Anxiety subscale than freshman. The results also indicated that, averaged across class standing, male students reported significantly higher scores than females on the Positive Affectivity scale of the PANAS. Limitations of the study and suggestions for future research are discussed.

5. Predicting GPA of College Students

Amber Swaney, Dera Rastetter, Andrea Betty, and (Dr. Grant McLaren)
Edinboro University

This research study investigates potential predictors of college grade point average (GPA). Predictors included variables in three descriptive categories: Family Characteristics (children, number of children under 18, marital status), Academic Load (number of credits), and Stress (anxiety, stress). The study examined 259 college students of traditional and non traditional ages. A factor analysis was conducted which resulted in a three factor solution accounting for 71% of the variance. A multiple linear regression analysis was used to answer the question of what variables best predict college GPA. This was conducted with the simultaneous entry of six predictor variables. Overall 18.8% of the variance in GPA was accounted for by the relationship of the six predictor variables to GPA. Results of the study show that having children, anxiety, and missing classes correlates with a lower GPA, and that stress, time spent reading, and age correlates with a higher GPA.

6. The Social Problem Solving Inventory as an Indicator of Recidivism in Ex-Felons

Vanessa E. Finley
SUNY Fredonia

A residential facility run by the Cephas program with houses in Buffalo and Rochester has a recidivism rate of only 22% for ex-felons who complete the 90-day program. The present study examines the social problem solving ability of the residents using the SPSI - R with approximately 10 residents. The SPSI – R contains 52 items designed to assess the areas in which individuals have strengths and weaknesses in their problem-solving abilities. The inventory provides a total score and nine subscales. The total scores on problem solving ability

are lower than norms for the measure. Of particular focus is their impairment on impulse control and on generation of alternative solution. Implications of problem solving ability on recidivism rates of ex-felons will be discussed.

7. The Self Appraisal Questionnaire as an Indicator of Reduced Rates of Recidivism
Liz Marsden
SUNY Fredonia

A residential facility run by the Cephas program with houses in Buffalo and Rochester has a recidivism rate of only 22% for ex-felons who complete the 90-day program. The Self-Appraisal Questionnaire (SAQ), Loza, 2005, is a measure that has been validated to predict recidivism in violent offenders. The inventory contains 72 items and provides a total score and seven subscales. The present study has data from 8 ex-felons living in the residence. Overall scores on the SAQ are lower than norms for ex-offenders, and scores on the Criminal Tendency Subscale and the Anger Subscale are lower. Implications of particular aspects of the Cephas program and its influence on reducing recidivism will be discussed.

8. The Effects of Social Anxiety on Parenting
Marya Monte (Andrea Zevenbergen)
SUNY Fredonia

This study looks at the effects of social anxiety on parenting. Past studies have looked at the effects of a parent's social anxiety on his/her child, but none have looked at how a parent's social anxiety makes him/her feel and act toward his/her child in social situations. We hypothesize that social anxiety will cause parents a considerable amount of emotional stress when in social situations with their children. In the study, participants complete measures regarding their parenting (both at home and in public situations) and their social anxiety. Subjects are then asked to participate in a phone interview in which we assess for social anxiety, ask questions about their parenting, and ask for reactions to hypothetical situations.

9. The BarOn EQ:i:S as an Indicator of Recidivism in Ex-Felons
Karin N. Wunder
SUNY Fredonia

The recidivism rate in New York State is close to 80%. A residential facility run by the Cephas program with houses in Buffalo and Rochester has a recidivism rate of only 22% for ex-folons who complete the 90-day program. The present study examines the Emotional IQ of the residents using the BarOn EQ:i:S with approximately 10 residents. The BarOn EQ-i:S is a 51-item scientifically validated instrument that assesses emotional intelligence. It gives a total score and 5 subscales: Intrapersonal, Interpersonal, Stress Management, Adaptability, and General Mood. It is expected that ex-felons will score low on subscales that examine emotional awareness and empathy for others. Implications for low scores on this measure and recidivism will be discussed.

10. Variation in Physical Activity and Menstrual Attitudes

Kathryn Moss
Chatham College

In our culture today, the prevailing view of menstruation is negative. Nevertheless, not all women hold negative views. Differences in menstrual attitudes no doubt fluctuate as the result of a number of different factors. Physical activity is one behavioral factor that may heavily influence women's attitudes towards their cycles. The purpose of this study was to determine the impact of participation in three different physical activities (running, climbing, and yoga) on menstrual attitudes. A questionnaire assessing menstrual experiences, and attitudes (the Menstrual Attitude Questionnaire (MAQ) and the Menstrual Joy Questionnaire (MJQ)) were distributed to women who participate in these activities. Results showed no significant differences in attitudes towards menstruation as a function of participation in these activities. However some data suggest that intensity of activity does impact menstrual attitudes, in particular menstrual joy.

11. Does the Manipulation of Memory Recognition Tasks Decrease False Memories?

Meggan Donahue and Melissa Merchant
Edinboro University

Ninety-two (50 Male and 42 Female) college students participated in this between-subjects design experiment. This study examined the effect of manipulating the type of encoding, spelling or saying and spelling, to insulate against false memory errors. Participants were shown five trials of 15 words and instructed to recognize whether the word was presented from a list. Intrusions from associated and random distractors were compared. Saying and spelling the words decreased the number of false memories from associated words, but increased the number of random word intrusions.

12. An Epoch EEG Investigation of Second Language Learners Across Proficiency Level

Nathan Thomas, J. Alexander Dale, Jeffrey D. Cross, and Aimee Knupsky
Allegheny College

Before now, there have only been ERP EEG studies on multiple langauge learners. When considering the N400 priming effect during lexical decision tasks, it may be the that the reduced amplitude represents a change in the brain's operating frequecy from alpha to beta. This was a preliminary study to examine if there is any validity to the previous statement. Measurements of high and low alpha were taken from frontal and temporal lobe language areas during the performance of simple cognitive tasks in English and French for advanced and intermediate French language learners. Experimental error and flaws in the design of the tasks revealed the need for a epoch study with tasks that acutally require the processing of language aspects, unlike the alphabet and counting tasks used here. Using Knupsky's (2005) language model of bilingualism, it may be possible to combine the techniques used in this study and the proposed theory of language processing that might reveal more information about language storage in the bilingual and multilingual brain.

13. The Effect of "Psychology" in Research
Monica Smith (Dr. Gerard Barron)
Mercyhurst College

The word "psychology" to the general public may have associations that impact their willingness to self-disclose. The present study was designed to explore the implications of this in research. This study used the Balanced Inventory of Desirable Responding (BIDR; Paulhus, 1984, 1988) to measure participants' levels of self-deceptive enhancement and impression management. It was predicted that participants would score higher on the BIDR (Paulhus, 1984, 1988) when told they were in a psychology study compared to participants who were told they were in a marketing study. A small, but insignificant difference was found in the total scores of the two groups. Implications for future research are discussed.

14. Change Deafness in Spoken Language
William R. Marsh (Mr. Rob Hoff)
Mercyhurst College

Spoken language was used as a vehicle to study change deafness (the failure to detect a change within an auditory situation) in two studies. Spoken language can be broken down into two dimensions, a linguistic dimension and an indexical dimension. Participants were subjected to a shadow task of repeating words varying in lexical difficulty, where their attention was intentionally drawn toward the linguistic dimension (Study 1), or they were given a story comprehension task with a semantic illusion to draw attention toward the indexical dimension (Study 2). If participants fail to detect a change in either of the auditory situations (Study 1 or 2) then the results of this study will support evidence for change deafness. Results would also indicate that directed attention heavily influences human perceptual limits.

15. Personality Traits and Self-Regulation
Jordan Allen
Mercyhurst College

This study's purpose is to examine the relationship of general anxiety and test anxiety to a participant's performance on a Stroop test. It is hypothesized that self-regulation and anxiety are related so that anxiety decreases self-regulation and self-regulation can create anxiety. Participants completed both a general anxiety test and a test anxiety inventory. They then were administered a version of the Stroop test with three lists containing either fear-relevant words, neutral words, or test-related words. It is predicted that those with higher levels of either test anxiety or general anxiety will take longer on the corresponding Stroop task than those with lower levels of anxiety.

16. Inattentional Blindness and Cell Phones
Edward C. Bolden, III (Dr. Gerard Barron)
Mercyhurst College

Inattentional blindness is a perceptual phenomenon in which people fail to see objects in plain sight that are not adequately attended to. The research was designed to measure the effects of cell phone usage on inattentional blindness, measured by participants' ability to identify an unusual

event while watching a basketball video, previously used in Simons & Chabris (1999). We found that those partaking in a cell phone conversation were significantly less likely to notice the onset of a gorilla than those inovolved in a simple task, suggesting that cell phones require an immense attentional split.

17. Chunking and Short Term Memory
Tiffany McCray and Neil Akers
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

General Psychology students participated in a STM experiment that was similar to the Peterson-Peterson (1959) experiment. Participants were asked to recall three types of letter trigrams after a brief color naming distracter task. Combinations of three letters were used to construct Words (W), Pronounceable Non-Words (P), and Non-Pronounceable Non-Words (NP). Participants were exposed to 15 trials of each type of trigram. Trigrams in the W condition were recalled significantly better than those in the P and NP conditions, but there was no significant difference between the P and NP conditions.

18. Do Working Memory and Intelligence Influence Speech Quality?
Lauren Wagner, Garrett McCloskey, and Courtney Hopkins (Dr. Dawn Blasko)
Penn State Behrend

The current study examines the relationship between verbal intelligence, working memory, and speech production. Research has shown that verbal intelligence and speech production are significantly correlated. Debates were held to collect speech production data. We collected data from each participant and used the Pearson r correlation coefficient to interpret results. We hypothesized that verbal intelligence and working memory would correlate with speech quality. The findings suggest that verbal intelligence and working memory are correlated with ones speaking ability in the area of quality of speech.

19. Is There a "Sarcastic" Personality?
Andrew Walker and Angela Speck (Dr. Blasko and Dr. Kazmerski)
Penn State Behrend

Sarcastic criticism tends to be used by people in close relationships, yet it has the potential to harm those relationships. I the current study we measured self reported sarcasm, personality, relational, physical, and verbal aggression. Each participant read a series of scenarios which could be literal, sarcastic, positive or negative. They rated the speaker's intent to be mean, humorous, sarcastic, surprised, and portray negative and positive emotions. The results showed relationships between personality, aggression, and sarcasm. Those with higher RA scores were more likely to use sarcasm frequently. Those with lower RA scores detected positive and negative emotion more accurately.

20. Symmetry vs Asymmetry: Directionality in Metaphor Processing
James Morosky and Sandra Grgic (Dawn Blasko and Victoria Kazmerski)
Penn State Behrend

Two main theories of metaphor processing are currently competing: structure mapping theory and categorization theory. Various techniques have been used to find behavioral support for both approaches. We used event-related potentials (ERP) to analyze metaphor comprehension in its earliest stages. The participants were presented with metaphors that were either high or low in similarity and in either normal or reversed order. Behavioral results were consistent with previous research in that they supported the structure mapping approach. However, analysis of ERP data provided evidence of directionality in early metaphor processing, supporting the categorization approach.

21. Percent Çorrect in a Sternberg Recognition Task Using Logos and Names
Sally Cerveny, Jen Orson, and Tony Digiacomo
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The Sternberg (1966) probe recognition task was modified to investigate whether logos are searched differently than names in STM. Memory set size (3 vs. 6 item), response type (positive vs. negative), and memory set stimuli (logos vs. names) were manipulated. The dependent variable was the number of correct responses for each trial type. It was expected that logos would be searched more efficiently so that set size and response type would have less effect on error rate.

22. Media Influences on Jurors' Perceptions of Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity
Tina M. Hammer and Dr. Ron Craig
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

This study examined the impact of TV crime dramas on mock jurors' verdicts regarding Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity. Participants read a case summary in which NGRI was raised; the introduction of information about a TV crime drama was manipulated between groups, either no TV information or having it presented by an expert or another juror. No significant difference was found for the verdict between the groups. Those who heard about the crime drama from another juror were more likely to believe the crime was plotted based on TV, although this did not result in differences in verdict.

23. Working Memory Capacity as a Predictor for Reactions to Mortality Salience
KaSandra McMillen and James Wardrop (Dr. Dawn Blasko)
Penn State Behrend

This study focuses on the Terror Management Theory and working memory and attempts to tie the two together. Participants consisted of 56 college students at Penn State Erie, the Behrend College. Participants took part in the Operational Span task measuring working memory, were induced with a mortality salience, and then completed a word filler task to measure death accessibility. The findings suggest that there is no interaction between working memory and mortality salience. There was also no difference found between conditions on mood effect. This study further extends our knowledge of working memory.

24. Release from Proactive Interference with Recall of Upper and Lower Case Letters
Rachael Sabol and Katie Loomis
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

An STM recognition task investigated release from proactive interference (PI). In five control trials, recall followed presentation of a single trigram of either all upper or all lower case letters. In experimental trials, the letter trigrams were switched either from upper to lower case, or vice versa on the fifth trial. For half the trials letters with similar upper and lower case were used (e.g., C, c), while for the remaining trials letters with dissimilar upper and lower case were used (B, b). Structural dissimilarity was predicted to enhance release from PI.

25. Knowledge and Attitudes About Mental Disorders
Philip Ganci and Dr. Terry Pettijohn
Mercyhurst College

This study is to show that a more emotionally stimulating way of giving information is one filled with examples instead of straight facts, and would be more effective in reducing negative bias towards people with mental disorders. To prove this the participants are broken up into two different groups and given two different speeches, one speech is a case study about a specific person with depression, and the other is a factual speech about depression. The researcher hypothesizes that the group with the case study speech will answer more knowledgably and sympathetically then the factual group on the two surveys given out.

26. The Effect of Implicit Connections on Ambiguity Resolution
Kelly A. Guidarelli
SUNY Fredonia

Research on ambiguity resolution has often focused on the role of the context surrounding the ambiguous word. Scant attention has been paid to implicit connections that are activated during reading, but are not part of the surrounding context. The present study focuses on how implicitly activated associates influence resolution of ambiguity regardless of the surrounding context. Subjects read sentences that contained ambiguous words that had either strong or weak implicit connections. Ambiguous words that had strong implicitly activated associates congruent with surrounding text were resolved faster than words with weak implicitly activated associates. Implications for theories of ambiguity resolution will be discussed.

27. A Cross-Cultural Examination of Word Ambiguity
Kelly A. Guidarelli
SUNY Fredonia

Our common experiences with the English language result in a set of pre-existing associations that we share with those around us, and that affect our ability to recall other information. For example, when a person is given a word like SALT and asked to generate the first word that cmes to mind they will most likely generate PEPPER as a response. This process is complicated with a word has two or more meanings, such as the word RIGHT. A person might generate a

word related to its' DIRECTION meaning or its' CORRECT meaning. The current study examines the degree to which these long-term memory associations are shared across two different English-speaking countries. One hundred undergraduate students from two colleges, one in the United States and one in Australia, were asked to decide which associates were related to the various meanings on a list of ambiguous words. Similarities and differences will be presented.

28. Color Perceptions
Kari Huck (Dr. T. Pettijohn II)
Mercyhurst College

Abstract Within this design the researcher will take a closer look of the effects that color can have on mood. Participants have completed a drawing task using either one of two sets of colored crayons, being high intense yellow/oranges or darker shades of blue/purples. All participants have completed the PANAS and Faces surveys of mood before and after the drawing task. It is anticipated that those who used the darker, less intense blue/purple crayons will score lower on dimensions of happiness and mood while those who used the brighter, more intense yellow/orange crayons will score higher. This design focuses on the effects these colors yield on the mood of the drawing and in turn the participant.

29. An Electrophysiological Comparison of the Retrieval of Words in Emotional and Non-Emotional Context
Katherine Mickley (J. Alexander Dale)
Allegheny College

A major approach to the understanding of emotion and cognition has been the study of memory of emotional events. However, the cognitive and neural mechanisms responsible for the interaction of emotions and memory are still unclear. In order to understand the effects of emotional context on retrieval of memories, this study examined event-related potentials (ERPs) elicited by the recognition of words that had been encoded in mentally imagined positive, negative, or neutral contexts. Neutrally valenced words were presented to participants in positive, negative, or neutrally valenced sentences, and participants were asked to create a visual mental image of the sentence. At test, participants made old/new recognition judgments for these words while in the electroencephalogram (EEG). Words encoded in positive contexts, but not those encoded in negative contexts, were recognized at lower rates than those encoded in neutral contexts. In addition, words from negative, but not positive sentences across all classes of items elicited late (1000-1600ms) positivity in the left frontopolar scalp region. Late going frontopolar positivity changed as a function of class and valence in that it was not present in the right hemisphere for neutral hits, emotional hits or correct rejections. There was also positivity in the posterior area yeilding a quadratic effect. These findings suggest that the memory for positive and negative contexts differs both behaviorally and neurologically.

30. Parental Attachment Theory Related to Perceptions of God

Laura Patterson (Dr. Kris Homan)
Grove City College

Attachment theory postulates that the early caregiver-child relationship forms a prototype for all future close relationships, even into adulthood. Recent work has suggested that early attachment is meaningfully related to perceptions of God. The current study hypothesized that perceived bonding to parents would show a positive relationship to attachment to God. One hundred forty undergraduate students participated by completing the Parental Bonding Instrument and a recently developed measure of attachment to God. Results showed that a parental relationship characterized by high levels of care was positively related to a secure attachment to God. Conversely, high levels of parental overprotection were associated with an avoidant or anxious attachment to God.

31. A Comparative Study on The Effects of Valporate, Carbamazephine, and Lamotrigine

Tamara John
Allegheny College

To maintain control over the vast spectrum of seizures there are many types of anti-epileptic drugs (AED) in use today. This study used SHR rats to asses the levels of damage to the hippocampus and other cortical areas due to various anti-epileptic drugs. Using Valporate Acid, Carbamazephine, Lamotrigine, Pentylentrazol, results showed significant damage to the hippocampus and amygdala regions within each drug group. Both the Startle Response test and Shuttle Box test showed statistical significance between drugs. It can be concluded that seizures can cause serious damage to the brain but so can the medication used to treat them.

32. The Role of Therapy Dogs in Task Performance and Language Production of Language Production of Language-Impaired Preschool Children

Shelly Harris, Kristina Johnson, and Emily Bennett
SUNY Fredonia

The degree to which Pet-Assisted Therapy can facilitate the language development of children was examined. Previous research has shown that dogs have been useful in establishing patient-therapist rapport when patients are withdrawn. The presence of dogs has been shown to reduce blood pressure in a variety of populations. Kids are more relaxed in the presence of a dog when they are asked to read from a book. In this study two certified therapy dogs interacted with a group of language impaired children in a controlled environment. The number of verbalizations was recorded while the children interacted with the dogs in a variety of ways. Anecdotal reports from parents and teachers indicate that the children increase their spontaneous speech generation in the presence of the dogs and immediately following the encounter. The results of the number of verbalizations and the speed and accuracy to complete tasks will be presented.

33. Adolescent Conformity as a Function of Audience Age

Lyndsey Carlson (Dr. Gerard Barron)
Mercyhurst College

This study tested adolescents' conformity as a function of audience age. In order to do this, a replication of the Asch task was done, using ninth grade male and female participants. These participants were placed in a room with three confederates who were either 2 years older or 2 years younger. A test of visual judgment was given, and the confederates were instructed to give a unanimous, yet wrong answer. The participants' levels of conformity were then assessed by recording whether they answered correctly, or whether they went along with others in the room. It is expected that when the participants are in the room with older peers, they will be more likely to conform than when they are placed with the younger confederates. Findings are apt to have many implications which can be applied to adolescents' social relationships in everyday life.

34. Attitudes Towards Dog Breeds on the Effectiveness of Pet-Assisted Therapy

Kristina Johnson, Shelly Harris, and Emily Bennett
SUNY Fredonia

The effectiveness of Pet-Assisted Therapy has been demonstrated in a wide variety of situations. The presence of a dog has been shown to decrease blood pressure, reduce cardiac risk factors, increase socially appropriate behaviors, and help to establish patient-therapist rapport when patients are withdrawn. Existing research on Pet-Assisted Therapy has neglected to consider the opinions of the clients about the dog breeds involved. This project examines the attitudes and potential stereotypes that people have regarding different dog breeds. Pictures of five different dog breeds were shown to subjects and a variety of questions were asked regarding their opinion of those dogs. The results of this study will be presented. These results will be applicable not only to the effectiveness of different types of dogs used in Pet-Assisted Therapy, but they are likely to be useful in examining and understanding the potential arguments regarding recent breed specific legislation.

35. Sex Differences: Do Males and Females Differ in Their Views on Sexuality?

Xenia Tomlinson
Pennsylvania State Behrend

The study examines Penn State Behrend Male and Female attitudes toward Sexuality and the degree of how favorable it is. It is expected that males will not be more accepting of homosexuals but more accepting of lesbians where as females will be the exact opposite using the Thermometer scale. Using the Valois Sexual Attitude Scale and the Evaluation Thermometer measure for Evaluating Gay Men will help understand the degree of favorability. From the Valois Sexual Attitudes Questionnaire and its nine subscales it is expected that males will be more accepting of sexual behaviors when it is regarding straight relationships and less accepting with sexual behavior when it is regarding homosexual relationships where females will be more accepting of both.

36. Gender Differences and Priming of Attractiveness
Crystal Willis, Joshua Hannold, and Gordon Greene
Penn State Behrend

Priming is known to affect the judgment of a stimulus in a variety of contexts; however there is little research on how priming affects genders differentially. The purpose of this current study is to explore if there are gender differences in how participants rate an image stimuli's attractiveness. Subjects were shown male and female images paired with a priming treatment (positive, negative, no prime). The results have shown that the type of treatment has a significant affect on the participant's attractiveness rating.

37. Are People's Evaluations of Written Essays Influenced by Author's Gender?
Kristin Wucinski and Marilyn Livosky, Ph.D.
Mercyhurst College

Previous research with both adults and children has sometimes shown evidence for gender bias when individuals are asked to evaluate performance. We explored this issue by investigating potential gender bias in college students in their evaluation of written work. Participants read six different essays "written" by female or male authors. Essays were either "feminine," "masculine," or "neutral." Analyses were conducted to determine if participants rate articles more favorably when author gender and story type match. A sample of high school students will be tested on this same procedure in the coming months to allow for developmental comparisons.

38. The Antagonistic Effects of Ethanol on N-methyl-d-aspartate in Rats
Allison M Pechalk
Allegheny College

N-methyl-d-aspartate (NMDA) has a known dipsogenic effect in rats. This experiment studied the effects of ethanol as an antagonist of NMDA in six male Sprague Dawley rats. Specifically, the time course after simultaneous administration of the drugs was studied after 0, 0.5, 1, and 2 hours. A significant dipsogenic effect was seen after 2-hour administration of the NMDA, while a significant antagonist action of the ethanol was seen only after 0.5 hours of administration of both NMDA and ethanol. Over the time course ethanol alone produced an inverted-u shaped curve of drinking in the rats, and had an almost agonistic effect on the NMDA after 2 hours.

39. Gender Differences in Emotional Expression in Children's Narratives
Lauren J. Raduns and Amanda A. Farrand (Andrea A. Zevenbergen)
SUNY Fredonia

Gender difference in the expression of emotion has been an interesting area of research. Past studies have shown some differences between adult men and women. However, less research has been conducted on such gender differences in children and existing research has shown relatively mixed results. This exploratory study was conducted to determine if any gender differences in the expression of emotion were present in the transcribed narratives of 47 children. The narratives were the children's retelling of the 24-page book, Farm Flu. Besides expression of emotion, the narratives were also coded for use of other evaluative devices such as inclusion of dialogue, references to characters' thoughts, causal statements, and direct questions.

40. Effects of Gender, Thin Internalization and Television on Body Dissatisfaction
Elizabeth Sansone and Christine Heilman (Dr. Dawn Blasko)
Penn State Behrend

The purpose of the study was to determine the effects of televised media and thin internalization on the body dissatisfaction of males and females. Participants, first tested for level of thin internalization, were invited back to participate in further research in which they were randomly assigned to view either an appearance related or non-appearance related video of television clips followed by a body dissatisfaction scale. We expected females to show higher body dissatisfaction than males, however this was found only when dealing with overweight preoccupation. The hypothesis that high internalizers would be more affected by video clip was not supported.

41. Do Disney Movies Prime Gender Stereotypes?
Tessa Mackey, Megan Miller, and Ashley Wassel (Dr. Dawn Blasko),
Penn State Behrend

Implicit gender stereotypes affect everyday thoughts and actions without conscious awareness. According to social cognitive theory, a main factor in an individual's gender role development is modeling from the media. Participants first viewed one of three movie conditions, 1) extreme gender stereotypes, 2) non-extreme stereotypes, or 3) control clips, and then completed the Gender Implicit Association Test (IAT). We hypothesized that viewing the extreme gender stereotypes would increase the activation of implicate gender stereotypes. However, the results showed no increase in implicit stereotypes.

42. An Examination of Mother's Beliefs Concerning Mother-Child Narratives
Kathryn I. Anderson, Melissa M. Andrus, and Ellen M. Wright
SUNY Fredonia

Past studies have shown that different cultures tell narratives for varying reasons. Children learn perspectives about past events that occurred in the home, and family values. Mothers communicate with their child about issues they wish their child to recall. This study is conducted with children, 3 and 5 years old, and their mothers in both the United States and Poland. Mother complete a questionnaire concerning past events. We hypothesis the differences in culture between that of the United States and Poland will be revealed in differences in why mothers think is important to talk with their child about past events.

43. Presenter Dress Influences on the Amount of Elementary Student Attention
Emily S. Hartz and Dr. Terry Pettijohn
Mercyhurst College

This study explores how external influences specifically the clothing choice of the teachers reflects the attention given to them by their students. Third grade through eighth grade will listen to a lecture and filled in the missing words to a packet that went along with the lecture. Third grade had thirty-one participants, fourth grade had twenty-eight participants, seventh grade had twenty-three participants, and eighth grade had twenty-six participants. The grades will be split

up into two groups. Group A was a more casual dress while Group B was a more professional dress. The packets will be graded, and compared by the percentile correct in each group to each grade and different grades.

44. The Teacher's Pet Phenomenon as Perceived by Students
Leah M. Fitzgerald and Angela Vedro (Stephen T. Paul)
Robert Morris University

The present study investigated the Teacher's Pet Phenomenon from the perspective of students. Participants read scenarios depicting "deserving" and "undeserving" male and female teacher's pets and then answered questions about how bothered they thought a typical student would be by each of the scenarios. Results showed an interaction between the sex of the teacher's pet and whether they were deserving of the special attention or not. Specifically, participants were least bothered by deserving pets who were female and most bothered by females who were undeserving of extra attention. This finding did not vary with the sex of the participants. A possible reason for this outcome is discussed.

45. Content of Parenting Education Curricula in Secondary Schools in Western New York
Michelle Singer (Andrea Zevenbergen)
SUNY Fredonia

Previous research suggests that parenting that is attuned to a child's abilities and developmental tasks is directly related to positive developmental outcomes for the child (Belsky, Taylor, & Rovine, 1984). The requirement of parenting education in secondary schools is not common practice in the United States. Of all 50 states, only 10 require parenting education as a component for high school graduation, and New York is among the few has this requirement (Singer & Zevenbergen, 2005). This study will examine what topics are covered in New York in regard to parenting education through teacher responses to a questionnaire and examination of their curricular materials.

46. Attitudes Toward Research Among Students and Employed People
Vicki Jespersen (Dr. David J. Johnson)
Gannon University

This research examined the attitudes of the average person toward research participation and governmental support of research. Questionnaires have been administered to employees at a pizza restaurant, a doctor's office, and a tavern. The other sample consisted of student volunteers in fifteen minute sessions.

47. Willingness to Forgive
Angela Caton (Dr. David J. Johnson)
Gannon University

Forgiveness has recently become a popular area of interest among the therapeutic areas and research. Several studies have suggested there are positive links between age and forgiveness. Some suggested that older adults were more forgiving than younger adults. The purpose of this

study was to determine the relationship between younger and older adults and their ability to forgive, as well as their concept of forgiveness. Two types of questionnaires were distributed among the Gannon University students and staff. The first section of the questionnaire consisted of 23 yes and no questions that were designed to examine their beliefs on forgiveness, this demonstrated their concept of forgiveness. The last section consisted of 26 short paragraphs which described different situations where interpersonal hurt have been experienced; the participants were instructed to rate each situation on a 1-5 scale.

48. The Motivation to Learn
Deborah Kovacs (Terry Pettijohn)
Mercyhurst College

This study sought to determine how manipulation of motivation affects learning. Motivation can be intrinsic or extrinsic, depending upon whether the individual is internally-driven or dependent upon external rewards. For this study, undergraduate students participated by being a part of one of three groups: a control group, a group primed for intrinsic motivation, or a group promised extrinsic reward. Each group was set to completing a memory task and later assessed on personal motivation style, self-esteem before and after the task, and finally, overall performance on the memory task. It is foreseen that, consistent with the research, the intrinsically motivated participants, particularly those in the intrinsic treatment group, will perform consistently better on the task. These results would suggest that encouraging and nurturing an intrinsic motivation style in students from a young age may improve their academic performance throughout their school years.

49. The Preference for Fantasy-Based Behavior vs. Physical Behavior in BDSM
Angela Renee' Washington (Dr. Peggy Stubbs)
Chatham College

The Bondage Discipline Sadomasochism, (BDSM) community engages in fantasy-based behavior or physical behavior for stimulation to acquire sexual gratification. The primary question in this study is, does the preference for fantasy-based behavior vs. physical behavior in BDSM interactions differ as a function of gender, sexual orientation and or ethnicity? Individuals were invited to take a website survey designed of 25 fantasy-based behavior questions, and 25 physical behavior questions. Results were calculated in SPSS for statistical analysis. Analysis indicated there were significant differences in preferences; males reported more of a preference for physical activity than females, and homosexuals more of a preference for physical action. More specifically, Black homosexual men showed the greatest preference for physical activities. Fantasy showed no significant differences in preferences among subjects. As reported fantasy-based behavior was a catalyst for BDSM interactions, relationships, and sexual gratification.

50. Ate The Cat The Mouse.
Alison Phillips (Dr. Lesley Hite)
Gannon University

How do syntax (the order of the words in a sentence) and semantics (the meaning of the words in a sentence) affect how an individual determines the subject and the object of a sentence? Individuals read one of twelve possible sentences. The sentences varied in the order of the subject (S), the verb (V), and the object (O) of the sentence (SVO, OVS, OSV, SOV, VOS, or VSO) and in the strength of the relationship between the subject and the object of the sentence (strong or weak). Individuals then answered two questions about the sentence and two questions about their comprehension of the sentence.

51. Some Effects Of Food And Water Deprivation On Activity Anorexia In The Rat
Christina Sheerin (Rodney D. Clark, Ph.D.)
Allegheny College

The Activity Anorexia model has been developed to describe the paradox of behavior that occurs during food deprivation when physical activity decreases food intake. Six male Zuker rats about two months of age were used. In experiment 1 rats were given access to a running wheel for increasing amounts of time without food deprivation. Once the food was restricted, wheel revolutions increased strikingly for all three (from about 4,000 to 16,000). The results indicate that rats can still fall into the AA cycle without the typical 23-hour access to the running wheels. In experiment 2 rats were given access to water for 1 hour a day and then placed into the apparatus and given the opportunity to run. After 14 days 2 of 3 were below 75% body weight but one actually weighed more than baseline. Wheel revolutions and amount of water consumed increased and decreased sporatically for all three rats.

52. Some effects of Differential Reinforcement of Low rates of behavior (DRL) and Direct Reinforcement of Other rates of behavior (DRO) on interfering behavior with Autistic Humans
Jennifer Rodzinak (Rodney D. Clark, Ph.D.)
Allegheny College

Some effects of Differential Reinforcement of Low rates of behavior (DRL or IRT>t) and Direct Reinforcement of Other rates of behavior (DRO) on interfering behavior. The present research examined two Caucasian males ages ranging from 16 to18 that have both been diagnosed with Autism. Both are non-verbal and exhibit various types of interfering behaviors. Data were collected in both an educational and a residential setting. After the implementation of the DRL or DRO, both participants were closely monitored in both settings and the frequency of behavior was recorded and plotted. After the implementation of the DRL, the rates of each interfering behavior significantly decreased. After the implementation of the DRO however, there was only a slight decrease in the rates of the interfering behaviors.

Paper Session

Session 1: Attitudes and Stereotyping (Palumbo 3207)
Chair: Dr. Rodney Clark

1. The Effects of Positive Feedback Given to Females in a Threatening Environment
Kathleen Vanderkolk and Amber Rose (Dr.Derek Mace)
Penn State University, The Behrend College

When individuals feel they are being negatively stereotyped, their performance in a given task may decrease. Simply being in a situation where one can confirm negative stereotype about one's group, such as a woman sitting down for a math test, can be enough to cause stereotype threat (Inzlicht & Ben-Zeev, 2000). Within this study the participants were asked to complete a 20 question math test taken from the subsection of the GRE. They were given either positive feedback or no feedback prior to the test. We found that by giving females positive feedback, their performance on the math test increased.

2. A Look at Overt and Subtle Prejudice
Erin O'Donnell
Westminster College

Prejudice toward Muslims and the impact of fear were investigated. Participants from a small liberal arts college read a paragraph that explained the head-covering traditions of Muslim and Amish women, followed by a survey measuring the degree to which this practice was viewed negatively. Fear was induced in half of the participants. Hypotheses were that Americans would be more overtly prejudiced toward Muslims than Amish, would view Islamic traditions more negatively, and when fearful, participants' views would be more negative than when not fearful. Results were not significant.

3. Gender Role Stereotypes of Sexual Behaviors and Attitudes
Jacqueline R. Barco
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Many studies have investigated how the typical masculine or feminine individual is identified in society and have mainly focused on physical and psychological charactersitics; very few have recognized stereotypes regarding sexuality. The current study aims to identify sexual behaviors, attitudes, and beliefs that are considered to be feminine or masculine. Participants of this study gave ratings of a masculine male, masculine female, feminine male, or feminine female. A factor analysis was used to examine stereotypes of sexual behaviors and beliefs for each target individual.

4. Self-verification and Personal Attitudes Toward Women
Meredith Polando and Dr. Jamie McMinn
Westminster College

Self-verification theory suggests that people want others to confirm their self-beliefs even when these beliefs are negative (Swann, Stein-Seroussi, & Giesler, 1992). One such self-belief involves attitudes toward women, including sexism. This study examined self-verification and sexist beliefs. Participants completed implicit and explicit measures of sexism, and they received ostensibly real feedback on the implicit measure that either confirmed or disconfirmed their explicit self-beliefs. They were then asked to help a male or female professor on an anagram task. I predicted that nonsexists who received disconfirming feedback would help a woman more than a man, but the reverse would be true of sexists who received disconfirming feedback. This hypothesis was not supported.

5. Effects of Intercessory Prayer on Stress
Jessica Santavy (Dr. David Johnson)
Gannon University

This study examines the effect of intercessory prayer on stress levels of college students. Each student completed a survey to determine a baseline for his/her perceived level of stress and was then randomly placed in either the prayer group or the control group. Intercessors from various Christian churches were provided with the names of several students and instructions, and were asked to pray for four weeks. Then, the students took the stress survey again in order to determine an end level of perceived stress. The results will determine the measurable effects of prayer on levels of stress.

6. The Relationship Between Gender Schematicity and Recall of Gendered Information
Elizabeth Randall (Dr. Mandy Medvin)
Westminster College

The impact of gender schematicity on recall of gender stereotyped and counterstereotyped information was assessed utilizing the Bem Sex Role Inventory and two short stories. Recall of the stories was tested one week later. A one-way ANOVA and planned comparisons showed that gender schematic individuals recalled significantly more stereotyped information from the second story than did gender aschematic individuals.

Session 2: Relationships and Body Image (Palumbo 3201)
Chair: Dr. David Anderson

7. Do TV shows on Cosmetic Surgery Decrease Body Satisfaction?
Jenna Beck and Melissa Schmidt (Dr. Dawn Blasko)
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

The purpose of this study was to investigate the influence TV programs showing cosmetic surgery on body satisfaction and thin internalization. Participants completed a survey followed by viewing either the realistic clip (pre-surgery and post-surgery), the unrealistic clip (before and after), or the control clip (home improvement show). After viewing the clip the participants completed two surveys. The results of this study found no difference for the clip viewed for body satisfaction or thin internalization. However, there was a gender difference for thin internalization

8. Dating Goal Orientation and Relationship Satisfaction: To Seek or to Seek Not
Jessica Mills, Erin Shaffer, and (Gary L. Welton)
Grove City College

Researchers investigated the correlation between dating relationship approach and avoidance goals and relationship satisfaction. Participants (n = 128) were students from Grove City College; all were in a heterosexual, exclusive, committed dating relationship of five months or longer. Experimenters administered a survey consisting of 51 items, which included a satisfaction measure (Relationship Assessment Scale), a new measure of goal orientation (The Relationship Goal Orientation Measure), and a measure of optimism (Life Orientation Test-Revised). Results suggest that the affirmation of all valuable goals, whether stated in approach terms or avoidance terms, was positively correlated with relationship satisfaction. However, when participants were forced to choose between approach and avoidance statements of goals, results suggest that those who seek to achieve positive goals are more satisfied than those who seek to avoid negative outcomes.

9. The Effect of Body Shape Attractiveness on Memory
Elizabeth Kiefer and Lisa Niebauer (Dr. Derek Mace)
Penn State Erie: The Behrend College

Evolution-based theories of human mating propose that it is largely determined by reproduction capability. An external cue used to identify reproduction is physical attractiveness. For females, one predictor of attractiveness is waist-to-hip ratio (WHR). Research has investigated attractiveness in relation to memory and this study proposes that WHR is involved in this relationship. Participants viewed varying WHR female body shapes paired with vignettes and rated attractiveness. Subsequently, they were asked to answer questions about the vignettes. Memory scores indicate that the information paired with a WHR of 0.6 and 0.7 have higher recall, with males slightly outperforming females.

10. The Effects of Priming on Body Image and Social Comparison
Erin Hinks
Westminster College

Social Comparison Theory states people have a drive compare themselves with others which can lead negative self evaluation, especially when a female compares her body image. 93 Westminster College females participated. They were primed with an image of a thin or overweight person, or no image at all. They completed the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale and Body Shape Questionnaire, half were in front of a mirror. They were given candy to eat, which was measured. Image and mirror's effect on a persons Self-Esteem, Body Satisfaction, and candy eaten was analyzed, there were no significant results.

11. Perceived Positive Relationships, Intrinsic Religiosity, and Adjustment to College
Melanie Beil (Dr. Gary Welton)
Grove City College

Perceived relationships can be influential in relation to adjustment to college. This study employed different measures to assess 130 freshman college students at a conservative Christian college regarding their perceived vertical and horizontal relationships and intrinsic religiosity prior to college. Participants were also asked to report on their adjustment to college and their satisfaction with life. The study found that positive horizontal relationships predicted social adjustment to college and that high intrinsic religiosity in this sample had a negative effect on social adjustment

12. Is it what's inside that really counts?
Christina Kline (Dr. David Johnson)
Gannon University

The purpose of this study was to investigate the effects of personality and biographical information on the overall attractiveness of a person when comparing their biography to their physical characteristics. Five males and five females were rated independently on photographs, biographies and then a combination of the two to see if an interaction could be found.

Session 3: Cognition and Perception (Palumbo 3206)
Chair: Dr. Timothy Klitz

13. The Effect of Automated Telephone Menu Structure on User Frustration
Marie Panepinto (Dr. Jennifer Dyck)
SUNY Fredonia

Three automated call direction menu structures--wide, deep, and balanced--were examined using a computer-simulation. Participants were 26 psychology students who completed 10 tasks using one of the menus and additionally completed questionnaires assessing their general attitudes on telephone menus. An ANOVA found no difference in menu structure for either the number of correctly completed tasks or the number of calls necessary to complete all tasks. The dependent variables were negatively correlated with one another and the number of calls necessary to complete the tasks was negatively correlated with attitude ratings. This indicates higher user frustration with menus that are accompanied by user error. More research is needed to determine whether this is related to menu structure.

14. Sleep Deprivation and Change Blindness
Maura Wilson (Rob Hoff)
Mercyhurst College

Change blindness is a psychological phenomenon of recent interest, but few, if any, studies have been done on its relationship to sleep. This study examines the effects of one night of sleep deprivation on the time it takes to detect transient changes in visual scenes on a computer screen. 46 undergraduate students viewed three separate change blindness demos within the "flicker" paradigm after either 6 to 8 hours of sleep or one night of sleep deprivation. Subjects were timed on the duration between the start of the video and the time of detection of the change. A one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) showed that sleep deprivation did not have a significant effect on the time it takes to detect an attended changing object, $F(1,44)=0.033$, $p=.857$. These findings support recent views on the cognitive aspects of change blindness as well as research on sleep deprivation and visual cognition.

15. Etiology of executive functioning deficits: Can they be attributed to Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
Winifred M. Limmer (Kirk M. Lunnen)
Westminster College

Etiology of executive functioning deficits: Can they be attributed to Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder or comorbid depression? Some studies have implied a relationship between executive functioning deficits and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, but they failed to control for depression. Based on screening scores, 46 participants were assigned to an OC-symptomatic, a depressed/OC-symptomatic, or a control group. The Wisconsin Card Sorting Test and Trail Making Tests were administered. Some of the OCD and control participants first completed a stressor task. Depressed/OCD participants performed the poorest on both tests. OCD participants in the hyperarousal condition performed poorer than those in the neutral condition. This indicates

that executive functioning deficits are due primarily to comorbid depression, not OCD. Results also suggest that the deficits observed in individuals with OCD may be due to hyperarousal.

16. Hue Variation in Stroop and Reverse Stroop Tasks with Pointing Responses
Alana Varley and Laura Packosky
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Stroop and Reverse Stroop interference was compared using a pointing task. Traditional Stroop tasks have only used highly differential hues, so the present study included hue variation as an independent variable. Participants responded via computer by pointing to color patches after viewing color words in incongruent color fonts. Findings challenge predictions that a higher error rate would be found in the Reverse Stroop conditions when using a pointing task; but support the prediction that less discriminable hues result in more interference for both tasks.

17. Memory, Images, and Distractions
Kellee Snyder (Dr. David Johnson)
Gannon University

Does the presence of a distraction while learning the order of images affect the memory of those images? In performing this experiment, the use of a distraction was implemented to compare memory of images in a silent learning environment in contrast to a learning environment with a distraction present. Results showed that there is significance between the scores in the distraction and no distraction conditions.

18. Affective Reactions and Brand Name Memory
Lauren Benedict (Dr. David Johnson)
Gannon University

This experiment studies the relationship between affective reactions and product/ brand name memory. Each participant will be shown a series of print advertisements and he/she will rate their initial reaction to the ad, either positively or negatively on a Likert scale of one to five. A distraction will be given after the presentation to eliminate primacy and recency effects. Then, each participant will perform free recall of all the products and brand names from the ads that he/she can remember. My hypothesis is that strong reactions, positive or negative, to an ad will increase memory for the ad itself, while only strong positive reactions will evoke recall of the brand name and product advertised. The reasoning is that any emotional link to the ad will increase memory for the images in it, but a strong negative reaction will distract the viewer from the content and the product name. Therefore, only positive reactions will encourage memory of the product itself.

Session 4: Family, Children, and Parenting (Palumbo 3216)
Chair: Dr. Luke Rosielle

19. Reactions to Marriage as an "Off-Time" Developmental Event
Kristin Wucinski and Marilyn Livosky, Ph.D.
Mercyhurst College

Although there is an average age at which people marry, some individuals experience this event much later in life, in essence, "off time" rather than "on time." Some have suggested that "off-time" events are harder for people to negotiate than if those same events occur "on time." We were interested in the kinds of issues and tasks faced by those marrying for the first time at or after age 35. In this pilot study, a convenience sample of adults meeting that criteria was interviewed. A content analysis was conducted on responses. Results are discussed in terms of an Eriksonian framework.

20. Parenting styles and Resiliency
Katherine Kelly
Chatham College

Parenting styles and resiliency were examined to determine whether there was a potential link between the two variables. Thirty two students participated in the study. The two surveys used were the hardiness scale (HS) to score level of resilience and the parental authority questionnaire (PAQ) to determine the parenting style of the individual: permissive, authoritarian or authoritative. The two surveys were stabled together along with a demographics page. Twenty-nine questionnaires were completed in full and used for data analysis for the study; three were eliminated because of incomplete responses. A one way analysis of variance and a bivariate correlation were used to analyze the relationship of between parenting styles and resilience. One way analysis of variances and bivariate correlations were used in analyzing the demographics in relation to resilience. The only significant relationship found was between age and resilience, where the higher the age the higher the resilience score.

21. Assessing the Effectiveness of After School Science Activities
John Crane, Aimee Frey, Eileen Haase, Lauren Kessler, Kerry Lope, and Heather Sprys (Dr. Victoria Kazmerski)
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

We investigated how hands-on science learning relates to spatial abilities. Upper and lower elementary students participated in one of after school activities: Zoom-based (high spatial), Ology-based (low spatial), and non-science activities. Participants were given pre- and post-mental rotation tests that were modified for each age. Overall analysis indicated significant improvement from the pre- to the post-tests. This research suggests that using an after-school hands-on science program can enhance students' cognitive abilities and interests in the science curriculum. Early interests in science could lead to life-long goals that include pursuing a science related career.

22. Familial Socialization Influences on Relational Aggression

John Crane, Eileen Haase, Dr. Victoria Kazmerski, and Dr. Charisse Nixon
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

Peers clearly have a role in establishing and maintaining relationally aggressive (RA) behavior (see Crick et al., 1999, for a review). Less is known on how familial factors influence and promote RA behavior. This study explored the influence of familial factors on RA. Data were obtained from 159 participants (male = 59). The relationships between positive and negative familial process variables and RA had a different pattern for each gender, but both highlighted the role of the father. Understanding these factors may help develop more successful opportunities for positive support systems and decrease the likelihood of RA.

23. New Mothers' Knowledge of and Experiences with Postpartum Adjustment

Nicole Whitwhood (Ingrid Johnston-Robledo, Ph.D.)
SUNY at Fredonia

Women's lived experiences with the postpartum period, their knowledge about PPD, and the meaning they attach to the label of PPD is not well understood. The purpose of this qualitative research was to explore new mothers' knowledge of postpartum depression (PPD) and their experiences with various aspects of postpartum adjustment. We were also interested in whether women would use the label PPD to describe their own experiences. Women will complete a survey online regarding their level of preparation for the postpartum period, expectations of new motherhood, social support, knowledge of PPD and levels of concern about having PPD. Implications of this work will be discussed.

24. Content Standards Related to Parenting Education in Secondary Schools

Ashley Portman and Michelle Singer
Fredonia State University

Parenting education attempts to provide students with information about parenting skills and child development that will facilitate positive parenting practices in the future. The purpose of this study was to examine the curriculum content of parenting education in secondary schools in each of the United States. The study used the constant comparison method to analyze the data. The data revealed that states which require parenting education address topics such as the roles of parenting, responsibilities of parenting, parental expectations, definition of parenting and child development. Within the states that do not require parenting, but do provide guidance, education is provided in age-appropriate activities for children, effective parent-child communication, and review of current laws and policies relating to parenting.

Session 5: Clinical, Counseling, and Health (Palumbo 3223)
Chair: Dr. Dani McKinney

25. Communicative Interventions with Children with Autism and other Disabilities
Elizabeth Ellen Caskey (Dr. Alan Gittis)
Westminster College

The study was designed to compare the effectiveness of two communicative interventions with children diagnosed with autism and other severe disabilities. The two interventions that were used are the Picture Exhange Communication System (PECS) and Augmentative Communicative System (AAC). Using a single-subject of alternating-treatment design (Barlow & Hayes, 1979), the children would experience three conditions in each session throughout the course of the study. To add control to the study a "no treatment" condition was added to assess generalization of the two interventions in the child's natural environment. The participants in this proposed study are three children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder receiving wraparound services in Pennsylvania. Following a baseline period to assess word identification/usage of ten words (dependent measures), each child would experience the two communicative interventions (PECS,AAC)during each session (independent measures). The interventions would be scheduled and alternated so that each child received the same number of intervention sessions. The results of the study indicated which of the two communication interventions is most effective in increasing verbal reponses in children with Autism.

26. The BarOn Emotional Quotient Interview as an Indicator of Recidivism in Ex-Felon
Aaron J. Howard
SUNY-Fredonia

The recidivism rate in New York State is close to 80%. A residential facility run by the Cephas program with houses in Buffalo and Rochester has a recidivism rate of only 22% for ex-folons who complete the 90-day program. The present study examines the Emotional IQ of the residents using the BarOn EQ: Interview with approximately 10 residents. The BarOn EQ:Interview contains 72 questions and 15 subscales. It is expected that ex-felons will score low on subscales that examine emotional awareness and empathy for others. A new area of interest is how well the ex-felons score on problem solving ability in social settings. It is expected that their scores will be lower than norms. Implications of problem solving ability in recidivism rates of ex-felons will be discussed.

27. Familial History of Hypertension and Oral Contraceptive Use as Moderators of Cortisol Concentrations Following a Stressor Task
Anneliese Schwartzmiller (Dr. Kirk Lunnen),
Westminster College

Elevated levels of cortisol concentrations have been linked to an increased risk of several health related problems (Ahmed, de la Torre, and Wahlgren, 2004). Several studies have investigated hypertension-prone individuals increase and oral contraceptive user's decrease in cortisol concentration after a psychosocial stressor. Cortisol concentrations following a stressor task were collected for 40 undergraduate females (1) with or without a familial history of hypertension and

(2) who use or donâ€™t use oral contraceptives. Although the results were not significant, they followed the trend observed in previous research. Future research is needed to determine what prolonged effects these two factors have on the HPA axis.

28. EOG Activity of OCD Symptomatic Participants in Response to Disgusting Images
April M. Sobieralski and Dr. Kirk Lunnen
Westminster College

The present investigation used electrooculography and electroencephalography to examine differences in ocular and frontotemporal activity in response to disgusting stimuli between OCD symptomatic and non-symptomatic individuals. The researchers found that OCD symptomatic participants had significantly less horizontal eye movements on two disgusting images, and trends show OCD symptomatic participants had less eye movements for each disgusting image. Behavior modification can center on training OCD sufferers to visually divert their attention from stimuli that are obsessions and compulsions.

29. Wellness and Intelligence (GPA)
Christopher J. Klein (Dr. David Johnson)
Gannon University

I will investigate the correlation between the Wellness of Undergraduate students and their Intelligence. To determine the students' Wellness the participants will complete the Wellness Evaluation of Lifestyle (WEL) Inventory, a 131 item - Likert scale inventory. The GPA will serve as the measurement of the students' intellect and be obtained with the students written consent. Once the WEL has been scored and GPA obtained, a correlational test will be conducted between Wellness and Intelligence. A positive correlation has been hypothesized.

30. The Role of Psychological Factors in Subjective Reports of Parasympathetic Arousal
S.T. LoNigro (Dr. K.M. Lunnen)
Westminster College

Nesbitt (1973) reported that smokers describe feeling relaxed while smoking even though simultaneous physiological measurement indicates increased arousal. This phenomenon has been termed "Nesbitt's Paradox." Most research has focused on physiological explanations of the phenomenon, such as nicotine withdrawal. However, few studies have investigated the contributions of psychological factors to Nesbitt's Paradox. The present study examined the possible impact of manipulation of smoking materials on Nesbitt's Paradox. A sample of 18 smokers and 18 non-smokers participated in a stressor task and were then assigned to one of three experimental relaxation conditions: sham smoking, deep breathing, and control. Participants were compared on measures of blood pressure, heart rate, and skin temperature. Results indicated that there were no statistically significant differences between groups across the experimental conditions.

Session 6: Gender, Culture, and Personality (Palumbo 3243)
Chair: Dr. Terry Pettijohn

31. Reference Group Identity Dependence and Drinking Among College Males
Andrea Jermain
Allegheny College

Research regarding heavy alcohol use among college males has implicated social factors, such as perceived peer norms, and masculine factors, such as traditional masculine attitudes. In this study, 44 males were given the Reference Group Identity Dependence Scale, Drinking Norms Rating Form, and Bem Short Form. Using multiple regression, the current study analyzes whether the extent to which males identify with a reference group for gender role self concept effects self-reported alcohol use. It is believed that identification with a masculine referent group will positively predict alcohol use.

32. Correlations of Attitudes Toward Abortion and Capital Punishment
Rebecca D. Shorts and Ashley Whalen (Derek Mace).
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

Recent research has demonstrated that attitudes of capital punishment and abortion are highly indicative of religious affiliation and political affiliation. The purpose of this research is to explore alternative correlations. Participants completed a demographic survey (adopted from O 'Neil, 2004), a capital punishment attitude survey (adopted from O 'Neil, 2004), and a gender specific abortion attitudes survey (adopted from Hoffmann, 2005). We found females to be more likely to oppose capital punishment than males. Gender was more of a factor than religion or political affiliation.

33. A Process and Outcome Evaluation of the Behrend College Orientation
Justin R. Curry (Dr. Carl Kallgren)
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

The Orientation Program at the Behrend College in Erie, PA is a summer-long event culminating in a weekend of social and academic programs for incoming freshmen. Becoming involved on college campuses has many benefits, both inside and outside the classroom. Students were surveyed through Residence Life and Student Activities about their Orientation experience. Results found several significant findings, including that where the student was born (urban, suburban, or rural area) and types of programs attended (mandatory or social) had a significant impact on the overall orientation experience.

34. Leadership and Its Impact on a Multiple Goal, Multilevel Model of Performance
Christopher Engelhardt and Kelly Miller (Dr. Dawn Blasko).
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

The purpose of the present study was to examine whether leadership succession would interact with the type of feedback. The variables included 1) leadership succession (leader fired vs. not), and 2) type of feedback (individual vs. team). We measured performance and self-efficacy, and

hypothesized that if leaders were given feedback about their poor performance, then this evaluation would adversely impact future individual and group performance. Results demonstrated that leadership succession in this task played a minor role on performance although it did impact self-efficacy. However, feedback type was a much stronger predictor of performance.

35. Perceptions of Criminality in a Non-Criminal Male Population
Kadie Strosko and Dr. Jamie McMinn
Westminster College

Perceptions of criminality are revealed by facial features such as long hair, tattoos, and piercings. The Social Dominance Orientation scale was used to determine the participant's level of social dominance. Fifty two non-criminal male participants were given the SDO and the photo task questionnaire which included 24 photos that vary by facial feature and race. Using a within-subject ANOVA results yielded that Salience was individually significant and remained significant when paired with Picture Race. This shows that salience does have an effect on the way one perceives criminality.

36. Effect of Rejection Sensitivity on Friendship Satisfaction and Quality
Kayla A. Pasquale (Dr. Mandy Medvin)
Westminster College

This study examined the effect of rejection sensitivity on friendship as supported by previous similar studies. Participants were studied on two distinct types of friendship measures; positive feelings and satisfaction for a specific friend, and seven friendship functions, measuring the quality of friendship. Individual differences in rejection sensitivity were compared to both friendship satisfaction, and seven functions evaluating friendship quality. Based on a Pearson-product correlation design, significant results were found in satisfaction and six friendship functions. In conclusion individuals who show higher levels of rejection sensitivity tend to have overall lower friendship quality.

Poster Session II

1. Gender Differences in Educational Group Work
Justin R. Curry, Michael Johnson, and Jalise Velez (Dr. Derek Mace)
Penn State Erie, the Behrend College

This study is an exploration of gender differences in group selection and evaluation. Subjects completed a modified version of Underwood's 2003 Co-operative and Collaborative Learning Questionnaire consisting of seven situational vignettes. Gender within the vignettes was manipulated and participants were assigned to one set. The vignettes were designed to determine the likelihood of participating in group work, social loafing, and cheating. The current data suggests that males are more likely to participate
in cheating.

2. Can Labeling Applicant Birth Order Create Bias in Job Selection?
Emily M. McGuirk (Dr. Terry F. Pettijohn II)
Mercyhurst College

This study attempts to discover if the subtle label of birth order can have an effect on the perception of the person and the person's personality, specifically when recommending for a job. College students reviewed job positions tailored to one of the four birth order positions (first-born=president, middle-born=vice president, youngest=public relations officer, only=secretary/treasurer) and a profile with only the position in birth order altered. The anticipated results are that participants will attribute personality traits to the profile on a survey and place them in the job that fits the birth order position in the profile. Birth order is expected to have an effect on people's first impressions due to stereotypes about traits associated with each position.

3. Significance of Perceiver's Cerebral Dominance on Romantic Partner Preferences
Sarah Beercheck (Dr. Terry Pettijohn)
Mercyhurst College

This research examines the influence of people's cerebral dominance on romantic partner preferences. The participants were undergraduate students from Mercyhurst College. Based on previous research, lateralization and brain organization correlate highly with personality traits in individuals and personality traits are largely involved in attraction. We predicted that left brained participants would be more likely to rate descriptions of left brained people as highly attractive and, right brained participants would be more likely to rate descriptions of right brained people as highly attractive. The results should show that there is a difference between cerebral dominance and partner preferences. These findings would correlate with current research that people are prone to choose romantic partners that have similar interests, values, and personalities to their own.

4. The Attributions of NFL Fans on Message-Board Forums

Michael Pompa and Adam Laycock (Dr. Bruce Klonsky)
SUNY at Fredonia

This investigation extended the research on the attributions of sport fans. Earlier research found a self-serving bias to the attributions of such fans on post-game questionnaires and in-person interviews as well as from players, coaches, and sportswriters in newspapers. It was hypothesized that the same self-serving pattern would emerge in the post-game comments of NFL football fans on team and other websites. The archival sample included 143 post-game responses to 19 NFL games. The classification of attributions was based on Weiner's (1972, 1979) models. The results generally confirmed our hypothesis. Future research will look at the same self-serving bias in post-game radio talk shows.

5. I Hear, Therefore You Are: Social Stereotypes and Music Preference

Rebecca Snyder
Chatham College

The purpose of this study was to examine the social stereotypes associated with listeners of 10 different music styles, and whether in-group biases play a role in those stereotypes. In-group biases were taken into consideration and studied in depth on an individual level in the quantitative research. My research question was what stereotypes were associated with the listeners of different music styles and whether in-group bias affected the stereotypes given to others. It was hypothesized that in-groups would associate positive stereotypes with their own group and associate negative stereotypes with the out-group. Fifty-Five undergraduate female students were surveyed The results showed that there were, in fact, positive and negative stereotypes that were associated with listeners of different music styles. The results also showed that in-group bias was present.

6. The Politics of Gender in a Post-9/11 World: A Terror Management Perspective

Matthew Motyl
Allegheny College

The current study was conducted to assess the effects of death-related thought on evaluations of political candidates as a function of the candidates' sex and gender. Using terror management theory, it was hypothesized that people would show a preference for stereotypic and gender role consistent candidates. Following a death-related thought induction, 147 participants read a masculine or feminine position statement paired with a male or female photograph. Participants then evaluated each candidate on a scale designed by the researcher. The results obtained were mixed. When induced with death-related thought, participants preferred feminine candidates to masculine candidates in nearly every evaluative measure, with the exception of fighting terrorism. The theoretical and practical implications of these findings are discussed.

7. Does Resiliency Predict Social Aptitude?

Erin Leigh Mathes and Derek D. Mace
Penn State Erie, the Behrend College

Although the importance of resiliency and the influence of social skills have been studied separately for many years, there is little research on the effect each has on the presence of the other. The purpose of this study was to determine the correlation between resiliency, the ability to overcome everyday stress, and social aptitude, the ability to make meaningful connections with other people. Approximately 60 college-age students were asked to complete two surveys: the Behavioral and Emotional Rating Scale (BERS) and the Social Skills Inventory (SSI). This is a within subjects design. The predicted results should show a high, positive correlation between resiliency and social aptitude.

8. The Impact of Pluralistic Ignorance on Perceptions of Virginity

Jennifer Boykin (Dr. Gregory Morrow)
Edinboro University

Pluralistic ignorance is a psychological position in which one's previous attitudes and judgments are believed dissimilar from those of others, even though one's public behavior is equal. Previous research has connected pluralistic ignorance to the alcohol consumption of college students. The current study applies the idea of pluralistic ignorance to college students' views of sexual behavior. A questionnaire asking students about their background, sexual history, and perception of other students' current sexual status was developed. It was hypothesized that individual students would perceive others' views of virginity as negative while holding personally positive views of virginity.

9. Ink Me to Please Me: Body Image and the Art of Tattooing

Brittany Harger (Dr. Terry Pettijohn)
Mercyhurst College

Tattooing has been found throughout history for cultural practices, and more recently for decoration of the body. The purpose of this study is to see if tattooing has any effect on people's self-esteem, body image, and masculinity/femininity characteristics. College students are given a temporary henna tattoo, and then asked to rate their masculinity/femininity, their perception on their body changes, and if tattoos influence a change in their self esteem. There is a three day time period between the first testing, tattooing, and the second testing, in order to give time for the participants to become accustomed to their temporary tattoos. Results are anticipated to yield an increase in self-esteem, and body esteem. Also males should feel more masculine, and females should feel more feminine, both genders should have better feelings about their personal attractiveness.

10. Does victim age influence accountability of adult predators and victims?

Meggan Donahue and Jeff Byham
Edinboro University

Fifty (31 Male and 19 female) college students were respondents in this between-subjects design experiment. This study examined accountability assigned to a female adult and male juvenile in a

hypothetical real-time sexual relationship initiated via the Internet. Respondents received one of three possible 225-word identical narrative scenarios that described a relationship between a 30 year-old adult female and a 9 (Group 1), 13 (Group 2), or 17 (Group 3) year-old male juvenile. Assignment of accountability and other dependent measures were assessed using seven 10-point Likert scales.

11. Implicit Stereotyping and Its Effects on Product Perception
Jamie McCoy (Dr. Gerard Barron)
Mercyhurst College

The purpose of this study was to explore the relationship between implicit stereotyping and individual's perceptions on products featuring Black actors. Participants recorded their perceptions of a product after viewing an advertisement, showing either a Black actor or a white actor. Following this, participants completed the Implicit Associations Test and the Modern Racism Scale. It was found that product perception was not dependent on the race of the actor in an advertisement. There is reason to believe that there will be a significant correlation between product perception scores and IAT scores of participants who viewed the advertisement with Black actors.

12. Significant Others' Effect on Affect: Responses to Acceptance and Rejection
Donya P. Bernier (Dr. Stephen Paul)
Robert Morris University

Self-esteem was evaluated based on the presence or absence of a significant other in acceptance and rejection situations. Hypothetical scenarios were utilized to include acceptance and rejection conditions for individuals who either had a significant other, or did not have a significant other. Thirty-nine undergraduates were asked to read these scenarios, and complete a self-esteem questionnaire from the point-of-view of the individual in each scenario. The presence of a significant other did result in a higher self-esteem score in acceptance situations (as opposed to acceptance without significant other). However, the presence of a significant other did not lessen rejection's negative effect on self-esteem.

13. Parent-Child Relationships and Substance Use in College Students
Denise Y. Dymond (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Substance use, family structure, and perceived parent-child relationships were examined. College students completed a survey about their substance use and then rated their current relationships with their parents and their relationships while growing up. Participants who had higher ratings of their parent-child relationships while growing up were less likely to have done some of the alcohol and marijuana behaviors. Participants who had current parent-child relationships that were lower were more likely to have tried and used harder drug.

14. Personality Traits as Predictors of Academic Goals
Sarah Gerard (Gerard Barron)
Mercyhurst College

The purpose of this research is to use personality characteristics to predict academic goal orientation in college students with and without learning disabilities. The personality characteristics that will be studied are self- esteem, locus of control, and optimism. In past research it has been demonstrated that learning disabled students have lower self- esteem and are more pessimistic about their academics than students that do not have learning disabilities. Also, past research has found that people are less academically goal oriented when they have low self-esteem and have a more external locus of control. This research predicts that students with a learning disability will have lower self- esteem, be more pessimistic, and have a more external locus of control than students without a learning disability therefore students with a learning disability will be less academically goal oriented.

15. Gender Differences in Door-Holding Behavior
Ai Hashinoguchi (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study investigated gender roles with door-holding behavior. Male and female students were observed entering and exiting campus buildings. Whether the person made an extra effort to hold the door for the next person by letting them go ahead or stopping at the door to hold it was recorded. Males were significantly more likely to hold the door for other people regardless of their gender.

16. The Impact of Pluralistic Ignorance on Perceptions of Virginity
Jennifer Boykin (Dr. Gregory Morrow)
Edinboro University

Pluralistic ignorance is a psychological position in which one's previous attitudes and judgments are believed dissimilar from those of others, even though one's public behavior is equal. Previous research has connected pluralistic ignorance to the alcohol consumption of college students. The current study applies the idea of pluralistic ignorance to college students' views of sexual behavior. A questionnaire asking students about their background, sexual history, and perception of other students' current sexual status was developed. It was hypothesized that individual students would perceive others' views of virginity as negative while holding personally positive views of virginity.

17. The Influence of Social Confidence as a Cause of Outgroup Bias in College Students
Kristen Dunbar (Dr. Terry Pettijohn)
Mercyhurst College

Attitudes towards outgroups vary from person to person and can be changed by many factors. The purpose of this research is to find out if people with different levels of social confidence have different levels of outgroup bias. To test this, participants from Mercyhurst College are given a number of surveys about their social confidence and feelings about outgroups. It is

hypothesized that people with low social confidence have high levels of out group bias. The researcher anticipates these results will be significant because people tend to be more comfortable with those similar to themselves when they have lower social confidence.

18. Effects of the Media on Casual Attributions of Poverty
Kaela S. Geschke (Dr. Terry Pettijohn)
Mercyhurst College

This study tests how different media sources affect one's causal attributions of poverty. College students read an article that was altered to allude that poverty is either caused by structural or individualistic reasons. Participants were then given a version of the Attribution for Poverty Scale. Participants in the structural and individualistic conditions are expected to score significantly higher on their respective attribution items than participants in the control condition. Previous studies have proven that individuals' both use the news as a significant source of information and adopt policy preferences based on their attributions. This study then supports that the media's portrayal of poverty has the potential to affect citizens' voting preference regarding poverty related issues.

19. The Effects on Judgments of Quality When Lyrics Are Labeled As Rap
Jamie C. Johnson (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study examined potential stereotypes toward rap music. Participants were randomly assigned to read and rate lyrics that were either labeled as rap or not labeled. Additionally, some of the lyrics came from rap songs and some came from country songs. Both students who were and were not fans of rap rated the quality better when the lyrics were labeled as rap.

20. The Effects of Personality, Stress and Social Support on College Adjustment
Kathleen D. Grant (Dr. Gerard Barron)
Mercyhurst College

This particular study examines the relationship that personality, stress and social support have with adjustment to college. Previous research has found that these specific factors contribute significantly to how well students adjust to college. During this study, approximately 50 Mercyhurst College undergraduate students completed a general demographics questionnaire and then four surveys on personality, stress, social support and college adjustment. It was predicted that students with certain types of personalities would be better adjusted to college. It was also predicted that students who were experiencing low amounts of stress in their lives and students who seemed to have healthy amounts of social support would be better adjusted to college.

21. Relationship Issues
Sean Michael Garst (Dr. Terry Pettijohn II)
Mercyhurst College

The research presented dealt directly with issues of forgiveness in relationships and which gender was more forgiving, males or females. Prior to a forgiveness scenario survey, an interpersonal relationship scale, and a forgiveness inventory, each of the participants love orientations were manipulated. Manipulation of each participants love orientation was randomly assigned as to provide a more detailed response for the rest of the surveys presented. Unlike past research, this study worked to provide statistical correlations to love orientation and gender with forgiveness as the dependent variable. Future suggestions concerning relationships between forgiveness and gender are further discussed in the discussion section.

22. Perceptions and Preferences of Introverted and Extroverted Traits
Sarah Brady (Dr. Terry Pettijohn)
Mercyhurst College

The differences in perceptions of personalities among introverted and extroverted students were investigated in this study. Participants consisted of undergraduate students at Mercyhurst College enrolled in the Introduction to Psychology course. Each participant rated fictional profiles on ten traits to provide a measure of social desirability. Participants then filled out an NEO scale to determine their own level of introversion or extroversion. Expected results were that members of one personality type would rate profiles with similar personalities as more socially desirable. Results could bring attention to the problem of bias and lead to a reduction in prejudice and stereotyping.

23. First Year College Students Transitioning and Communication With Their Parents
Vanessa Mourey (Dr. Terry Pettijohn)
Mercyhurst College

The goal of the research is to determine whether increased communication and the content of the information being communicated between college students and their parents will assist in the college transitioning process of first year college students. Approximately fifty participants will complete The College Adjustment Test, The College Activities and Behavior Questionnaire, and a general communication survey. The experimental group will send emails to their parents/guardians daily for two weeks. The Linguistic Inventory and Word Count program will analyze the e-mails. The control group will not write e-mails. At the end of the two weeks, both groups will take the questionnaires again. The results will be compared and analyzed to prove the significance of increased communication and emotional disclosure through e-mail.

24. FEARING APOCALYPSE: Past, Present, & Future
Nicole Campbell, Nicole Milbauer, and Jennifer Sanchez (Dr. Eric Miller)
Kent State East Liverpool

This study examines possible reasons for apocalyptic fears surrounding U.S. citizens in recent years. Since the beginning of the Twentieth century to the present, there is evidence that interest in the "end of the world" has fluctuated according to relative events, with an increase in the last

decade. According to the Ohiolink Research Database, there was a 40% increase in resources available regarding apocalypse from 1995 to 2000. Important events in the U.S. such as religion, terrorism, scientific data, and media tactics contribute to this trend.

25. Students' Use of Computers in Campus Labs
Alicia A. Master (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study investigates whether college students use the computers at campus computer labs for school related or non-school related work. Participants completed a survey regarding their computer use on campus. Participants reported using other computers significantly more than computers in campus labs. When in the labs, students reported spending significantly more time on school work than non-school work. However, participants felt that other students use the computer labs more for non-school work.

26. Audience Perception of Political Interviews
Kiyle Brosius and Stuart Daman (Dawn Blasko)
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

In this study we looked at equivocation in political figures, but unlike previous research we examined the impact that equivocation tends to have on the audience of a political interview. Equivocation is non-straightforward communication. The hypothesis states that politicians who equivocate in a conflict situation, instead of giving a straightforward answer that makes him or her look bad, will be perceived as more likable than one that answers honestly and directly. Simulated interviews were be viewed by participants and questionnaires were used to assess the opinions and views of the presidential candidate. Expected results did not confirm the Face Model and show that equivocation does not necessarily reduce face-damage in political interviews. Gender differences in the perception of politicians were found, and suggest that further research should be conducted to make stronger conclusions.

27. Computer Use for Interacting or Not Interacting With People and Loneliness Rates
Laura M. Packosky (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study examined loneliness rates for people who use a computer primarily for interacting with others versus those who use it for purposes without interaction. Participants completed a survey about their computer use and a survey about loneliness. Those who frequently used a computer to interact with other people had lower rates of loneliness than those who rarely used a computer to interact with others. This relationship appeared to be stronger in females than males. Future research on computer usage effects on relationships should consider how the computer is being used.

28. The Gender Gap between Athletes in Japan, the United States, and West Germany
Issei Miyagishima (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study investigated the gender gap between male and female athletes in three countries: Japan, the United States, and Germany. The data was collected from each country's championships for 100m, 400m, 1500m, and marathon held every five years from 1970 to 2005. In all three countries, female athletes were not closing the gender gap in any of the events.

29. Creating Mandalas in Order to Reduce Anxiety and Stress
Heather Crawford (Dr. T. Pettijohn)
Mercyhurst College

This study investigated the effectiveness of the creative art process on anxiety and stress levels by examining whether a certain art task created a meditative state within a person in order to calm them down. Participants were undergraduate students, who were randomly assigned to either the mandala group or the free-form group, where they were instructed to create a mandala or an original picture. The anticipated results will show that creating a mandala more than a free-form picture will significantly decrease anxiety and stress by measuring the participants' levels before and after the art task. These findings suggest that through a structured art task, such as creating a mandala, the chaos within the mind will be refocused through the use of a complex design.

30. Perceptions of Male and Female College Students' Alcohol Use
Anne E. Beer (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study examined whether college students would overestimate how many of their peers use alcohol. Students completed a survey that asked if they have or have not engaged in alcohol use and binge drinking, and then to estimate the percentage of how many other male and female peers they felt were engaging in the same behaviors. Participants overestimated how many other male and female students were engaging in alcohol use and binge drinking.

31. The Influence of Romantic Stories on Beliefs in Soul Mates
Jessica Bair (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study is interested in whether or not beliefs regarding soul mates can be influenced by reading romantic stories about how a couple met. Participants were asked several questions about their beliefs in soul mates or whether they believed that successful relationships require work and effort. Participants were given a survey either with romantic stories or without. The stories did not influence people's beliefs however, women had more belief in soul mates than men.

32. Perceptions of Physical and Relational Aggression for Male and Female Targets
Dana M. Swatsworth (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study investigated perceptions of physical and relational aggression. Participants read two bullying scenarios which involved either boys or girls who displayed physical aggression such as being shoved and threatened or displayed relational aggression such as being teased and excluded by another child. Both men and women participants viewed physical aggression to be more serious than relational aggression. It was found that women also viewed relational aggression to be serious.

33. Perceptions of the Offenders of Childhood Sexual Abuse
Cassandra R. Grimm (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The present study investigated perceptions of those who commit childhood sexual abuse. Participants estimated the percentage of cases of childhood sexual abuse that they believe are perpetrated by males and females against both boys and girls. They did similar estimations based on sexual orientation, age, and relationship to the victim. Participants estimated that a friend of the family was more likely to abuse a boy victim as compared to a stranger for a girl victim. Participants also estimated for both victim genders, the perpetrator was most likely a heterosexual male between the ages of 30 and 50.

34. Discrimination: Do Disability Cues Affect Expectations on Performance Levels
Jaimie L. Davensizer and Michelle L. Moore
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

The purpose of the current study is to investigate the affects of disability type and likeliness to hire for employment. Subjects were required to read 1 of 3 mock job application types and rate the applicant based on expected job performance and compassion. There is not a significant difference thus far however the results show a trend of physical disability type being more likely hired than those with mental disability type. Furthermore those with both disability types are shown more compassion than those with either physical or mental disability type.

35. Pop-culture versus Political Knowledge of College Students
Gina M. Oddi (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Undergraduate students answered questions about basic political or pop-culture knowledge, similar to those asked by Jay Leno when he interviews people on the street. Students were randomly assigned a form, either stressing the importance of correctly answering the political questions or not. Students who completed the survey under the stressed importance condition answered significantly more of both political and pop-culture knowledge questions correctly. Although students correctly answered more pop-culture than political questions, they did not do as poorly as Jay Leno portrays.

36. Perceptions of Individuals Involved in Internet-Facilitated Sexual Relationships

Emily Kierce (Grant McLaren, Ph.D.)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

45 college students served as respondents in this between-subjects design experiment. The study was designed to determine how the age of a fictional juvenile would influence the degree of accountability assigned to a fictional adult male involved in a hypothetical sexual relationship initiated via internet communications. Respondents received one of three possible narrative scenarios that described a relationship between a 30 year-old adult male and a 9 (group 1), 13 (group 2), or 17 (group 3) year-old female juvenile. Assignment of accountability and other dependent measures were assessed using five 10-point Likert scales.

37. Perceptions of Physical and Relational Aggression for Male and Female Targets

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The present study investigated perceptions of those who commit childhood sexual abuse. Participants estimated the percentage of cases of childhood sexual abuse that they believe are perpetrated by males and females against both boys and girls. They did similar estimations based on sexual orientation, age, and relationship to the victim. Participants estimated that a friend of the family was more likely to abuse a boy victim as compared to a stranger for a girl victim. Participants also estimated for both victim genders, the perpetrator was most likely a heterosexual male between the ages of 30 and 50.

39. Effects of Eye Contact in a Photo on Judgments of Personality Characteristics

Bethany D. Kurina (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

This study examined impressions of people in a photograph who were either looking down or into the camera. Participants were randomly assigned to a photograph with or without eye contact. Based only on the photograph, participants rated the target along several personality characteristics. As predicted, the target making direct eye contact with the camera was rated as more confident, happy, popular, and as having higher self-esteem than the target looking down.

40. Debunking Paranormal Beliefs in General Psychology Classes
Ronald E. Peterson (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

This study investigated debunking paranormal phenomenon in general psychology courses. Participants were all college students in one of two professor's general psychology classes. Both professors used identical textbooks, but only one professor did a debunking demonstration and discussed the topic during lectures. Students were asked questions concerning their belief in paranormal phenomenon. As predicted, students had significantly lower beliefs in the paranormal phenomenon that was discussed.

41. The Influence of Claiming a Statement is Scientific on Beliefs
Elizabeth A. California (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study is interested in whether supporting a claim with a scientific source influences beliefs in the claim. Participants were asked to rate how much they believed in each of four purported newspaper headlines on relationships. Two of the headlines incorporated science into the title and the other two did not. As predicted, headlines which included the word science received higher belief ratings than those that did not.

42. Attitudes Toward Women Who Choose To Keep Or Hyphenate Their Last Name
Kristin L. Bojarski (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study examined perceptions of women getting married and their decision in regards to their last name. Participants read one of three scenarios. The three scenarios were identical except the woman's decision to take her husband's name, hyphenate the names, or keep her maiden name. Both male and female participants rated the female as kinder and more likely to have a happier marriage when she took her husband's last name.

43. A Service Learning Study: Effects on the Attitudes of College Students
Teri Ritenour and Carly Kosinski
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

We examined the impact of service learning on the attitudes of college students. In service learning, students work in the community as part of their coursework. We surveyed students in a college class that had a mandatory service learning component, and compared them to students in a similar non-service learning course. At the beginning and the end of the semester all students completed a brief measure of personality and the Community Service Attitudes scale. Those in the service learning group also kept a log where they reflected on their experiences. There were few differences between the groups. Most students that completed the service learning component felt that it was beneficial, but overall, women were more positive about the experience than men. Those that rated themselves more highly on the personality characteristic of agreeableness also felt that the experience was more valuable and more enjoyable.

44. The Magic of Music in Advertising

Amanda Hammill (Dr. David Johnson)
Gannon University

The use of music to provoke emotion in people has been used since ancient time. Early philosophers such as Aristotle talked of music's power in politics and how the right rhythm and harmonies could be used to persuade people. Advertisers have used this idea in advertisement since the first network radio broadcast aired 1923. Whether the music is made for the specific product as a jingle or whether a popular musician's work is used, music in advertising has become commonplace to the American public. This study examines the effect pleasant and unpleasant rated music has on participants' opinions while reading an ordinary magazine article. The results showed significant differences between the types of music and participants opinions. When unpleasant music was played participants had a more negative opinion of the advertisement and when pleasant music was played participants' opinions were more positive. This kind of influence suggests that when selecting music for television and radio ads, advertisers may want to consider the elements of the music and whether it will produce a positive emotional association with the advertised product.

45. Asche's Conformity Experiment Revisited

John Yeager and Hollie Dean (Dr. David Johnson)
Gannon University

Conformity has been thought to play an important role in how we interact with individuals in our environment. In his research, Asch (1951) performed a series of experiments in conformity, where he sat 7-9 (1 participant with several confederates) individuals down and instructed them to match the length of a given line, a standard, to the length of three other lines. One of the three lines was equal to the standard while the other two clearly differed from both the standard and each other. Asch created a situation in which confederates unanimously gave an incorrect response with a participant either unknowingly conforming to the group's decision or choosing the right answer on their own. Results showed that approximately 2/3rd of the responses were correct and were not distorted by the majority, while 1/3rd yielded to the demands of the group and in doing so conformed. Our research wishes to further explore Asch's conformity experiment within the confines of our present day.

46. Does Victim and Adult Relationship Influence Accountability of Adult Predator

Lauren Sakmar and Grant McLaren
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Fifty Five college students were participants in this between subjects design experiment. The study was designed to determine how the relationship of a fictional adult and minor would influence degree of accountability to both parties involved in an hypothetical real-time sexual relationship initiated via Internet communications. Participants received one of three possible identical narrative scenarios that described a relationship between a 13 year old male juvenile and a teacher (Group 1), friend of the family (Group 2), or stranger (Group 3). Assignment of accountability and other dependent measues were assessed using five 10-point Likert scales.

47. Student Knowledge of Safe Sex Services Available at the Campus Health Center

Christine Jara (Dr. Gary Levine)
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

The current study surveyed students' knowledge of safe sex and related services available at the campus health center. The survey consisted of questions asking students what is available on campus and the cost to students. Most male and female students knew that free counseling and condoms were available, but had little knowledge of other available services.

48. How Adult Relationship to the Victim Influences Their Accountability

Lacey Wilcox
Edinboro University

Forty Six (24 Male and 22 Female) college students participated in this between subjects design experiment. The study was designed to determine how the relationship of a fictional adult and minor would influence degree of accountability to both parties involved in a hypothetical real-time sexual relationship initiated via Internet communications. Participants received one of three possible identical narrative scenarios that described a relationship between a 13 year old female juvenile and a male teacher (Group 1), friend of the family (Group 2), or stranger (Group 3). Assignment of accountability and other dependent measures were assessed using five 10-point Likert scales.

49. The Music of The Seasons: Does Music Preference Change With the Season?

Gregory M. Williams and Dr. Terry F. Pettijohn II
Mercyhurst College

The present research examined individual's music preferences in relevance to the season; specifically the summer and winter. Using a number of participants, a survey was used to determine the importance of music in the everyday lives of the participants in comparison to other lifestyle and leisure activities they engage in. The survey also included a descriptive paragraph in which one of two seasons (summer or winter) was described in detail. The participants was asked to give responses in relevance to their emotional state and perceived music preference after reading the given scenarios describing a season. Upon using a number of questions regarding beliefs about music, fourteen music genres, and four music-preference dimensions, data showed that participants indicated music as a frequently engaged in activity in their everyday lives. Preference for different music genres and dimensions also differed when different seasonal scenarios were presented to the participants.

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