

Introduction

For my project I decided to uncover if gender affects peer pressure. I guess it was just something that's always been at the back of my mind but I never thought I would be able to actually discover the truth. When the opportunity of the science fair came up I originally wanted to do something that had to do with either gymnastics or flexibility because that's what I spend most of my time on. But when an article about peer pressure popped up on my screen I knew it would be perfect. I then narrowed it down to gender and from there I decided exactly how I wanted to test it. I decided on testing a group of kids from my grade. I will most likely send them a form about their favorite things as then there is no right or wrong answer. They will first fill out the test on their own with no peer pressure and then I will put them all into groups; one group of all the boys and one of all the girls. I will allow them to talk as well as change their answers so that peer pressure is on.

Definition of Peer pressure:

According to Oxford Languages, the definition of peer pressure is "influence from members of one's peer group."

Manipulated variable

The manipulated variable in my test is gender. One group is all boys and one group is all girls. Besides this everything about the tests are the same; the tests will take place in the same room, the quiz will have the same questions, there will be the same rules put into place such as how much you are allowed to chat with your peers and there will be the same amount of people in each group.

Responding Variable

Once they all take both tests I will gather the results to see if boys or girls were more affected by their peers. Will the girls chat more and decide to change their answer based on what their friends are doing or will the boys decide to change their answers based on what their friends think? I can tell if the boys or the girls were more affected by comparing both tests and seeing who changed their answers from the first quiz. Or maybe gender doesn't affect peer pressure at all and the results from the boys and the girls will show the same.

How The Variables Are Expected To Impact Outcome

Gender might affect who was affected by peer pressure and who changed their answers when they were surrounded by their peers. If one gender was affected more than the other, then the second tests from that gender will have some different answers than the first tests that gender submitted.

Interesting Facts

My first fact: According to Talk It Out www.talkitoutnc.org there are six types of peer pressure:

Spoken peer pressure: this is when someone will influence someone else to do something by verbally asking them. **Unspoken peer pressure:** this would be when one or more peers go to do something and someone is left to decide whether they want to go along or not. There are no verbal actions of someone asking if you want to come; it's just seeing them go and deciding if you want to as well.

Direct peer pressure: This isn't necessarily unspoken or spoken. This is when someone is put on the spot to make a decision such as if someone hands you something such as a cigar and you have to decide whether you're going to take it or not. Another example could be if someone passes you a note during class and you have to decide whether you're going to read it, write back

or ignore it. **-Indirect peer pressure:** this is when someone might overhear something and then react to it. No one is talking directly to them but instead they learn about something and react or respond to it.

-Negative peer pressure: this one is quite simple. Pretty much negative peer pressure is when someone goes against their beliefs, family rules or what they know is wrong to follow what someone else is doing. **-Positive peer pressure:** this would be when one or more other peers are influencing something good. This is the opposite of negative peer pressure. For example someone might be starting a club where they go around doing good deeds and others want to join so that they are not left out. Another example of positive peer pressure is when a sports team or club decides to not drink alcohol or smoke so others might decide to follow in their footsteps.

My second fact is from www.sciencedaily.com. They say that according to recent studies, people take stupid chances much more when they are in a group environment than when they are alone. They say this is because our brain takes more pleasure winning in a group setting than when you are alone. My third and final fact is that peer pressure is most common during maturing ages. I got this from <https://ppexhibition.weebly.com/> and <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>

Conclusions

From all of this I have concluded that there are six types of peer pressure, peer pressure is most common during puberty and that people take more value in winning when they are with a group.

