

**2023 INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE
FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2023**

Conference Program and Abstracts

SCHEDULE

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration	Education and Arts Building (EA) Atrium
9:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Session I	EA classrooms 1013-1021, 1010
10:30 – 11:45 a.m.	Session II	EA classrooms 1013-1017, 1010
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	The Grill
1:15 – 2:30 p.m.	Session II	EA classrooms 1013-1015, 1010
1:15 – 2:30 p.m.	Documentary Screening	EA 1011



Council on Undergraduate Research

WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2023 Indiana University South Bend Undergraduate Research Conference! Over the years, the URC has grown into a springtime institution on our campus. This year will be the second time we are back in person for this exciting event! This year, the call for the URC in 2023 generated over 70 distinct proposals, including the participation of over one hundred students, faculty, staff, and observers. It is wonderful to witness and experience this sincere commitment to the research process on our campus. The URC is one of many outlets for IUSB students to showcase the academic work they complete in their classes or as part of research teams with faculty. The conference serves as a moment to officially recognize the high quality of students' work.

The conference program this year consists of a wide range of exciting research from several disciplines including Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Communication, Criminal Justice, Dental Hygiene, English, Education, Spanish, Health Sciences, History, Sustainability, Nursing, Math, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Women's and Gender Studies. The 2023 URC features presentations in Spanish, poster topics ranging from advocating for victims' rights to healthier dental hygiene for a variety of demographics. This year's presentations cover a range of topics from the effect of mutations on PhuZ polymerization, creative work on the conversion of short stories and comics, research proposing new federal criminal justice policies, to Twitter's influence on legislation. We encourage you all to attend presentations in many disciplines, and hope you will engage with student presenters, peers, and classmates—asking about their research, methods, and findings.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

As co-chairs of the conference planning committee, we have many individuals to thank for their time, energy, and hard work to make this event successful. To our fellow URC Planning Committee members: Jenny Deranek, Brett Labbé, Katie Sargent, Carlos Lisoni, AJ Schmitz, and Mohammad Merhi—thank you for your tireless efforts in planning, preparing, and promoting the conference! To Terri Langel and Eileen Villanueva—thank you for all the help and support regarding use of space—we are so grateful. To all the faculty mentors (names in parentheses in this program)—without your mentorship guiding our students, we would not have such a successful conference! We appreciate all your encouragement and hard work! To all the judges and moderators---we greatly appreciate your time and dedication to our students. To Erika Zynda—thank you for your help with budget preparation and assisting in hospitality! To Andrew Harlow—thank you for all your assistance with hospitality! To Ryan Weber and WERC—thank you for your quick work printing out posters for our students! We also would like to congratulate and thank all the students participating this year.

We deeply appreciate the enthusiastic support provided by Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Jill Pearson and Chancellor Dr. Susan Elrod, and the efforts of committed IU South Bend instructors and staff, including the members of the Undergraduate Research Advisory Council. Thank you to Chancellor Elrod, and alumna Jenna Stankovich, for speaking with our students about the importance of research.

Again, this year the conference poster and program cover were designed by an IU South Bend student—Sarah Gletty, a graphic design major, developed the design scheme for 2023. Thank you, Sarah!

No conference is possible without the behind-the-scenes work that often goes unacknowledged in the areas of purchasing, facilities scheduling and setup, food preparation and catering, maintenance, information technology, and many more. Thank you to all those who helped make this conference possible!

We hope you all enjoy the experience!

Sincerely,

Drs. Molly Block and Stacie Merken, URC 2023 Co-Chairs

PROFESSIONAL COURTESY

Please be considerate by silencing your cell phone and refraining from entering and leaving session rooms during presentations.

**CONCURRENT PANELS AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS:
SESSION I (9:00 – 10:15 A.M.)
Location: EA classrooms 1013-1021, 1010**

Panel: Ekphrastomania: Short Stories Inspired by IUSB Students' Comics (EA 1013)
Moderator: Kelcey Ervick

CORBIN SHELTON
PHILLIP DERRICKSON
SHANNON VAIL
FIG SHAFER (Ervick)

Panel: The Effect of Mutations on PhuZ Polymerization (EA 1015)
Moderator: Shahir Rizk

SHAUN CALHOUN
RACHEL HALL
ASHLEI SONNENBERG
STEVEN FRYE
PAIGE ENGDAHL (Rizk)

Panel: Examination of Criminal Justice Policies (EA 1017)
Moderator: Stacie Merken

The Bonds That Save Us: The Social Support Approach to Treating MAPs in New York
ISABELA FLORES (Merken)

10-33 Family Assistance: Financial Assistance for Law Enforcement Officer Families in
Indiana
PAYTON JOHNSON (Merken)

Guns in Good Hands
ALEX WAGNER (Merken)

Who's Standing Behind me? Traditional Stalking in California
JENNA FREZZA (Merken)

Victim Empowerment Act in Texas
ROSIE BOSTIC (Merken)

Panel: An Ensemble of Humanities (EA 1019)

Moderator: Jake Mattox

Collection of Poems and Letters concerning Anne Hutchinson
MATELYN STANDIFORD (Mattox)

The Rise and Fall of Elkhart Instrument factories, 1875-1925
SARAH HIEBER (Nashel)

Thomas Jefferson and Fear
SOPHIA HUMMER (Mattox)

The Boring Dinosaur: The Struggle for Establishing Paleontology at the Field Museum
KEVIN PRICE (Nashel)

The Importance of Mental Health Resources in African Immigrants to Promote Healing
from Intimate Partner Violence
CARLY LANDON (Gerken)

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Location: EA Classrooms 1010 and 1021

View the following posters and speak with presenters. Be sure to move through the two rooms in which posters are located!

Dental Education Posters (EA 1010)

Why is Montessori Education Appealing to Parents?
MAKAYLA CUNNINGHAM (Lemanski)

Communication Difficulties and Barriers in Individuals Diagnosed with Autism
Spectrum Disorder
SIERRA MARSHALL-MCCREARY (Lemanski)

The Disadvantages of Growing Up Bilingual
JENNIFER CORIA (Lemanski)

Day of the Dead Enhances Cultural Awareness, so it Should be Taught in Schools.
GRICEL ROSALES (Lemanski)

How Social Media Affects the Mental Health of Adolescents
ADILENE BAUTISTA (Lemanski)

Internet Use and It's Effects on Emotional Intelligence Among Young Adults
KAYLA WINGARD (Lemanski)

The Correlation between Scholastic Assessment Test Scores and Graduation Rates in 4-
Year Colleges Throughout Indiana
HAILEY KOETJE (Lemanski)

The Role of Marriage in the Incidence of Postpartum Depression
EMANUEL SANCHEZ (Lemanski)

The Contribution of Childhood Abuse and Mental Illnesses in Increasing the Risk of Youth Human Trafficking.
SIMRAN KAUR (Lemanski)

How Social Media Affects Women
BROOKE MULLET (Lemanski)

Virtual versus Traditional Learning
HAYLEE HOVIOUS (Lemanski)

Electronic Cigarette Use Among College Students
JENNIFER BARKER (Lemanski)

Health Sciences Posters (EA 1021)

The Impact and Influences on the Choice to Formula Feed Over Breastfeed
CHASITY COLE (Lemanski)

Pandemic Hate Against Asians
ASHLEE HERNANDEZ (Lemanski)

The Result of Cancer Development in Young Women Using Oral Contraceptives, are they Considering the Risk?
CINITA SANCHEZ (Lemanski)

Improving Oral Health through Health Literacy: How does Health Literacy Directly Correlate to Oral Health?
CLOEY NOLES (Lemanski)

Helping Patients Achieve Effective Pain Relief Through the Combined Use of Pharmacological and Non-Pharmacological Measures
RACHEL ENDRES, HAVEN WINKLER (Jones)

ASD Education Initiative
ALIXE WAGNOR (Roberts)

M Health Key
BRIANNA MCDONALD, SOPHIA GULEWICZ, CHANTY MOM, GRACE DEUEL (Roberts)

The Socioeconomic Impact of Communication Disorders
TY RAYOUM (Hatfield)

**CONCURRENT PANELS AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS:
SESSION II (10:30 – 11:45 A.M.)
Location: EA classrooms 1013-1017, 1010**

A Collaboration of Social Science and Math (EA 1013)

Moderator: Jamie Smith

Modification of the Interpersonal Theory of Suicide: Four-Pillar Model Focused on
Military Veteran Suicide Factors
SCOTT LEEPER (Juricevic)

Twitter as a Form of Legislative Influence: President Biden on the Inflation Reduction
Act
NEVAEH MENDOZA (Smith)

Golden Ratio Myth Busting: Fibonacci Sequence Wagering on Roulette
MATTHEW MARTIN (Serenevy)

Culture and Communication (EA 1015)

Moderator: Brett Labbé

Community and Culture Learning Lab
ALEX SINGLETON, KNEF KING (Schrank)

The Motivations of Consuming Action Films
DEANDRE BARTON (Labbé)

Titans Feeding Titans Informative Video
DAVID SALEH (Wilson)

A Conversation with Gen Z students at IUSB about Climate Change and the Future
MIRA COSTELLO (Schrank)

Dental Hygiene and Dental Education (EA 1017)

Moderator: Mallory Roberts

Operation Smile: Healthy Smiles for Michiana Veterans
AMY TAYLOR (Roberts)

Oral Health: Kits for Kids
MAKAYLA CUNNINGHAM (Roberts)

Veteran Suicidal Ideation and Community Involvement
AMY TAYLOR (Lemanski)

Social Science and Natural Science Posters (EA 1010)

Synthesis of Novel Imidazolium-Urethane Ionic Liquids

TAYLOR BOYD-BECKER (Clear)

Analyzing the Microbial Communities and Antibiotic Resistance in Feline Saliva
GABRIEL VEGA (Bobbs)

A Novel Method of Testing Food Preference in *Drosophila Melanogaster*
TREVOR DEDAKER (Bobbs)

Drug Dealers in Indiana and their Reformation
KIM KUEMIN (Merken)

Funding Pedophiles in Illinois
THERESA ARTERBERY (Merken)

Helping Victims with Open Arms in Florida
ALORA COLLINS (Merken)

A Paycheck with a Side of Cash
TIPHANIE HODGE (Merken)

All Together: The Creation of a Police Review Board in Indiana
KOLE MILLER (Merken)

To Die or Not to Die
KELLY PAWLAK (Merken)

Mandatory Body Cameras in Florida = Police Accountability
ZACHARY DOBOS (Merken)

Resilience In Adolescence: The Development of Adaptability
TY RAYOUM (Linton)

LUNCH (12:00 – 1:00 p.m.)

Location: The Grill

Speakers:

Dr. Susan Elrod, Chancellor, IU South Bend

Jenna Stankovich, Alumni, IU South Bend

CONCURRENT PANELS AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

SESSION III (1:15 – 2:30 P.M.)

Location: EA Rooms 1013 – 1015, 1010

Panel: Ekphrastomania: Comics Inspired by IUSB Students' Short Stories (EA 1013)

Moderator: Kelcey Ervick

QUINN NEWELL
MADI BANDERA
NOVA SCHMITT-GONZALEZ
KATIE CLARK (Ervick)

Panel: Presunto culpable (Presumed Guilty): An Analysis (EA 1015)

Moderator: Oscar Barrau

OLIVER BARAJAS
QUINN COLEMAN
NEVAEH MENDOZA
MAYA NAVAL (Barrau)

Social Science and Professional School Posters (EA 1010)

No Means No: Georgia Universities Advocating for Victims' Rights
MEAGHAN SIMPSON(Merken)

Changing the Trajectory of Life for Current Sex trafficking Victims and Possible
Victims.
DERRICK SAMUELS (Merken)

Michigan Serial Murder Prevention and Victimization Act
ERICKA DONATHEN (Merken)

Take Back The Night: Protecting Indiana College Campuses
KIELIA AGUIRRE (Merken)

Social Media Coverups
KENNEDIE ARMSTRONG (Merken)

A Solution Against Juvenile Delinquency
WILLIAM WARD (Merken)

The Plastic Problem: We Can't Keep Relying on Recycling
CHLOE NORTON (Schrank)

A Wicked Problem in Consumer Society
DIANA ZEBROSKI (Schrank)

A Guide to Women's Health
SIMRAN KAUR, CHASITY COLE (Roberts)

Happy Smiles for Kids

HAYLEE HOVIOUS, SIERRA MARSHALL-MCCREARY, KAYLA WINGARD, BROOKE MULLET, GRICEL ROSALES (Roberts)

Better Health Better Smiles

ADILENE BAUTISTA, EMANUEL SANCHEZ HERNANDEZ (Roberts)

Total Teen Oral Health

HAILEY KOETJE, JENNIFER BARKER, CLOEY NOLES (Roberts)

Smiling Seniors

JENNIFER CORIA, CINITA SANCHEZ, CHEYANNE WEILAND (Roberts)

Just Speechy

TY RAYOUM (Davis)

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING (1:15 – 2:30 P.M.)

Location: EA Room 1011

Moderator: Zachary Schrank

A Conversation with Gen Z students at IUSB about Climate Change and the Future

MIRA COSTELLO, SARAH LYNN (Schrank)

PRESENTATION AND POSTER ABSTRACTS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY TITLE)

10-33 Family Assistance: Financial Assistance for Law Enforcement Officer Families in Indiana

Payton Johnson

Research has shown that current policies in the state of Indiana regarding financial assistance for families of officers who died in the line of duty lacks various types of resources. Additionally,

many of these families are not aware of such assistance, and for those that do know, obtaining the assistance requires several forms of identification that loved ones are not in the right state of mind to present. Using Welsh & Harris's (2016) seven steps of research of planned change, a content analysis, and research, a new Indiana state policy will be created to address the issues current families face. Some of the elements addressed in the new policy include the lack of family assistance, history of this issue, potential causes of the problem with family assistance, previous interventions, and programs for these families. The new policy implementation limitations and future research will be discussed.

A Conversation with Gen Z students at IUSB about Climate Change and the Future

Mira Costello, Sarah Lynn

This project began as an assignment to earn honors credit for Dr. Schrank's course, Principles of Sociology. It evolved into a multidisciplinary passion project in which my classmate, Sarah Lynn, brought my interviews with students to life through videography in our campus recording studio. Our goal was to conduct qualitative discussions with a variety of young students about their perceptions of our changing world in order to gain insight about generational values and divides in the experience of climate change and the anthropocene era. While Sarah and I knew these topics were frequently discussed among young, civically engaged students, we felt that this project was necessary to compile, compare, and analyze the experiences of a diverse group of young people. We found that climate change was a primary concern for every student we interviewed, and that some felt more personal responsibility and anxiety about the problem than others. Many respondents reported generational value gaps regarding climate change, particularly with their own parents and grandparents. While most admitted to feeling helpless and apprehensive at times, the majority of our respondents had already implemented sustainable practices in their own lives or were engaged with sustainability values in some way and felt that young people had the potential to make positive change. The film opens avenues of further discussion about sustainability activism by young people and provides a window into the world of those living through the climate crisis.

A Guide to Women's Health

Simran Kaur, Chasity Cole

The population we worked with is women between the ages of 18-49. Our group implemented a multifaceted educational program regarding women's health. The obstacles that our population faced are a lack of awareness of resources available, financial instability, and stigma associated with health conditions. The presentation covered overall reproductive health, oral health and pregnancy, oral health and menopause, and gestational diabetes. We used educational games such as bingo in addition to the presentation to help reinforce the information we taught. Each participant was rewarded with a goodie bag for taking the time to come. We used a paper post-test and brushing/flossing skill assessments following the completion of our class to gauge how effective our program was. We implemented our evaluation measure immediately after the program to boost likelihood of receiving responses from the participants. Our baseline measurement showed that less than 50% of the population were aware of reproductive questions to ask and concerns to address. The program's outcomes are 25% of participants identified two healthy habits to reduce the risk of developing reproductive diseases, identified three common signs of oral disease during pregnancy and menopause, and participants identified two health professionals to seek out for any health concerns they have. The outcomes have yet to be assessed because the program is still in progress and our group will provide updates after implementation. The implementation date is March 28, 2023.

A Novel Method of Testing Food Preference in *Drosophila Melanogaster*

Trevor Dedaker

Drosophila, commonly known to us as the fruit fly is one of the most important and influential organisms in the history of biological science. Although the fruit fly has been used to study many different parts of biology, there is not a large amount of knowledge on which human foods *drosophila* prefer and how they interact with these foods. Fruit flies in their natural habitat are known to prefer fruits such as bananas, melons, tomatoes, and apples. Vegetables including rotten onions and potatoes also appear in *drosophila*'s diet. Experiments regarding the effect of human foods on *drosophila* have found that when flies consumed organic food over conventional the health benefits were greater, and fertility was improved. In this research project I will be developing a novel system to determine the effect of various inorganic and organic foods when fruit flies are given a choice of 2 different foods. This system uses standard *drosophila* vials that have been outfitted with cork barriers and food choices containing various dyes. The goal for this experiment is to determine if fruit flies will prefer organic food over conventional due to the greater health benefits.

A Paycheck with a Side of Cash

Tiphanie Hodge

Although most of the general public fixates on street crime, white-collar crime such as embezzlement occurs every day in the restaurant world. Employees wanting extra cash and are not paid a decent wage engage in this type of criminal activity. One reason could be due to the need of the American Dream, following the cultural goals of society, but not doing so through institutionalized means (Merton, 1938). Discounting orders, the wagon wheel method, or voiding and keeping the remaining are all ways to try and reach the American dream through crime. Using Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven steps to planned change and a content analysis. A new policy will be created in the state of New York to increase knowledge about and address the seriousness of embezzlement. Stakeholders of the policy will mainly include restaurants, employees, and families of employees. The goal is to help employees with the allusion of reaching the American Dream in other ways than resorting to crime. A discussion of this new criminal justice policy as well as limitations will occur.

A Solution Against Juvenile Delinquency

William Ward

Crime within minority communities has a lasting and reciprocating effect that increases the likelihood of juveniles to commit crimes if exposed to criminal behavior by family and guardians. The one core issue of juvenile delinquency stems from dysfunctional family dynamics. Implementing Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven steps for planned change and a content analysis, a new criminal justice policy in the state of Indiana will address the errors in cultural, criminal glorification. Residential placements or rehabilitation camps for minority juveniles that promote and target strengthening the family relationship and aid in the overall mental health for juveniles is more beneficial and needed than the juvenile justice centers that emulate jail. This program is needed within the state of Indiana in order to better protect minority juvenile offenders from being products of their negative, crime-induced environment while allowing them to have a better chance of not being incarcerated. The limitations of the policy will be addressed alongside the analysis of the future research.

A Wicked Problem in Consumer Society

Diana Zebroski

My presentation will be about the US economy and how Gross Domestic Product reflects that our culture believes that when our economy is doing well, all of us are doing well. Gross Domestic Product accounts for the production of good and services. It does not take in account the well being of our society as a whole. There are so many US citizens who are living paycheck to paycheck and live on the brink of disaster of losing everything if they lose their jobs, have an unfortunate medical situation etc. My poster will show graphs and explain ideas such as Degrowth and Universal Basic Income to show that these ideas can help citizens meet their basic essential needs and has the potential to create a happier society.

All Together: The Creation of a Police Review Board in Indiana

Kole Miller

Police training policies in the state of Indiana apply a top-down approach, where higher ranking individuals create the policies for the individual officer to implement on the streets. However, all stakeholders, including educators such as criminologists, should assist in the creation of these policies. Currently, the Indiana Metropolitan Police Department Use of Force Review exists, but they only examine body camera footage to see if officers broke any policies. (Pross, 2021). Additionally, policing policies should include extended training in multiple areas such as missing persons, human trafficking, intimate partner violence, mental illness and substance abuse, suspects with disabilities. Implementing Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven stages for planned change and a content analysis, a new Indiana state policy will be created which includes a review board of individuals from all backgrounds to create these police training policies and state laws. More stakeholders would mean a greater understanding of what Indiana communities truly need. The new program will go beyond policy review and integrate a higher purpose. Future plans and possible limitations will be discussed.

Analyzing the Microbial Communities and Antibiotic Resistance in Feline Saliva

Gabriel Vega

The domestic cat is a very popular pet, providing comfort, companionship, and pest elimination. However, rare instances of cat bites can pose a very significant health risk due to the introduction of bacteria into the bloodstream. Thus, we are interested in determining what types of bacteria are typically found in Indiana-area cats, and which evidence-based treatments should be considered. In this study, saliva was collected from domestic felines at a veterinary clinic, along with information regarding the breed and sex of the cat. Oral bacteria were detected and identified primarily using gram staining followed by microscopic observation. Additionally, colonies of bacteria were subject to hemolysis and catalase testing. Identified colonies of bacteria were further tested for resistance or susceptibility against commonly used antibiotics using the Kirby-Bauer disk method. Antibiotics tested included Amoxicillin, Ampicillin, Erythromycin, Tetracycline, and Gentamycin. Our results confirmed that cats may carry a wide variety of microbiota, spanning both gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria, which may have varying degrees of susceptibility to our tested antibiotics. Cats typically carry *Pasteurella*, as well as various *Streptococcus* and *Staphylococcus* strains. This diversity of microbiota suggests that although the standard regimen of Amoxicillin-Clavulanate is appropriate, a range of antibiotics may be required to treat cat bites and prevent adverse health outcomes.

ASD Education Initiative

Alixé Wagnor

The primary focus of my program was to educate neurotypical people about autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and eliminate negative misconceptions and stereotypes associated with the condition, as well as to raise the number of diagnosed ASD cases due to more awareness and education. To accomplish this, I did an immense amount of research and created educational pamphlets that contain information including what ASD is, characteristics of the condition, misconceptions, strengths commonly associated with ASD, conditions that often co-occur with ASD, a QR code leading to online resources, and a few resources that can be found statewide. The pamphlets had a heavy emphasis on eliminating misconceptions about autism. The pamphlets were placed around IUSB campus in places such as the Disability Support Services office and the Dental Clinic. For educating those outside the IUSB community, I created educational videos that were posted on Tik Tok that included information found in the pamphlets and expanded upon it, and provided more information that worked better in video format as opposed to pamphlets. The goals that were set for this program were to give away at least 100 pamphlets and to reach at least 2,000 followers on Tik Tok. Polls were done on Tik Tok asking questions like “Have you learned anything new from watching the videos on this account?” and the majority of the respondents said yes. The 100 pamphlet goal was not met, but I believe those who did take pamphlets were educated with meaningful information and could potentially educate others.

Better Health Better Smiles

Adilene Bautista, Emanuel Sanchez Hernandez

Our program targeted 17 Hispanic 4th graders who attend St. Adalbert's Catholic School in South Bend, IN. With this school being predominantly Hispanic and living in an area of low-income status, they were the ideal population to implement our program. Our mission was to provide an educational program that would teach these children about nutrition, cavities, detergent foods, and flossing. We implemented our program through 3 educational tables where all 17 participating Hispanic children got into groups of 6 and rotated through the tables every 15 minutes. At each table, participants were educated on the formation of cavities, how to floss, what detergent foods are, and the importance of nutrition. We did several hands-on activities at each table to keep participants active and engaged with an award of a goody bag in the end. Evaluation of the program was done through participants answering 10 questions on Kahoot. The 10 questions summarized our objectives. By the end of the program, 9 out of 10 of our objectives were met with a 100% accuracy between participants while one objective was met at 82%. In conclusion, we looked forward to being the change amongst the Hispanic community to increase awareness and knowledge of health to potentially decrease disease rate.

Changing the Trajectory of Life for Current Sex Trafficking Victims and Possible Victims

Derrick Samuels

Human trafficking, especially sex trafficking is a crime committed often in Florida. Florida has been ranked as the third state in the U.S. for human trafficking cases (encstophumantrafficking.org). The previous implemented policies do not punish offenders in regard to making them take the harm done to victims into account. In relation to this, there are not very many policies that work in the victims favor either. Research concluded on the topic focuses on why the problem continues to evolve and what is missing from the criminal justice system pertaining to the issue. By using the seven steps of planned change and the content analysis in Welsh and Harris's (2016), a new policy will be constructed in the state that will increase the punishment for human traffickers. The new policy will state that criminals of human/sex trafficking should be given a mandatory sentence of 60 years to life sentencing. This

new policy will also encompass a program positioned to increase the needed resources for victims of human trafficking. The limitations of this new policy criminal justice policy into effect and new research will be further discussed.

Collection of Poems and Letters concerning Anne Hutchinson

Matelyn Standiford

I wrote about “Mrs. Anne Hutchinson - Trial at the Court at Newton, 1637” using a multi-genre paper. This multi-genre paper studies the gender roles of Puritan women and men, the male authority and their roles in the church as well as women’s roles in the church with the use of poems. I conducted research about what Puritan times were like to provide historical context for my project. I gathered information about the roles of men and women, what jobs society assigned to each gender, and what the church believed and taught during the Puritan time period. This was a church run predominantly by men as this was how they believed God’s church should be, mimicking the patriarchal society found in the Bible. With the information that I gathered, I used poetry and letters as my design to present what I had learned. The poetry focuses on the stereotypical gender roles, Church beliefs and how women should behave. The last poem uses direction quotes taken from the text to emphasize the defense that Anne used against Governor Winthrop. The letters focus on how these issues of patriarchy and old fashioned gender roles haven’t been overcome even after a few hundred years. Because of this, Anne’s trial is still a relevant example of the prejudice that women deal with.

Communication Difficulties and Barriers in Individuals Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Sierra Marshall-McCreary

Autism Spectrum Disorder is a developmental disorder that can greatly impact an individual’s life. Those diagnosed with this disorder experience difficulties with communication. My research focused on how these difficulties impact autism spectrum disorder (ASD) individuals throughout their lifetime. This research demonstrates the social barriers in schools, the workforce, and everyday life. This research analysis used multiple peer-reviewed sources to create a complete picture of challenges that ASD individuals face throughout life. The focus throughout this research is the adult population but the understanding would be fragmented without the incorporation of children with ASD in this research. My research question was what barriers exist for ASD individuals and what causes them to become barriers for these individuals? This research analysis concluded that the learning styles differ between ASD individuals and Typically Developed individuals. ASD individuals experience the world differently and do not learn the same ways other individuals do. Research found ASD children become adults who struggle to communicate in social situation because they comprehend words and expressions differently. Visual immersion is one way the individuals’ communications skills can be improved but will be a lifelong struggle. Communication in the workplace can be a difficult task for ASD individuals because of restrictive and repetitive behaviors present among these individuals.

Community and Culture Learning Lab

Alex Singleton, Knef King

Our team of seven students participated in the Department of Sociology & Anthropology Community and Culture Learning Lab in July of 2022. Collectively, we spent approximately 80-hours in the field collecting data with methods that included participant observation, generation of ethnographic fieldnotes, and capturing hundreds of photographs of human interaction at the

St. Joseph County 4-H fair. Our goal was to inductively discover the key cultural dynamics that make fairs some of the most ubiquitous and popular summer social events in every county in the United States. After sifting through our qualitative data, the most prevalent themes to emerge were the importance of leisure and escape activities, shared family time, the initiation of tradition, and the visible expression of shared community values that combine both rural and urban communities.

Day of the Dead Enhances Cultural Awareness, so it Should be Taught in Schools

Gricel Rosales

My research question is Day of the dead enhances cultural awareness, so it should be taught in schools. I wanted to know if the Mexican population agreed and what they think about this statement, so I created a survey to gather my data. The population was recruited by posting a survey that was created on google forms and posting it on Facebook and having the Mexican population fill it out. The questionnaires were created in English and Spanish, those that do not speak, read, or understand English. I also went to Mexican grocery stores, restaurants, and bakeries to hand out QR Codes, so people can take my survey at their own time. I received 14 responses to my survey, if the person was not Mexican, they were automatically thanked for their time and were not asked to finish the survey. Different questions were asked in the survey to see if people celebrate Day of the Dead in the USA and how they celebrate it. Some of the questions asked were from who Day of the Dead was passed down from and the age range of the participants. 81.8% was passed down from grandmother and 18.2% was passed down from their mother, ages ranged from 18-69, 10/13 of the participants do celebrate day of the Dead, 12/14 agreed that Day of the Dead should be taught in schools because since we live in a multi-cultural state it would be beneficial to incorporate other cultures in schools to promote awareness of different cultures.

Drug Dealers in Indiana and their Reformation

Kim Kuemin

In the Indiana prison system, there are programs for offenders to complete prior to release. Research has shown that these programs often, do not always help with the recidivism rates. In addition, many programs only focus on one type of offender or one type of problem such as INSOMM (for sex offenders) or NA (for drug users who are addicts). However, there are not any current in-prison programs for drug dealers to help them alter their lives and reduce their criminality. In fact drug dealers are placed in drug treatment programs, which might help them understand the seriousness of drug use but does not assist in the root causes of their crime. In turn, many drug dealers return to selling and distribution of drugs once they reenter society. Using Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven stages for planned change and a content analysis, a new Indiana state policy will be created that requires mandatory programs that focus on drug dealers specifically. The goal is to help drug dealers find a better direction instead of dealing and going back to prison. Limitations of this new policy and future research will be discussed.

Ekphrastomania: Comics Inspired by IUSB Students' Short Stories

Quinn Newell, Madi Bandera, Nova Schmitt-Gonzalez, Katie Clark

Ekphrasis is a Greek word meaning "description," and in literature it refers to writing inspired by other works of art. Two classes at IUSB created stories or comics inspired by the other class's work, and all the work is being published into a book called Ekphrastomania, which will be available for viewing. In this panel, students from the A399 class will share the comics they made, which were inspired by short stories written by students in the creative writing class. They

will present their comics, summarize and reflect on the work that inspired them, and discuss their artist's statements.

Ekphrastomania: Short Stories Inspired by IUSB Students' Comics

Corbin Shelton, Phillip Derrickson, Shannon Vail, Fig Shafer

Ekphrasis is a Greek word meaning "description," and in literature it refers to writing inspired by other works of art. Two classes at IUSB created stories or comics inspired by the other class's work, and all the work is being published into a book called Ekphrastomania, which will be available for viewing. In this panel, students from the creative writing class will share the short stories they wrote, which were inspired by comics and drawings from the A399 class. They will read from their stories, show the work that inspired them, and discuss their artist's statements.

Electronic Cigarette Use Among College Students

Jennifer Barker

Electronic cigarettes, also known as vapes, have become very popular among younger generations today. They are nicotine products that can be used as a substitute for cigarettes. This research explores the various reasons for initiation of use among college students. The purpose of this research is to identify the internal and external circumstances that influence college students to vape. The research question that is being attempted to answer is: What is the most common influence to vape among Indiana University South Bend students? According to the literature review, the most common influences include social normative pressure, social media influence, the different flavors of e-cigarettes, and that they are an alternative to traditional tobacco cigarettes. This study utilized qualitative research with a primary collection method of an online questionnaire. Participants of this study included Indiana University South Bend students aged 18-25. The group included male and females that are current e-cigarette users. Recruitment of participants was completed by using a snowballing technique. It is hypothesized that social normative pressure is the most common influence for choosing to vape among Indiana University South Bend students. The results of this research could be used to create an awareness and preventative program to reduce the prevalence of e-cigarette use among university students.

Funding Pedophiles in Illinois

Theresa Arterbery

There is a lack of policy implemented for pedophiles in Illinois. Additionally, pedophiles continue to reoffend due to improper resources in Illinois to provide treatment (Brady-Lunny, 2018). A treatment program identifying a pedophile's criminality with counseling and therapy is the ultimate goal to prevent recidivism. Employing Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven stages for planned change and content analysis, a new Illinois policy and program addressing pedophilia will be created. This research is aimed at rehabilitating pedophiles so that communities feel safer while reducing the likelihood that the offender will repeat their actions. This policy will be effective because its main focus is on treatment and rehabilitation of the offender, with multiple assessments. Research that has not been conducted will be implemented throughout the years to improve the intervention. The limitations and future research for this policy will be addressed.

Golden Ratio Myth Busting: Fibonacci Sequence Wagering on Roulette

Matthew Martin

Claims have been made that utilizing a wagering strategy based on the golden ratio can overcome the odds of table games at a casino in a player's favor. Multiple webpages promoting online gambling provide information on how to apply the Fibonacci sequence to roulette with the

goal of making bankrolls last longer, playing relatively safely, and winning money in the short term. This claim is explored as a set of statistical inference problems. Three sample groups were created to allow comparison of strategies. The first sample group utilizes the Fibonacci sequence as a guide for placing wagers. The second sample group utilizes a table minimum bet for every wager. The third sample group utilizes a static bet based on the sample mean of the Fibonacci sequence sample group. Sample data was then collected via programs designed and implemented by the author specifically for this study. Having compared all three sample groups, it was determined that the Fibonacci sample group performed the worst in regards to bankrolls lasting. It was also determined that the Fibonacci sample group was the second-best strategy when it comes to playing relatively safely. However, of the three sample groups, the Fibonacci system had the highest chance of winning money in the short term. However, that chance is overshadowed by its probability of losing the whole bankroll. This study concludes that the Fibonacci system of wagering in roulette is not beneficial to the player.

Guns in Good Hands

Alex Wagner

Guns have shown to be an increasing factor in deaths throughout the United States. One of the most common causes of death by guns in Hawaii is suicide. The current gun policies do not implement extended and proper training for gun ownership. Employing Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven stages for planned change and a content analysis, a new policy in the state of Hawaii called "Guns in Good Hands", will be created. The goal of this policy is to decrease improper use of guns while creating a safer community for everyone. Safety courses will be required before one can obtain or carry a gun legally in Hawaii. This will help reduce the likelihood guns are used in harmful ways. Criminologists, law enforcement, and various stakeholders will be key players in the implementation and success of this policy. Although some policies currently in Hawaii exist to help limit who obtains and can legally carry guns, "Guns in Good Hands" will provide specific guidelines that must be followed to ensure those who can carry and obtain guns have an increased chance of using them safely. Additionally, limitations and policy implications will be discussed.

Happy Smiles for Kids

Haylee Hovious, Sierra Marshall-McCreary, Kayla Wingard, Brooke Mullet, Grisel Rosales
Our program was aimed toward children at McKinley and Clinton Christian Elementary schools, kindergarten-1st graders. Our vision is: 'Better smiles lead to better beginnings'. The health needs being addressed were oral health care needs. Examples included a lack of knowledge of dental care resources, knowledge of how to brush or floss, what cavities are, and diseases in the oral cavity. The two goals for the program were 1. Reduce the incidence of childhood caries in the participants of Happy Smiles for Kids. 2. Increase oral education in elementary school children. Our mission was: 'Educate children about the importance of oral health'. We created three evaluation mechanisms to evaluate if the participants were showing the requirements of the skills to remove the bacteria from their oral cavity, reduce the incidence of caries, and promote overall oral health. We evaluated if the participants remembered what foods promote a healthier mouth and help remove bacteria. Our baseline data from our survey suggested that the majority of the children in St. Joseph County indicated that they have decay and several fillings by the third grade. Using the tell-show-do method and allowing the children to have hands-on interaction, allowed the students to understand oral care and the importance of oral health in general. The change we created was an increased awareness of the types of food chosen. In

conjunction, participants learned how to properly brush and floss to remove bacteria to decrease the incidence of cavities.

Helping Patients Achieve Effective Pain Relief Through the Combined Use of Pharmacological and Non-Pharmacological Measures

Rachel Endres, Haven Winkler

Across the globe, millions of patients experience chronic pain. Conditions such as cancer, diabetic neuropathy, arthritis, and other chronic diseases cause patients to suffer from chronic pain. Much of a nurse's role in managing a patient's chronic symptoms involves identifying effective pain relief measures for the individual patient. First line treatment for chronic pain typically involves pharmacological interventions. However, many patients continue to experience a significant amount of discomfort despite these measures. As a result, non-pharmacological therapies are being considered as a part of chronic pain management. For example, 41.8% of American hospice agencies have started offering complementary therapies to cancer patients with chronic pain (Dingley et al, 2021). To deliver complete and holistic care, a nurse should identify non-pharmacological pain relief measures that, when used in combination with pharmacological measures, provide sufficient pain relief. This belief led us to develop the following intervention PICO: In patients with diseases that cause chronic pain, how does the combined use of pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapies compare to the use of pharmacological therapy alone in pain relief?

Helping Victims with Open Arms in Florida

Alora Collins

Rape is a very serious crime that can impact a victim's life forever. Many victims of rape often cannot afford or do not seek help due to expenses that they may face. One's mental and physical health is very important and should be treated as such. Research regarding rape victims and their ability to receive healthcare and mental health treatment will be addressed through a content analysis. Using Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven stages of planned change, a new policy in the state of Florida will be developed that is designed to provide rape victims with free treatment for their mental and physical health after the rape. This policy seeks to assist victims who avoid treatment due to medical and therapeutic expenses that they could potentially face due to their victimization. Aiding rape victims with their medical and therapy expenses will allow victims to receive treatment needed. This policy includes adding more facilities that specialize in crisis treatment toward diverse populations to aid in assisting more victims. Members of the LGBTQ+ and minority communities will be better represented through increased crisis facilities that are not discriminatory. Possible limitations to the research and challenges that could occur with implementing a new policy in Florida and future research will be addressed.

How Social Media Affects the Mental Health of Adolescents

Adilene Bautista

This research project focused on the mental effects that social media has amongst the adolescent population. A five-question survey was created to further assess and evaluate how much, if any social media usage impacts the mental health amongst teenagers aged 13-19. The five-question survey was distributed through a link where it was posted on Facebook and was also sent to family and friends where any qualifying teenager would be able to take. Furthermore, survey results showed that only 11 adolescents took the survey, where it showed that 40% adolescents tend to sleep less using social media, 10% feel anxious, 10% feel depressed, and 20% dislike their body. Additionally, 40% of adolescents tend to use social media for about 4-7 hours a day,

10% believe that social media is bad, and finally, 100% have not been diagnosed with a mental health by a doctor. Overall, survey results were shocking due to strong evidence regarding social media and the mental health of adolescents.

How Social Media Affects Women

Brooke Mullet

I have conducted research about the effect that social media has on women. As I researched this topic, I found that the negative effects included a result in body image issues, low self-esteem, comparison, and even in some cases eating disorders. The more women spent on social media, the more comparison between them and social media influencers occurred which resulted in negative feelings towards themselves. I found this information through scholarly journals and articles. I then conducted my own research by sending out a survey to women through the social media platform Facebook with a result of 20 participants. The questions included on this survey were about how often the women spent on social media, how that time made them feel about themselves, and there was even a section questioning about eating disorders. The results concluded that the women spent time on social media daily to hourly and that time resulted in anxiety, low self-esteem, and body dissatisfaction. The survey that I sent out confirmed the research that I conducted earlier about how social media negatively affects women.

Improving Oral Health Through Health Literacy: How Does Health Literacy Directly Correlate to Oral Health?

Cloey Noles

Health literacy is a silent killer in the world today. Many of the geriatric population have low or inadequate levels of health literacy. Health literacy is a large factor in the overall health of the person. Health literacy is the level at which a person understands health related information. If people are not able to comprehend their health information, they will not understand how to properly care for themselves and keep in good health. Health literacy can be improved through one-on-one care from a healthcare worker or through community health outreach programs. Health literacy can be measured by observation and surveys. The purpose of this research was to demonstrate there is a direct correlation between the level of health literacy and the oral health of the person. The initial data I have received show a strong correlation between adequate health literacy and good levels of oral health. The data cannot conclude whether or not poor health literacy relates to poor levels of oral health.

Internet Use and It's Effects on Emotional Intelligence Among Young Adults

Kayla Wingard

Internet use can have a range of effects on emotional intelligence in young adults. Emotional intelligence is the ability to regulate, comprehend, and manage one's emotions. The reason for this project is to understand how internet use may cause damage to one's emotional intelligence. The ages chosen for this research were ages 15 to 30 years of age. For this research project I collected data through online surveys on popular platforms such as Facebook. I received many responses that displayed the positive correlation between more internet use and poor emotional intelligence. Some of the responses shown that multiple survey participatos were on the internet more than their family members or loved ones wanted them to be. They are frequently on the internet which hinders them from getting work done, and this in-turn hinders emotional intelligence.

Just Speechy!

Ty Rayoum

An Honors research-based project by Ty Rayoum focusing on educating the public on the importance of Speech-Language Pathology. This podcast will discuss the controversies, issues, and stigma associated with Speech-Language Pathology in the Western world, and advocates for SLP awareness in the general public. An Honors research-based project by Ty Rayoum focusing on educating the public on the importance of Speech-Language Pathology. This podcast will discuss the controversies, issues, and stigma associated with Speech-Language Pathology in the Western world, and advocates for SLP awareness in the general public. 2022 Topics include: WEEK 1: How does SLP fit into Public Health? WEEK 2: What is a Communication Disorder?/What does it mean to have a Disability in the 21st Century? WEEK 3: Impact of COVID isolation on childhood speech and language development WEEK 4: Stigma Towards Communication Disorders in our Society

M Health Key

Brianna McDonald, Sophia Gulewicz, Chanty Mom, Grace Deuel

The program “m health key” was established in 2022 by 4 college students. We hoped to create a safe place for students to communicate about mental health. Our goal was to increase the knowledge of students about resources available on campus regarding mental health and body positivity. We achieved these goals by setting up a pop-up event on campus involving a variety of activities. Students learned about different mental health interventions and resources available at this event. Regularly posting on social media different mental health and body positivity tips was our main source of communication. This was the best way to reach our target population to create connection and support. Our team’s branding consisted of a minimal and vintage feel using shades of blue and lowercase captioning. This would appeal to our audience because it illustrated a piece of mind. After students had gone to our program, they were able to locate resources on campus, utilize these resources if needed, and learn one new mental health intervention. Students continued to have access to the “m health key” Instagram page after the event. They could check for updates, more techniques to relieve stress and learn about other resources available to them. We evaluated based on the number of Instagram followers, the amount who came to the event, and their responses on the post-test given at the end of the event. Our program provided students confidence in having new knowledge of resources and connections they gained from our program.

Mandatory Body Cameras in Florida = Police Accountability

Zachary Dobos

Although initially designed as a proactive method, body worn cameras has provided evidence of harassment and violence toward citizens. Technology such as phones and social media have increased public visibility to these incidents. The laws in Florida do not make it mandatory for all counties to require a police officer to wear a camera, therefore, not knowing whether the officer is following proper protocol or doing something illegally. Making body worn cameras a mandatory policy for all police officers in the state of Florida could help lower the number of accusations that are happening from either the police or a citizen. Using a content analysis, Welsh and Harris’s (2016) seven stages of planned change, and extensive research, a new state policy was created to address this issue. The goal of this policy is to collect all evidence of police-citizen interactions to remove any questions on if something happened or not. The different routes to implement the policy, limitations, and future research will be discussed.

Michigan Serial Murder Prevention and Victimization Act

Ericka Donathen

Studies have shown that serial murders in the state of Michigan are perpetrated towards individuals who are easily targeted. This conceptualization has rooted back numerous years effecting minorities, youth, sex workers, and those who are vulnerable (Crime Museum, 2022). The goal is to implement a state criminal justice policy for individuals that are controlling and portray sociopathic and psychopathic behavior onto their victims. This implementation will follow with the assistance from law enforcement, the policy staff, the community, parents involved, FBI, and criminologists (Welsh & Harris, 2016). Employing research, content analysis, and the seven stages of planned change from Welsh and Harris (2016), a new state policy, Michigan Serial Murder Prevention and Victimization Act (MSMPVA), will target these perpetrators in a way that other policies have lacked in terms of crime control. The new and improved policy will steer away from the focus of reactive approaches in the aftermath of the crime, such as incarceration and sentencing and spotlight the focus on more proactive approaches controlling these behaviors from the onset (Pew, 2021). Limitations, challenges and the future research regarding the new policy implementation will be addressed.

Modification of the Interpersonal Theory of Suicide: Four-Pillar Model Focused on Military Veteran Suicide Factors

Scott Leeper

Suicide is an epidemic in the veteran community. The Interpersonal Psychological Theory of Suicide attempts to understand who will commit suicide using a three-pillar approach of: Thwarted Belongingness, Perceived Burdensomeness, and Acquired Capability. While the veteran community continues to experience perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness after leaving the military, it is less clear that veterans continue to develop the Acquired Capability to enact lethal self-injury. However, in many discussions with veterans that experience constant mental health challenges, the loss of purpose and loss of identity are often mentioned as contributing factors to their mental health challenges and suicidal ideation. As such, for the veteran community, we propose a modified four-pillar Interpersonal Psychological Theory of Suicide that includes the existing pillars of Thwarted Belongingness and Perceived Burdensomeness but replaces the Acquired Capability pillar with two others: Loss of Purpose and Loss of Identity. To support this modification, an analysis was conducted on the measures used to develop the Acquired Capability pillar (e.g., Beck's Depression Inventory (BDI), BDI-II, Beck's Hopelessness Scale) to identify questions measuring loss of identity and loss of purpose. We found substantial subsets of questions that measured Loss of Purpose and Loss of Identity. We argue that this four-pillar modification of the Interpersonal Psychological Theory of Suicide approach to suicide would be a more effective and sensitive measure for veteran suicide and could assist in the development of more effective transition programs and therapeutic protocols.

No Means No: Georgia Universities Advocating for Victims' Rights

Meaghan Simpson

Sexual violence is spreading across college campuses nationwide, with 19% of female and 5-6% of male college students experiencing sexual assault. (Know Your IX, n.d.). Most students who are victimized are vulnerable populations like women. Due to these crimes being especially heinous and detrimental to a student's education and livelihood, universities must take adequate

measures to restore and support the victim through their healing while preserving justice. While many college campuses have policies that cover sexual harassment, such as Title IX, none of them include any information referencing aid, treatment, or restitution to the victim.

Implementing Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven stages of planned change and a content analysis, a new policy in the state of Georgia will be created that addresses the lack of representation and injustices that female victims face regarding sexual assault at universities. The integration of criminological theories will explain the various elements of victimization and what factors cause a more significant threat to this kind of crime. The expected limitations and shortcomings concerning this policy on sexual assault and further continuance of this research will be discussed.

Operation Smile: Healthy Smiles for Michiana Veterans

Amy Taylor

In the United States, less than 15% of veterans are eligible for dental benefits through the Department of Veteran Affairs. This eligibility is determined by a disability scale, and only those with a very high disability rating qualify, leaving many of America's veterans without access to dental insurance or care. Two in five – or nearly 8 million – veterans report suboptimal oral health nationwide. Fifty-six percent of veterans reported active decay compared to 37% of nonveterans, and 42% of veterans polled described gum disease or bone loss compared to 27% of nonveterans. Upon speaking with veteran organizations and performing primary research, I was able to determine that the need for dental care and education in Michiana reflected similar rates to those found nationally. After gathering primary and secondary data, Operation Smile was conceived by planners to help address this crucial need. At Operation Smile, student clinicians and community volunteers offered free dental cleanings, radiographs, dental exams, and education to Michiana veterans. Veterans were asked to complete a pre and posttest to determine if they had an established dental home and their level of dental anxiety. The goals of Operation Smile included offering care to veterans without judgment while educating about the carious and periodontal disease process as well as encouraging the Michiana veteran population to establish a dental home. Student clinicians and volunteers were able to impact change in a population that is hard to reach and one that does not readily accept help.

Oral Health: Kits for Kids

Makayla Cunningham

Did you know that cavities are the most common diseases of childhood, yet they are preventable? In October 2022, I sent out surveys to parents of children aged 3-5 years to determine their basic knowledge of oral health. When analyzing the survey data, I concluded that 78% of the parents thought that oral health should be taught to children in school curriculum. This is why I organized a community outreach program on the importance of oral health for children aged 4-5 years. My vision was to promote oral hygiene from an early age and make dental health fun in the classroom. The program is called "Oral Health: Kits for Kids." I conducted this program at the Early Learning Center in Auburn, Indiana in March 2023. The program allowed participants to engage in their five senses to illustrate the world of dental hygiene around them. During implementation, participants listened to a dental health storybook, observed a tooth decay egg experiment, and used their fine motor skills to demonstrate proper brushing and flossing methods. After implementation, the participants were able to explain why dental hygiene is important, the correct sequence of toothbrushing, how sugar affects the teeth, and how to use the c-shape flossing method to remove plaque and food stuck between the teeth. This program allowed me to make a difference by spreading awareness and knowledge regarding

oral health for children to make oral health fun, reduce dental phobia, and help to limit the occurrence of cavities through dental education.

Pandemic Hate Against Asians

Ashlee Hernandez

Recent research has shown that during the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a surge in hate crimes and discrimination against the Asian Community. These reports take on a variety of forms ranging from physical attacks to verbal assaults. With social media use increasing over the years, discrimination and hate speeches have become more popular on platforms like Twitter. What most current research lacks is the mental health aspect of experiencing a traumatic event such as a hate crime. The purpose of this study was to determine how discrimination and hate crimes can affect an individual's mental health along with the long-term effects. The purpose is to also determine what forms of discrimination and hate crimes individuals experienced. The population this research targeted was Asian Americans ages 18 and older. All participants lived in the United States and had residency between the years 2019-2022. This study utilized quantitative research by conducting a survey using the snowball method. This survey consisted of sixteen multiple choice questions and one open-ended question. There was a total of 25 participants. 64% of participants reported that they have been a victim of discrimination between 2019-2022. 40% reported experiencing discrimination online, and 24% reported experiencing discrimination in person. 16% of participants reported being a victim of a physical hate crime. 64% of participants believe their experience with discrimination and hate crimes had a negative effect on their mental health. While 48% believe their experience will have a long-term effect on their mental health.

Presunto culpable (Presumed Guilty): An Analysis

Oliver Barajas, Quinn Coleman, Nevaeh Mendoza, Maya Naval

Four students will present mise en scene analyses on Mexican Film Presunto culpable (2008) in bilingual format, Spanish and English.

Resilience In Adolescence: The Development of Adaptability

Ty Rayoum

The majority of the research done on the development of resilience as a result of severe psychological stress and trauma has been centered around psychopathology. Here, the author finds ties that indicate a connection between cognitive-behavioral psychology, psychotherapy, and levels of resilience in the face of stressors. Through the study of the effects of environment and social conditioning on resilience vs. vulnerability, the opportunity now exists to move towards fully understanding the neurobiological basis of fear and stress responsiveness.

Smiling Seniors

Cheyenne Weiland, Jennifer Coria, Cintia Sanchez

Throughout this course we worked to create a program that benefits our community. We created the Smiling Seniors and specifically worked with the geriatric population, 65 and up at St. Paul's. We focused on those suffering from poor oral health raising awareness and educating them on ways to improve their oral hygiene through brushing. We provided resources and skills needed to keep their smiles for longer. We interacted with them during activities in hopes to raise their confidence regarding oral health. We presented a slideshow to the residents on a specific method of brushing that benefits their oral health and their motor skills. We also discussed the

importance of removing biofilm from their teeth and the necessity of proper brushing. We put objectives in place to measure our programs success and we worked to not only exceed our objectives but to better our population. Our objectives included that after the presentation, 50% of the participants will be able to demonstrate how to effectively remove biofilm using the Fones method. We also included an objective that after the presentation, 75% of the participants will feel confident in their ability properly brush their teeth.

Synthesis of Novel Imidazolium-Urethane Ionic Liquids

Taylor Boyd-Becker

Fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas are major sources of carbon dioxide gas (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases. The burning of these fossil fuels release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere where they trap heat, causing a steady rise in global temperature. It has also contributed to rising sea levels, an increased frequency of severe weather events, and other environmental phenomena. Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) is a process in which CO₂ emissions are captured from industrial sources, is appropriately treated, and is transported to a long-term storage location. Ionic liquids (ILs) have emerged as promising solvents to utilize in the carbon capture process due to their high affinity for CO₂ gas. This CO₂ affinity can potentially be increased by altering the chemical structure of the IL. In this project, IL products containing imidazolium and urethane functional groups were synthesized using a novel isocyanate-free method, and the products were characterized by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. The effects of the structural modifications on the IL thermal, viscosity, and conductivity properties were also tested by collaborators at Murray State University.

Take Back The Night: Protecting Indiana College Campuses

Kielia Aguirre

Sexual assault such as rape on college campuses is a serious and ongoing issue in the United States. In many cases, the rape goes unreported, and the offender is not arrested or prosecuted for their crimes. According to research, 13% of all college students surveyed have experienced a sexual assault or rape through some type of physical force (Cantor et al., 2020). Using Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven stages of planned change, a content analysis method was incorporated to create a new state policy to reduce sexual assault on college campuses in Indiana. This new policy will help to ensure the safety and well-being of all students living on a college campus and will incorporate harsh consequences for the offender. Additionally, limitations, possible issues, and future research of implementing this new state policy will be addressed.

The Bonds That Save Us: The Social Support Approach to Treating MAPs in New York

Isabela Flores

Often, the general public's image of a child abuser is that of a pedophile, someone seen as lesser than, or subhuman. This perception creates issues for non-offending minor attracted persons (NOMAPs) through the stigma associated with their attraction, although they have not acted out on their urges (B4U-ACT, 2011; Jahnke, Schmidt, Geradt, & Hoyer, 2015; Levenson & Grady, 2019). Some NOMAPs turn to informal sources of support from peers (e.g. B4U-ACT) which can be beneficial but also involves the risk of peer encouragement to pursue a relationship with a minor (Holt et al., 2010; Jahnke et al., 2015). Current policies in New York focus on reactive treatment for pedophiles following a conviction, and do not address proactive approaches for NOMAPs. This approach has failed to consider the importance of the interaction between social support and self-control, which are crucial to the prevention of criminality. Employing Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven stages of planned change, content analysis, and extensive research, a

new state policy in New York will be created to focus on NOMAPs, connecting them with peers and mental health professionals. The combination of group therapy, peer-mentoring, and one-on-one counseling with a sex therapist can work to build social bonds, thereby providing not just a stake in conformity, but the tools to abide by the law. As research moves forward, the limitations of this policy and future implications will be addressed.

The Boring Dinosaur: The Struggle for Establishing Paleontology at the Field Museum

Kevin Price

The Field Museum today is one of the World's most famous paleontological museums. It was not always that way, however. While other similar museums of the time were setting themselves up with some of the best collections of dinosaurs, The Field Museum was more focused on other areas of the sciences, such as zoology and anthropology. Funding, and who it came from was one of the issues that caused this focus to be shifted. Marshall Field, a prominent Chicago business man from the Gilded Age, was the donor of the Field Museum which can be seen by the fact that the museum still carries his name to this day. He believed that dinosaurs were "boring" and a waste of space compared to the other pursuits in the natural sciences. Other management issues at the museum like putting paleontology under geology, and a museum director that was not good at working with scientists. Against forces outside his control, an early champion for paleontology was Elmer Riggs (January 23, 1869- March 25th 1963), the first curator of paleontology at the Field Museum. His skillset and personality made him the prefect person for the job that would go on to set up the paleontology collection in the museum for future success. Although Riggs passed in 1963, his massive influence on the Field Museum and the field of paleontology as a whole is still seen today. This influence can be seen by successes like the Field Museum acquiring Sue the T. rex in 1997.

The Contribution of Childhood Abuse and Mental Illnesses in Increasing the Risk of Youth Human Trafficking

Simran Kaur

Human sex trafficking, in the simplest of terms, is the violation of human rights by using their basic needs against them to exploit them, often for profit. The profile of a human trafficker can be a stranger, family or friends, or a co-worker. This research study will explore the following questions: Is the at-risk population willing to attend an educational program? Can interventions using programs related to mental illness prevent youth victimization? Are there any existing programs for youths to turn to for assistance to reduce their vulnerability to trafficking? What educational techniques would the at-risk population find to be most effective for this type of topic? During the course of the study, data was gathered from the individuals attending IUSB and their family members between the ages of 18-22 years. The project results show that there is awareness regarding some of the risk factors of human trafficking however, there is still room for increasing awareness. The data collection also shows that there is an interest among young adults between he ages of 18-22 to learn more about human trafficking. The participants of this study expressed they did not believe there was an adequate amount of information available currently regarding human trafficking for potential victims. The participants of this study displayed a willingness to learn more about the topic.

The Correlation between Scholastic Assessment Test scores and Graduation Rates in 4-Year Colleges Throughout Indiana

Hailey Koetje

My research addresses how college entrance exam scores for college admissions play a role in determining students' completing their degrees in a four-year college. I sought an answer to whether college entrance exam testing predicts completing college. I intended to analyze and compare GPAs but found a need for more available data to research GPAs and college completion. I utilized quantitative data collected through the historical context of college admission in correlation with Scholastic Assessment Test scores and graduation rates. The study will show evidence of college entrance exam scores being a dependent variable. Evidence supports that required college entrance exams may be hindering student success and not predicting a student's potential success in college. In this research, there is evidence that college entrance exams can impair a student's success by restricting what colleges they may attend. My research was intended to confirm the research by conducting a study demonstrating that scholastic assessment test scores do not correlate with graduation rates. However, the U.S. Department of Education data shows a positive correlation between scholastic assessment test scores and graduation rates. The data shows a positive correlation between required SAT entrance exams and the universities' overall graduation rate; higher required SAT scores resulted in a higher graduation rate. Showing that students with a higher SAT score have an increased chance of graduating from a four-year university. I found this research compelling as it has led me to wonder what other variables may impact students' ability to complete college.

The Disadvantages of Growing Up Bilingual

Jennifer Coria

For many centuries, people have been immigrating to the United States. While people only see the opportunities made for these people who have crossed over and their families, there are also negative aspects this causes to those individuals. Many disadvantages come with immigrating to the United States, not only positive. These disadvantages take a toll on families trying to live up to the American dream. The purpose of this research is to demonstrate that being bilingual comes at a cost being that there are many disadvantages, more specifically, to a person with a Hispanic background. The inclusion portion of my research is those who are bilingual, with Hispanic background (Ages 18-40). More specifically, it would be first-generation individuals who communicate with their parents in Spanish. This data includes qualitative data from a convenient non-random sample. Survey questions and face-to-face interviews also were used to further explain answers that could not on the survey. As a result, the survey demonstrated that more than half, if not all, of the participants, have had some type of struggle trying to live the American dream. These struggles include having to translate for their parents at a young age, living in low-income properties, not having enough education that helped translate between languages, and confusing both languages (all while being taunted for mispronunciation or their accent).

The Effect of Mutations on PhuZ Polymerization

Shaun Calhoun, Rachel Hall, Ashlei Sonnenberg, Steven Frye, Paige Engdahl

In every living cell, structural proteins form an intricate network known as the cytoskeleton. This network provides a scaffold for general cellular organization and plays an important role in cell division and molecular transport. Even bacteriophages, which are viruses that infect bacteria, have been found to possess cytoskeleton proteins. PhuZ is a major bacteriophage structural protein that forms long polymers to organize the viral DNA for packaging during infection. The polymerization is triggered by GTP, a process similar to the polymerization of human microtubules, which play a major role in maintaining cell structure and during cell division. Therefore, the study of PhuZ polymerization serves as an ideal model system for understanding the dynamics of human microtubules. Here, we studied how various mutations affect the ability

of PhuZ to polymerize in the presence of GTP compared to the wildtype. By investigating polymerization at different PhuZ concentrations, we determined the minimal concentration at which each mutant will polymerize, known as the critical concentration. All mutants were compared to the wild type, which had a critical concentration of 2.5 μM . We found that mutants with drastic amino acid alterations, such as mutants D187A and I302D, did not result in any polymerization at the observed concentrations. However, mutants R290K, K238R, and D303E did result in polymerization with critical concentrations of 1.5 μM , 2.6 μM , and 5.8 μM , respectively. Some mutants resulted in an increase in critical concentration (decreasing the efficiency of polymerization), while others increased polymerization efficiency. In the future, we plan to test an additional seven mutants to determine their effect on PhuZ polymerization which can contribute to our understanding of microtubule dynamics.

The Impact and Influences on the Choice to Formula Feed Over Breastfeed

Chasity Cole

The purpose of this case study is to understand what influences new mothers' choice to formula feed over the breastfeed. The most appropriate research method for my topic is qualitative content analysis through surveys and case studies. Qualitative research will describe what choice was made and why. It is hypothesized that due to the demand placed on women to work, convenience, and stigma surrounding breastfeeding, more new parents are choosing to formula feed now more than ever. The population that was studied for my research project was pregnant women or new mothers who are of childbearing age, 16-35, that have interest in formula feeding their infant or breastfeeding their infant located in the Michiana area. A seven-question survey was distributed via social media to a mom group where 103 convenient samples were collected over the course of one month using Qualtrics. The data collected involved asking about current working status, partner support, belief on convenience of feeding method, previous experience perception, and what influences participants believed influenced their infant feeding decisions. Of the 103 responses, 2 participants did not clearly answer whether they would be formula feeding or breast feeding, 20 stated they would be formula feeding, 66 stated they would be breastfeeding, and 15 stated they would be using a combination of both breast and formula feeding. There were clear indications in answers to the survey that the choice to formula feed over breast feed is due to the lack of milk production and the convenience of bottle feeding.

The Importance of Mental Health Resources in African Immigrants to Promote Healing from Intimate Partner Violence

Carly Landon

When immigrants come to the United States, they are faced with unfamiliar family and gender norms as compared to expectations in their sending countries. Newfound freedoms for women can create spousal power struggles that form the foundation for intimate partner violence. Africans, the fastest growing immigrant population in the United States, are experiencing intimate partner violence at high rates. To preserve the integrity of African immigrant's mental health following exposure to intimate partner violence, survivors need community-based resources that teach adequate coping strategies. By offering culturally appropriate resources that teach coping skills, promote self-healing, and diminish the severity of intimate partner violence, survivors' mental health can be prioritized.

The Motivations of Consuming Action films

DeAndre Barton

The Media Entertainment theory attempts to explain an individual's reason for enjoyment of media content in a positive way. The theory is broken down into five sections that work on explaining the effects of the theory. The theory works to fine out what motivates someone to consume a media, why someone would select that media, the processing someone goes through to choose the media, the evaluation of the enjoyment that is felt from the media, and how does the media effect the viewer. The motivations that cause someone to consume a media could be to seek a sensation. The selection of media is built upon the goal of watching the film. The processing of content deals with how someone releases their emotions revolving around media and characters. The evaluations of their emotions. The effects are the behavioral, attitudinal, and cognitive effects on someone watching the content.

The Plastic Problem: We Can't Keep Relying on Recycling

Chloe Norton

A wicked problem is one that is so complex and has many interconnecting issues making it nearly unsolvable due to shortage of funding, inefficient awareness or knowledge of said issue, and that there is no logical way to test the performance of a solution without going full force. Some of the certain characteristics that make the plastic problem a wicked problem are the cost efficient production (leading to increased consumption), the government's arrangement with fossil fuel companies, and our reliance on single use plastics. While recycling seems like the best solution, most "recyclable" plastics are sent to landfills. Proper relying is an expensive and intensive process. In order to solve this problem, long-term solutions need to be put into place such as making the price of plastics their true cost. Wicked problems are difficult to get rid of, but with sustainable initiatives put into place, there is hope for future generations.

The Result of Cancer Development in Young Women Using Oral Contraceptives, are they Considering the Risk?

Cintia Sanchez

The purpose of my research was to investigate women's awareness and knowledge of carcinogenic ingredients found in oral contraceptives. Various types of cancers in women were linked to their oral contraceptive use. Having family history of cancer gave a higher risk to developing cancer when using the pill. Data was gathered using a simple survey accessible through a link posted on a social media platform. Sixteen participants engaged in the survey. Results showed that out of those sixteen participants 75% used oral contraceptives for pregnancy prevention, 25% as treatment for Premenstrual Syndrome and 12.5% as treatment for Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS). Awareness of cancer development was given. Ultimately it was discovered that only two out of sixteen participants knew that oral contraceptives were classified as carcinogenic to humans by the International Agency for Research on Cancer.

The Rise and Fall of Elkhart Instrument Factories, 1875-1925

Sarah Hieber

A history of the instrument factories that shaped Elkhart into the city it is today. Mainly covering the Conn Instruments company. As well as coving the history of Elkhart in general.

The Role of Marriage in the Incidence of Postpartum Depression

Emanuel Sanchez

Postpartum depression (PPD) can be a health concern for a mother following birth of their child. A women's quality of life is affected by PPD by experiencing loss of interest and thoughts of death or suicide among other symptoms. In this study I evaluated how women in a relationship

might have a lower incidence of experiencing PPD compared to women who are not in relationship. Yet, being in a low-quality relationship can raise the incidence of PPD. Inclusion of population includes women between 15-40 years of age and experiencing two or more symptoms of PPD. Exclusion includes women who were taking antipsychotic medications and could not have a diagnosed personality disorder. The methodology that was used in this study was quantitative methodology. Convenience sampling was used by sending the survey link to family and friends and sharing the link on social media. Evaluation of survey responses revealed a correlation between the incidence of PPD from both women who were single and women who were “somewhat satisfied” with their relationship. The higher incidence of PPD could be due to additional stress of not being fully satisfied with their relationship. Those women who did not experience PPD were in a relationship which they were “satisfied” with. The mothers who were “satisfied” with their relationship could have had a lower incidence of PPD due to having more supportive and healthy relationship. Education level and income level do not have a significant impact the incidence of PPD.

The Socioeconomic Impact of Communication Disorders

Ty Rayoum

Our ability to interact with others is an extremely vital component of human existence that directly influences our quality of life in a variety of ways. The critical role that communication plays in the formation of relationships, maintaining economic stability, and creating a safe and nurturing environment is evidence of this. Per the self-determination theory, these fundamental aspects of living are also known as Competence, Autonomy, and Relatedness; the three psychological components necessary for healthy development. Similarly, these can be seen in Maslow's Hierarchy, which outlines five levels of basic human needs: Self-Actualization, Esteem, Love and Belonging, Safety, and Physiological. Thus, without the ability to communicate in a way that makes oneself understood by those around us, we are unable to satisfy these needs, resulting in a reduction in both physical and psychological well-being. In the same way, our manner of speaking indicates to those around us that we are intelligent, healthy, and able-bodied. This becomes a problem when we consider the ableism prevalent in the Western world, which often means that our social acceptability is determined by our outward presentation. As a result, many young people with stutters tend to suffer from high rates of mental health problems. Stuttering presents an economic impact as well, as teens and young adults with stutters are both intrinsically and extrinsically discouraged from pursuing higher education and professional employment. Regardless of whether these labels are factually accurate, clinicians working with dysfluent patients need to recognize their presence and impact. The reason for this is that it is only by understanding the branching effects of our ability to communicate, that we may be able to put ourselves in our patients' shoes, to develop specialized treatment plans tailored to their individual needs, which often go well beyond treating the physical manifestation of the stutter.

Thomas Jefferson and Fear

Sophia Hummer

In 1785, Thomas Jefferson compiled an immensely thorough collection of observations on the state of Virginia, at the request of French Legation secretary Francois Marbois. In his collection, aptly titled "Notes on The State of Virginia", Jefferson reported on the state's local fauna,

society's customs, the importance of religion, and other anthropological details. What struck us was a section he included within his notes pertaining to Black Americans, "Query XIV" or "Laws". Within this section, Jefferson almost frantically attempted to provide justifications for his belief in white supremacy. He deemed that a society where White and Black Americans co-exist is not feasible. He also tried to provide a solution to the growing racial tensions; he proposed to remove Black Americans from The Americas and have them relocated to other, unconquered lands. While it's understood that this text is cited as an example of Thomas Jefferson's notions on race despite being considered a progressive of his era, what we found fascinating is that many of his "observations", the conclusions he drew, and the solutions he proposed in regards to race relations within North America at the time are early examples of the contemporary notion of "white guilt", or more broadly, how White Americans observe, interact with, and interpret both historical and persisting examples of racial prejudice, discrimination, and subjugation.

Titans Feeding Titans Informative Video

David Saleh

The Fall 2022 Freshman Honors Media Team worked hand in hand with the Titans Feeding Titans Food Pantry in order to create a new informative video that would help raise awareness and support for the Pantry. The video includes information such as hours, products offered, and how important the food pantry is to the IUSB community.

To Die or Not to Die

Kelly Pawlak

Most offenders on death row will remain for a very long time or a very short time depending on the state and their individual processes. States with the death penalty vary in this time frame ranging from shorter sentences due to their case overturned by the courts to over four decades (Death Penalty Information Center, 2023). Additionally, the death penalty is costly in all states that currently have this method of punishment. Costs of a single execution are upwards of 1.26 million dollars in many states. In the state of Florida, the average cost for one execution is approximately 24 million dollars is spent on the Death Penalty (Palm beach Florida Capital Bureau, 2000). Using Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven steps of planned change and a content analysis, a new criminal justice policy in the state of Florida will be created to remove the death penalty as a method of punishment and help create a new facility for these offenders to help lose their violent compulsions. Limitations and policy implications will be addressed in this research.

Total Teen Oral Health

Hailey Koetje, Jennifer Barker, Cloey Noles

Total Teen Oral Health was designed for the sophomore health classes attending Northwood High School. The goal of the program was to give the adolescent population a tangible lesson on oral health. We enjoyed encouraging critical thinking and personal application of proper oral health practices among the students. We offered interactive learning by watching oral health trends that have been popular on social media. After watching the trends we had thought-provoking discussions with the classes to determine if the oral health care trend should be applied to their oral care. We taught the students about the misconceptions that are on social media about how to care for their oral health appropriately. We discussed plaque formation, gingivitis, cavities, nutrition, and good oral health practices. The students had the opportunity to understand oral health better than what they heard in the past from their dentist, social media, peers, or parents. At the end of our program, we worked with the students to set S.M.A.R.T.

goals so they could use the knowledge they had learned, intending to apply their goals for a month after creating them. 57 students participated in this program, out of the 57 students, 1 set three new oral health goals, 50 set two new oral health goals and 6 set one new oral health goal.

Twitter as a Form of Legislative Influence: President Biden on the Inflation Reduction Act

Nevaeh Mendoza

While the topic of going public to pass the president's legislative agenda has been thoroughly studied, the era of going public on social media opens a new sub-field of this broad theory to study, making the topic exciting all over again. In this study, President Joseph Biden's usage of Twitter as a means of going public on the Inflation Reduction Act, a huge legislative success of his administration, will be measured. The fact that this bill was extremely controversial among the two parties makes it a relevant, significant topic to study. Furthermore, the bill was officially signed into law by President Biden on August 16, 2022, just under three months before midterms. Considering this information as well as the fact that social media is a relatively new tool for going public, the following research question arose: Did the Biden Administration go public on Twitter on the Inflation Reduction Act? To answer this question, tweets uploaded, either directly through the @POTUS account or @JoeBiden, will be filtered through, using a keyword search. Furthermore, to measure the effectiveness of the administration's efforts to go public, I will turn to reputable public opinion polls about the bill as well as analyze the results of the 2022 midterm election to open up another field of study on this topic. My hypothesis is that the Biden Administration did go public on Twitter on the Inflation Reduction Act and that doing so, partly influenced the anticipated "Red Wave" turning into a "Red Puddle." Furthermore, I expect that most of the public supports the contents of the bill, but there is probably less favorability for it when called by name.

Veteran Suicidal Ideation and Community Involvement

Amy Taylor

In recent years statistics related to climbing veteran suicide rates have been the center of many political and healthcare related discussions. While there are many contributing risk factors related to veteran suicide ideation, no definitive indicators currently exist. Depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, anger, internal hostility, loneliness, alcohol use disorder, substance abuse disorder, and lack of belonging are all hypothesized to be direct links to suicidal ideation in this population. The purpose of this research was not to determine the causative factors in veteran suicide ideation; rather, the researcher attempted to approach this difficult topic through the eyes of the population itself with the intention of gathering their opinions and how to combat suicidal ideation. The researcher hypothesized that only veterans can fully understand other veterans and that they need one another to fight against suicidal ideation. Using a series of qualitative and quantitative survey questions, the researcher gathered information directly from the Michiana veteran population. Research revealed that veterans believe other veterans have a better understanding of them than nonveterans, and that community involvement with more veterans – outside of alcohol consumption – could help combat suicide or suicidal ideation in this population. The respondents overwhelmingly agreed that community involvement gives them a sense of purpose and favorably viewed the idea of local hobbyist groups, intramural sports leagues, or community service organizations geared specifically to veterans. Veterans agreed the establishment of these organizations have immense potential in the fight against veteran suicide by renewing a sense of belonging with their military peers.

Victim Empowerment Act in Texas

Rosie Bostic

According to the Office of Attorney General in Texas (2023), a Texas Survey reports that 50% of human trafficking encounters involve forced labor trafficking. Texas has the 2nd highest number of reported human trafficking cases and have implemented considerable legislative efforts to combat human trafficking. However, current policies fail to fully encapsulate accurate data collection. A proposed recommendation is to incorporate Welsh & Harris's (2016) seven steps of planned change and concepts from Cohen & Felson Routine Activities Theory (1979) and Becker's Rational Choice Theory (1997) to increase the accuracy of victim monitoring services. An employment of content analysis of synthesized research will support the development of the new policy. The recommended solution is to increase victim-centered data collection systems that will create a centralized network that is accessible to not only governmental organizations, but to all residents of Texas. Any limitations from executing a new policy and research in subsequent studies will be addressed.

Virtual versus Traditional Learning

Haylee Hovious

The purpose of this research activity was to gain an understanding of the preferences of virtual versus traditional learning for undergraduate clinical students enrolled in the Vera Z. Dwyer College of Health Sciences. Peer reviewed journal articles were used to obtain information on this topic before proceeding to a primary data collection method. The methodology used was quantitative data from a convenient sample. Instrument being used was a survey format on paper. It was given to both the junior and senior cohorts of the Dental Hygiene and Radiology programs at Indiana University South Bend. The response rate was approximately 72 responses. There were 13 questions in total, 12 being multiple choice and 1 as an open-ended question format. Regarding the clinical aspect, for all program cohorts there was a positive response that it is preferred to be taught in a traditional setting. There was a variance in answers regarding if grades were better with virtual rather than traditional learning. However, the answer choice 'Recorded Videos/Live Classes' was overall selected the most. There was also a variance in answers regarding course setup, and which was preferred. The answer choice of 'Traditional' was overall selected the most. The results can be beneficial to students who are about to apply for those clinical programs. The results can also be beneficial to program directors and professors, so they can adapt their teaching methods to the best learning needs of their cohorts.

Who's Standing Behind me? Traditional Stalking in California

Jenna Frezza

Stalking in California is defined as following a person with the intent of putting them in fear for their safety (SCLG, 2022). However, it is often not just the paparazzi following a celebrity. Traditional stalking occurs more often than most think, with women and young children as the majority of victims. Due to California being a hot spot for influencers and celebrities, the law has both misdemeanor and felony stalking charges, but the crime of traditional stalking needs to be taken more seriously. In addition, there are too many restrictions to define traditional stalking in the current legislation, leaving victims feeling unsafe and continued targets. Using Welsh and Harris's (2016) seven stages for planned change and a content analysis, a new California policy will be created to enforce more sanctions for traditional stalking and focus on the victims. The simple act of following should constitute as stalking even if it is not in a threatening manner. This new California policy will make it easier for prosecutors to charge offenders traditional stalking without all the boxes needing to be checked and victims will be able to sleep easier at

night. The limitations of implementing such a policy and the need for future data will be discussed.

Why is Montessori Education appealing to parents?

Makayla Cunningham

I organized and conducted a social research project regarding Montessori education. I chose this topic since there is not a lot of current research or studies on Montessori education or why parents choose one educational style over another. The purpose of this research is to identify why the philosophy and practice of Montessori education are so appealing to parents. My research question is “What reasons do parents and guardians give for sending their children to Montessori schools over traditional schools?” To discover more about my topic and research question, parents and guardians with children ages 1.5 to 12 years currently enrolled at The Montessori Academy at Edison Lake (Mishawaka, Indiana) and Saint Joseph Montessori School (South Bend, Indiana) completed a short survey via Qualtrics. After the completion of my survey, I collected 20 responses. The results provided evidence to suggest that parents and guardians with children enrolled in the schools named above choose to send their children to Montessori schools over traditional schools for three main reasons: Attraction to the Montessori principles such as the independent, child-centric, and practical life environment that the Montessori approach provides (55%), the perceived fit to meet the needs of their child such as a personality or twice-exceptional children (35%), and anticipated outcomes for their future such as lifelong success (10%).