

UC Blue Ash College



7TH ANNUAL MEDIATED MINDS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

WHO

Any UC Blue Ash College, UC Clermont College or UC Uptown students who are interested in improving their résumé and portfolio.

AWARDS

Best Individual Oral Presentation
Best Poster Presentation
Best Digital/Multimedia Poster
Best Panel Discussion
Outstanding Faculty Mentor

WHEN

Friday, April 13, 2018
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Keynote Session

12:20 - 1:15 p.m.

Lunch provided
for presenters

WHERE

UC Blue Ash College
Walters Hall

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

<http://www.ucblueash.edu/mediatedminds/proposals.html>
Submission due March 30, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION

mediatedminds@uc.edu

To view the full collection of abstracts in one PDF, please click on the PDF icon. The abstracts are also listed separately below.

SESSION SCHEDULE

9:05 – 10:00 a.m. | Walters 100 | Session A

Dean Robin Lightner

Welcome

Lydia Christopher

"How the Mass Media Frame and Cultivate History"

Jessica Weems

"Using Priming and Cultivation Theory to Explore Stereotyping"

Elizabeth Butler, Prerna Gandhi, Jake Giovanetti, and Taylor Lovejoy

"Cultivating Our Perceptions of Reality Through the Mass Media" (Panel)

10:10 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. | Walters 100 | Session B

Service Learning in Environmental Activism Panel

Kurk Begue

Nicholas Dumont

Veronica Phelan

Karis Burg

Salena Gammouh

Joseph Platt

Alvin Burke

Allison Godec

Ashley Powell

Jimmy Campbell

Shayla Graving

Ashlee Roberts

Sebastien Castonguay

Kelsey Hildal

Christine Uebel

Ashley Conway

Stephen Mack

Tyler Woodall

Sofia DiFrancesco

Jenna Munninghoff

Lauren Williams

Adam Doty

Jessica Ostertag

10:10 – 11:05 a.m. | Walters Lobby | Poster Session 1

See page 4–5 for poster session participants.

11:15 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. | Walters Lobby | Poster Session 2

See page 4–5 for poster session participants.

12:20 – 1:15 p.m. | Walters 100 | Keynote Presentation

Takeshi Ito, Dominique Nordquist, and Danielle Riegler

"Research and Mentorship Process from the Student Point of View" (Panel)

Deb Frame and Pat Owen

"Benefits of Doing Research Early in One's Academic Career" (Panel)

1:25 – 2:20 p.m. | Walters 100 | Session C

Hana Banoun

"Feminism and Spirituality in Two Works of Ethnic Literature"

Joshua Barnes

"Shining a Light on Child Sexual Abuse"

Justin Deas

"Single Parenting"

Tiara McMillan

"The Homeless Have It Rough: Winter Times"

2:30 – 3:25 p.m. | Walters 100 | Session D

Bridget Berg

"Understanding Instant Gratification Through Uses and Gratifications and Medium Theory"

Madaline Bowman and Gabrielle Kreinbrink

"Effects of Video Games on Youth Development: Using Media Effects Theories to Uncover the Truth"

Sophia Jones, Melissa Heise, and Haleigh Osler

"The Impact of Social Media" (Panel)

3:35 – 4:30 p.m. | Walters 100 | Session E

Tyler Begley

"Our Healthy Internet"

Jordan (Henry) Hardee

"Religious Persecution and Social Development In Stalinist Albania"

MeKaisha Jones

"Implementing Local Welfare Reform For Single Mothers"

Dorcas Sarbah

"Female Genital Mutilation Should Be Banned"

4:30 p.m. | Walters 100 | Conclusion

Marsha Gaston and Drew Shade

Announcement of Prize Winners & Closing Remarks

POSTER SESSION PARTICIPANTS

Poster Session 1

10:10 – 11:05 a.m.

Rebekah Adams

"Sonic Hedgehog Gene (SHH)"

John Anderson

"Using Framing and Priming to Understand the Success in Advertising"

Mitch Bruns

"Framing: The Cutting, Copying, and Pasting of Political and Social Information"

Salima Diushebaeva and Tesa Teng

"Cystic Fibrosis: CFTR and Membrane Transporter in the Cell"

Michaela Hopkins

"What People Should Know About Harmful Preservatives/Additives in Food and Drinking Products"

Haley Mahan, Sabrina Mahan, and Amanda Schliesman

"Biological Cell Dysfunction of Epidermolysis Bullosa Simplex and Physical Symptoms"

Caroline Mbwesa

"The Impact of Genetically Modified Organism on the Economies of Developing Countries"

Nina McCoy

"The Greenhouse Effect in Paris"

Megan Willis

"Examining Media Framing in the Drug and Food Industries"

Digital Poster

Joy Allayne McGee

"African Americans and World War I: Voices Silenced"

POSTER SESSION PARTICIPANTS

Poster Session 2

11:15 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

Priyanka Agrawal

"Green is the New Black: Eco-Fashion"

Sarah Charles

"Expanding the Outreach for the Eosinophilic Family Coalition"

Constanza Gamardo

"Pollution dans La Forêt Amazonienne/Pollution in The Amazonian Rainforest"

Maria Maldonado

"Illegal Shark Fishing in the Galápagos Islands"

Moses Martinez

"Matthew 25 Ministries"

Kiely Muccillo

"Coral Bleaching in Great Barrier Reef"

Nicole Perozek

"The Long Rise of Algae Blooms"

Maria Sanjuan and Nina Setzer

"The Effects of Alpha-1 Anti-trypsin Deficiency on the Function of the Endoplasmic Reticulum"

Chrishia Silver

"Psychology that Drives Voting Behavior Regulating Gun Control"

Alexis Steele, Britton Bowlin, and Laura Hamel

"Ubiquinone Pathway"

Digital Poster

Amanda Senters

"Special Needs Parents and Their Need for Support"



Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

How the Mass Media Frame and Cultivate History

Christopher, Lydia

Abstract — *In this presentation, I explore the effects of the media effects theories of media framing and cultivation theory on our perception of history through critical analysis of scholarly journal articles and application of the concepts of the theories.*

Keywords—*Media, Framing and Cultivation theory, history*

I. Introduction

Media frames and cultivation theory are constant complications in the study of history. History is framed as it is happening through propaganda to push agendas, as well as being framed to exclude whole chapters of history to better fit a historic narrative. As cultivation theory moves away from just the realm of television and investigates more areas of mass media, it is becoming evident that these framed histories affect society's beliefs not only about history, but the world we live in today. Whether it be questioning the reliability of sources due to framing or how those framed histories impact the general public's view of history and today's world, these theories are integral pieces to understanding mass media's impact on history.

II. Findings

Media framing results in carefully constructed media messages throughout history, which create a unique and difficult challenge for historians as they attempt to ascertain the most accurate form of history. The framing of historic media results in society having a common, but inaccurate perception of historic events. In WW II the involvement of the government in the framing of messages and themes in the movie industry impacted the beliefs of American society regarding the enemy during WWII. The emphasizing of certain victims of the holocaust above others create an incomplete perception of history within society. When violence in film is put into different historic periods, it influences not only the way society views that time period, but also impacts the way they perceive violence in our own time compared to the past

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Using Priming and Cultivation Theory to Explore Stereotyping

Jessica Weems

Abstract— *In this presentation, I explore stereotyping through the media effects theories of priming and cultivation with the goal of exposing stereotypes often placed in society today.*

Keywords—*Stereotype, Priming Theory, Cultivation Theory*

I. Introduction

Society is engulfed in stereotypes, whether they be racial, gender, age, etc. Priming and cultivation theory are both theories that look into how what we are given from the media cause our reactions, and today, most of the stereotypes we know also come from media. We have preconceived notions of certain groups in our minds--priming. We also are fed stories from the media, which some people really allow to affect how they perceive the world around them--cultivation.

II. Findings

Priming is a theory that describes coordinating behaviors when certain actions are taken. The presentation of a stimulus can really determine the outstanding reaction. Priming the subject before presenting information to them can alter the thought process as well. If we prime a certain group of people with new reports of crime in a given city and then expose them to this city, their perceptions of this city are going to be automatically altered and they will be on high alert. Cultivation theory takes a look at "stories" told within television and media, and how viewers react to this content. Media, specifically television, tend to have a general consensus in the way the world is portrayed, and with cultivation theory, the more a person watches TV, the more they believe the content on the screen in front of them to be an accurate representation of reality outside their home. Stereotypes are often played within media, and time has shown that as we progress through the years, more people using their voices to combat the negative energy carelessly thrown around media, thus leading the media to be more careful how they portray certain groups. Media often attempts to light-heartedly "poke fun" at certain stereotypes, and if someone grew up in a household that agreed with these stereotypes, and it is what they are used to, they are more likely to sit and agree with these shows, but if you were brought up to lessen judgement you might not be a fan of these certain shows.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Panel Discussion: cultivating our Perceptions of Reality through the Mass Media

Butler, Elizabeth; *Ghandi, Prema; Lovejoy, Taylor; Giovanetti, Jake*

Abstract — *In this presentation, we will demonstrate the false perceptions about reality created by the media through the lens of cultivation theory with goal of exploring mean world syndrome, relationships, body images, health and age differences.*

Keywords — *Mass Media, Cultivation Theory, Social Perception*

I. Summary

We are discussing cultivation and mean world syndrome with four different topics. Our topics include relationships, body image, health and age difference. Mostly negative effect occur when absorbing a larger quantity of media content. We found that through all of our topics that there was mostly negative effects with mean world syndrome. The more that people viewed media content the more the created false perceptions of reality and most of the time it lead to negative results in all of our research



Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Feminism and Spirituality in Two Works of Ethnic Literature

Hana Banoun

Abstract — *Both of these works represent and celebrate their respective cultures, while also representing the common themes of feminism and spirituality. These themes represent the vivid and diverse cultures of the United States but also through the common themes show the interconnectedness of all Americans, regardless of ethnic background.*

Keywords — *Feminism, Spirituality, Ethnic Literature*

I. Introduction

In this presentation I compare and contrast two literary works from different U.S. ethnic cultures. Each is a short story - "Fleur" by Native American writer Louise Erdrich and "The Moths" by Chicana writer Helena Maria Viramontes. These works will be examined through the lens of the work itself, the themes of the works, as well as the ethnic literatures represented, and historical context. These works will be examined through the lens of the work itself, the themes of the works, as well as the ethnic literatures represented, and historical context.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Shining a Light on Child Sexual Abuse

Barnes, Joshua

Mediated Minds Student Research Conference 2018

Abstract — In this presentation, I explain the true extent of the issue of child sexual abuse and how it has evolved through discussion of certain statistics I have studied.

Keywords —Child abuse

I. Introduction

Child sexual abuse more common than most people think. The best thing we can do is to raise awareness. The vast majority of the population is unaware of the true scope of the problem, or worse, they just don't want to see it. It is important that we drag this into the light so people will understand how to better protect their loved ones.

One in ten children will be sexually abused before the age of 18. The subject of child sexual abuse is painstakingly avoided in our society due to its abhorrent nature, but that is only making the situation worse. While the idea of stranger danger is good, 90% of victims know their abuser. Children are most vulnerable to sexual abuse between the ages of 7 and 13. While the reported median age of first abuse is 9, about 20% of sexual abuse victims are under the age of 8. This kind of abuse causes often irreversible damage to the victims. Since its founding in 1998, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has reviewed over 236 million images and videos depicting child sexual abuse from all over the world.

When it comes to the topic of child sexual abuse (or child abuse in general), law enforcement is completely overwhelmed. The vast majority of people are unaware of how bad the situation really is. If we raise awareness and inform people on what to look for, we may stand a chance in the fight against child sex abuse.

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“Tip Sheet: Warning Signs of Possible Sexual Abuse In A Child's Behaviors.” Tip Sheet: Warning Signs of Possible Sexual Abuse In A Child's Behaviors | Stop It Now, www.stopitnow.org/ohc-content/tip-sheet-7



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Single Parenting

Deas, Justin

Abstract: *I explain why there are more single women households than single father households in the United states. In my essay the differences between both will explored*

Keywords – *Single Parents, single mother household, single father household*

I. Introduction

The meaning of the whole presentation is to give people an inside of single parenting, the household, and reasons why it leads up to that. I'm focusing on mainly why there are more single mother households than father households because single parenting has risen over the years and not in the fathers favor. Single parenting is serious in all communities and sometimes overlooked. Fathers being in their children's life is also important and can make a major difference in the child's life.

II. Findings

Some major points are when i get more into my results section, discussion section and show you guys more details on why most fathers aren't able to get custody of their children. One thing i found interesting was that single fathers make more and have a better income than most single mothers.



Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

The Homeless Have It Rough: Wintertime

McMillan, Tiara

Abstract -- *In this presentation I explain how hard it is to be homeless but also the effects of winter on the homeless. I will be showing you images and discussing this problem also.*

Keywords — *Homelessness, seasonal survival*

I. Introduction

I've realized that some people like to stay quiet when it comes to people in need. They rather not worry about the situation and worry about their own lives. They tend to ignore the problem instead of go to someone that could change it for the better. This situation will only get better if we speak out and help, even if it's a little. My major points of this essay is the necessity of shelters, food banks, clothing, women's hygiene, and money.



Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Understanding Instant Gratification Through Uses and Gratifications and Medium Theory

Berg, Bridget

Abstract — *In this presentation, I will explore how instant gratification is rapidly increasing through the mass communication perspectives of uses and gratifications and medium theory.*

Keywords— *Instant gratification, medium theory*

I. Introduction

Uses and gratifications helps us to understand that we have the authority to consume media that meets and satisfies our needs. We also are an audience that is impacted by the media messages we consume as medium theory suggests. Uses and gratifications and medium theory is ultimately a spiral. As society continues to select media that advocates instant gratification then media will continue to support the growing need for instantaneous satisfaction. Society is both a passive and active audience, but media ultimately influences and controls what society consumes.

Findings

Researchers have found that media content affects advertisement recall, recognition, attitude and brand loyalty and purchase intention. Research implies that society seeks experiences that "predominantly become an object of instant consumption, current moment, subject to urgent action." Advertisements in media are marketed to achieving instantaneous satisfaction. Researchers studying uses and gratifications have found that society have "social and psychological needs, which generate expectation of the mass media or other sources, which lead to different patterns of media exposure resulting in need gratifications and other consequences."

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Effects of Video Games on Youth Development: Using Media Effects Theories to Uncover the Truth

Bowman, Madaline; Kreinbrink, Gabrielle

Abstract — *In this presentation, we explore the advantageous and harmful effects that video games have on today's youth through media desensitization and the social cognitive theory. We examine these using both the GAM and PENS model. We will discuss how violent video games consumed over a long period of time can desensitize a viewer, and even cause aggressive behavioral changes. As well as the positive impact that video games can make in education and child development, through various virtual style learning programs.*

Keywords – Video Games, children, learning, violence

I. Introduction

We researched various case studies on children to have been observed before and after playing violent video games. Studies show that violent games increase heart rate and anxiety levels. We also researched the positive impacts video games can provide through rewarded learning styles, keeping children engaged and incentivized. We researched various case studies on children to have been observed before and after playing violent video games. Studies show that violent games increase heart rate and anxiety levels. We also researched the positive impacts video games can provide through rewarded learning styles, keeping children engaged and incentivized.

II. Findings

- Violent video games show to be more negatively influential in youth development
- The consumption of violent video games leads to media desensitization
- Video game style learning can engage students on higher levels
- Video games can create mnemonic devices, making learning material more efficient and successful
- Video games also contain strategy and problem solving practice

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- Isabela Granic, PhD, Adam Lobel, PhD, and Rutger C.M.E. Engels, PhD, Radboud University



Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Social Media and Its Impact

Jones, Sophia; Heise Melissa; Osler, Haleigh

Abstract -- In this presentation, we explain social media through the spiral of silence, agenda setting, and media literacy. We do this by comparing and contrasting the theories and how they affect social media.

Keywords— Social Media, spiral of silence, media literacy

I. Introduction

Through research we discovered how social media both positively and negatively affects people through these different theories. We, then, broke down each topic (spiral of silence, agenda setting, media literacy) and found out how they individually affect audiences. We plan to discuss what people find appealing about social media despite its negative effects and how it can be an informative source.

II. Findings

The spiral of silence takes place in social media. The Spiral of Silence is a theory that questions why people only seem to see one side of an argument on social media. It states that because one idea is being amplified, others who are in the minority don't speak up in fear of isolation. We picked the platform of social media to delve into this theory and discover why this happens. We found that in social media specifically, that this theory is amplified because of the social connections it creates. We decided to focus on the negative effects of this specifically and why it is a problem.

We found out how agenda setting is linked to social media. Agenda setting talks about how the media has a tendency to direct our attention to specific issues that they want amplified. We researched how these effects transfer to social media. We focused on the two types of agenda setting (first-order and second-order) and how they differently effect social media. I found that first-order agenda setting has to do with the media telling viewer what media is relevant. Second-order agenda setting is how the media shows specific elements of an issue. We also focused on how media has a positive affect on the audience. We did this using media literacy which has to do with how people analyze and evaluate media. We did this while

focusing specifically on social media and its effects. Although We found that not all of the effects are positive, we decided to form my bias around the positive aspects while the spiral of silence theory focused on the negative.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Our Healthy Internet

Begley, Tyler

Abstract— *In this presentation, I explain the manner in which the internet can be used as a tool to improve health. I discuss the results of research performed through peer review literature study and a survey sent by means of the internet to medical professionals.*

Keyword—*Internet, health, literature review, survey*

I. Introduction

The internet is often blamed for American's increasingly sedentary lifestyles; however, the problem is an inappropriate use of the internet. Physicians are not training the public on how they should, as opposed to shouldn't, be using internet resources. There are methods that can be used to verify the reliability of medical information found online, and there are websites and resources that could benefit the public. It is simply a matter of being educated on such topics

The internet offers greater communication options with physicians or records and resources for the physicians. Of greater importance are the resources available to the public. Information or education on any number of diseases, procedures, or medications is available. Also available are tools and plans to help people change their lifestyles by offering goal setting and tracking options. Medical/health professionals have stated that the internet can change things for the better, but only if we learn the important points to look for that verify that a given resource is reliable.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Female Genital Mutilation should be banned

Sarbah, Dorcas

Abstract — Female Genital Mutilation is the partial or complete removal of the genitals of a female. The practice of Female Genital Mutilation has hugely created effects on garland women in many different communities, It has also violated the fundamental right of females in various communities. However, I explain how this practice has been an effect through images and short videos.

I. Introduction

There is doubt that Female Genital Mutilation is one of the major negative cultural practices that affects the dignity and violates the fundamental human rights of women. The practice of Female Genital Mutilation shouldn't be the description of a woman's pride or dignity. Hence Female Genital Mutilation must be banned in every community to cease the high rate of these negative effects.

II. Findings

During my research, my major findings are the complications of the practice of Female Genital Mutilation by Information For Health & Child Protection Professionals. An anonymous response to the blog of Mr. Geib talks about the defense of Female Genital mutilation. That is one major point I found during my research.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

African Americans and WWI: Voices Silenced

McGee, Joy Allayne

Abstract: *In this presentation, I will explore the formation, experience, accomplishments, and legacy of African American soldiers in World War I, through the analysis of memoirs, images, videos, and scholarly sources.*

Keywords: *African Americans, World War I, Memoir*

I. Introduction

When The United States entered World War I, African Americans answered the call of duty. However, their experiences and contributions remain largely invisible to mainstream history. My research of their story, as well as, a literary comparison to the account of a British officer reveal unique insight into forgotten American history.

II. Findings

I generally like to focus on the underdogs of history, to tell the story and explain the significance of people and events that aren't so mainstream. While I conducted my research, I was overwhelmed by the content and ashamed that I hadn't been exposed to something so necessary for Black history and culture. I present evidence of the contributions and experiences of African Americans in World War I and their experiences post-war.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Green is the New Black: Eco-Fashion

Priyanka Agrawal

Abstract—*It is becoming more fashionable to support clothing lines that support ecologically safe production and economically responsible sources.*

Keywords— *fashion, eco-wear*

I. Summary

In this presentation, I will explore the exploitation of natural resources in the fashion industry and movements taking place to remedy these hurtful practices. I will do this through analysis of many resources and studies that have conducted by industry professionals. My research has shown the effects that fast fashion production has had on the environment. The toxic chemicals and overconsumption of water had a detrimental effect on nature. Due to this there has been the beginning of the slow-wear, or eco-fashion, movement which focuses on quality, clean, and fair production.



Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Illegal Shark Fishing in the Galápagos Islands

Maldonado, Maria

Abstract — *In this presentation, I explain the causes and consequences of illegal fishing of sharks in the Galapagos Islands, through the analysis of different articles, images and reports on the subject. Keywords (Abstract style)—component, formatting, style, styling, insert (key words)*

I. Introduction

The Galapagos Islands are well known for their variety in fauna and flora. However, some of the species that live on these islands have been affected, such as sharks. More than 34 different species of sharks have been recorded in the Galapagos Islands and several of these are illegally hunted each year. It has been estimated that there is a drop of up to 60% in the number of sharks in the Galapagos Islands region. The consequences of the illegal fishing of sharks in the Galapagos, is affected not only to the different species of sharks, but also to the rest of the fauna in this region

II. Findings

Sharks are being killed by man, in Galapagos islands they are in danger of extinction due to illegal fishing, this is an external factor that adds to certain biological characteristics. Although sharks live for many years, only between 10 and 15 years can produce offspring, and unlike other fish that reproduce more frequently, sharks do it once a year or every two years. That is why the recent capture of a Chinese ship in the marine reserve of Galapagos with more than 6000 sharks with endangered species of sharks is of concern. Populations do not recover easily.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

The Long Rise of Algae Blooms

Nicole Perozek

Abstract— *In this presentation, I explain the problem with algae blooms in Lake Erie through discussing the causes and effects of this problem and how it affects the environment of that region through speaking and discussing graph about algae blooms.*

Keywords—*component, formatting, style, styling, insert (key words)*

I. Summary

Algae blooms is caused by the lack of human care and their sloppiness to take care of their businesses and thoughts about their environment. This can be solved by regulating the waste production of nearby factories and by regularly cleaning up waste in the lake. That algae blooms cause disastrous effects to the lake Erie region, multiple issues causes these blooms from both countries of Canada and the United states and it has been a long term problem.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

The Psychology that Drives Voting Behavior Regulating Gun Control

Chrishia Silver

Abstract — *In this presentation, I explore the conflicting views on the gun control debate in the United States, the psychology that drive them, and compare the regulations the United States has for gun control versus other nations. Through researching arguments of both viewpoints and connecting them with psychology, I explain what makes gun control such a largely debated issue. Along with this I research the way other nations approach gun control regulation and their successes.*

Keywords—*component, formatting, style, styling, insert (key words)*

I. Introduction

According to CNN, an average of one or more school shootings per week have occurred in 2018. This causes a large portion of the population to fear gun violence and advocate for stricter gun laws. On the other hand, others feel that by restricting gun laws infringes on their second amendment rights. Fear drives people to become emotionally charged toward the way that they feel safe. With fear backing both sides of the gun control debate, emotions run deep and solutions are more difficult to create.

II. Findings

Fear and strong emotions backs both sides of the gun control debate which is why it is such a widely debated topic. Fear of violence and lack of safety advocate for more strict gun regulations. On the other hand, many argue that by creating more severe gun regulations that their second Ammendment rights are being infrindged upon. Some argue that changing gun control regulations will not prevent gun violence. Other nation's have different gun regulations than the United States and may be more effective.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Special Needs Parents and Their Need for Support

Senterse, Amanda

Abstract—*In this presentation, I will demonstrate that families with special needs children need support groups and in particular that Norwood Ohio needs such a group through presentation of my survey of Norwood Ohio parents and parents in other areas, and through analysis of news coverage.*

Keywords—*Parent support, Special Needs Children*

I. Introduction

My plan of action is to start by making a facebook group, titled “Norwood Special Needs Families”. My plan is to first build the facebook page by drawing interest and inviting people I know are special needs families. I have reached out to the firefighters and first responders about having a meet and greet between them and the families they are trying to protect. I plan to organize all of the goals of the group and reasons the group are important by making flyers. My goals are unite the community, as well as educate them on what autism really looks like. I want to have meetings with the families in safe, secure locations that are chosen with our kid’s needs in mind. We can plan activities for the kids so that they can not only develop friendships, but also work on some of their communication issues and social skills. Most of all, the families will be there for each other in a way that no one else can. .

II. Findings

There are a lot of resources available in Ohio for families varying from grants, family therapies, speech therapies, occupational therapies, behavior therapies, etc. What there is not however, at least not for everyone, was a tour guide readily available to steer me to the right direction on this wild journey. I remember so much that first year of isolation and pain and if I can help families with my experiences going through those same issues, it would make a difference to someone in this world.

After talking to several families, I realized they all agreed. It became clear we needed a community support group. The benefits from monthly meetings between the families would be great not only for the parents, but also our children. The kids also have a special bond. When we get together for small play groups of our children, they all interact in a different way than that of their typical peers. I also find an immense amount of comfort knowing that my kids will grow up with other autistic children. They see other children, that are not so different than themselves and yet totally different. They have an acceptance amongst each other that will be vital to them as they grow into teens and young adults. I have such a wonderful team of people in my circle varying from my kids previous teachers and therapists to their aids and I am always finding useful information for myself as I continue my special education degree. A community group would allow parents to share that information with each other. Knowledge is power. We are stronger in numbers.

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Mediated Minds Conference, University of Cincinnati, Blue Ash April 13, 2018

Survey and identification of native and invasive earthworms under cover objects in the Cincinnati region

Maria Jose Murillo; Denise Baldrick; Patrick Owen

Abstract— *In this presentation, we will demonstrate the findings of our summer research involving native and invasive earthworms that were collected on the University of Cincinnati Blue Ash Campus and explain what our data means. We will also discuss what the emergence of invasive earthworms could result in through a discussion of the statistics of our data collections and genetic identification findings.*

Keywords—*Earthworms, invasive species*

I. Introduction

Invasive earthworms were more common than native/naturalized earthworms in upland areas, while native/naturalized earthworms were more common than invasive earthworms in riparian areas. A subset of these earthworms were preserved for later detailed morphological and genetic identifications. Invasive worms represented at least two of the species of the co-invasive complex, while native/naturalized earthworms included a variety of nine different lumbricid species.

II. Findings

Invasive Asian earthworms, particularly a complex of three cryptic species (*Amyntas agrestis*, *A. tokioensis*, and *Metaphire hilgendorfi*), are expanding their range across the eastern and central United States. Relative to native or naturalized earthworms, these invasive species have many negative effects on ecosystems such as destruction of leaf litter and disruption of soil nutrient cycling. Our goal was to document the occurrence of these invasive species relative to native/naturalized species utilizing the same habitats.

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