Conference Committee

Karen Alonzo  Stanford University
Bernie Day  Foothill College
Sarah Harmon  Cañada College
Tatiana Irwin  College of San Mateo
Sami Kudsi  City College of San Francisco
David Laderman  College of San Mateo
Joyce Lee  Skyline College
Eva Mo  Modesto Junior College
Jennifer Saito  Los Medanos College
Colin Schatz  Las Positas College
Steve Schessler  Cabrillo College
Letitia Scott-Curtis  Cabrillo College
John Ulloa  Skyline College
Tommy Yam  Stanford University

Acknowledgements

The Bay Honors Consortium thanks Stanford University for supporting this opportunity for community college honors students for ten years. We also acknowledge the following people for their important contribution to this year’s event.

Richard H. Shaw  Stanford Dean of Admission and Financial Aid
John Ulloa  Keynote Speaker
Dee Dee Pickard  College of San Mateo Honors Graduate, Student Speaker
Maureen Willhoite  Program Layout, Los Medanos College
Ricoh Printing  Program Printing, Las Positas College

Symposium Hall of Fame

The following people have given countless hours to the Symposium over its ten year history. Their legacy inspires us to bring this opportunity to future community college students

Symposium Guests,

Welcome to the 10th Community College Honors Research Symposium at Stanford University!

The presentations in which you have invested countless hours reflect the scholarly work that Stanford celebrates. Your commitment to knowledge, passion for learning, and intense curiosity are the qualities that fuel the creation of innovative ideas and groundbreaking research. Today is a forum to celebrate the cultivation and exchange of ideas; an opportunity to appreciate the vast array of perspectives and experiences; a moment to reflect on the responsibility of intellectuals in a free society.

Stanford University was founded to promote the public welfare by exercising an influence on behalf of humanity and civilization. Pursuit of knowledge for its own sake is a beautiful, noble, and meaningful enterprise. Ultimately, however the research you will conduct at universities has an ethical purpose: To make the world a better place. Pressing issues plague our world – who will solve them? Who will conduct the scientific research that solves cancer? Who will perform the public policy research that offers a solution for the state of public education, the environment, or Social Security? You are the leaders who have the potential to work on these issues.

This research symposium is also a time to celebrate the unique perspectives of community college students. Your diverse backgrounds and life experiences add much-needed richness to classroom conversations and the overall intellectual quality of university communities. I commend you on your scholarship and wish you the very best in your academic, personal, and professional endeavors.

With warm regards,

Richard H. Shaw
Dean of Admission and Financial Aid
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**Room 13**

**Danya Adib-Azpeitia**  
*Foot Hill College*  
*Mentor: Scott Lankford*  

**Angels & Demons, Dungeons & Dragons**  
*Distorted Morality in The Water Knife’s Dystopian World*  
Analyzing the moral alignment theory in Dungeons & Dragons as a literary critical tool for climate-fiction (Cli-Fi).

**Gabrielle Baum**  
*Cañada College*  
*Mentor: Sarah Harmon*  

**Grice’s Maxims in Town of Salem**  
*Rules Made to be Broken*  
An exploration of the use and misuse of Grice's Maxims in the online game Town of Salem.

**Shuai Xue**  
*College of San Mateo*  
*Mentor: Jessica Masters*  

**Creative AI in Action: How the Random Procedural Generation Takes Game Development to New Worlds**  
An examination of functions and mechanisms of random procedural generation in video games through building a game demo to discuss its effectiveness and potential impact on creating future games.

**Room 30**

**Kristin Dermenjian**  
*Glendale Community College*  
*Mentors: Michael Harnett & Mark Maier*  

**Go Robo or No: The Importance of Human Interaction in Financial Planning**  
A detailed analysis of financial advising from the point of view of algorithm-driven websites and human financial advisors.

**Doreen Hii**  
**Alan Yuen**  
*Irvine Valley College*  
*Mentor: Lan Pham*  

**A More Effective Way of Conveying Ratings**  
Presenting a clearer display of product ratings through a visual figure format.

**Joaquin Jimenez**  
*Reedley College*  
*Mentor: John Heathcote*  

**Dubstep or Didgeridoo: The Implications of Streaming Applications on Musical Enjoyment**  
Investigating the influence of exposure to music streaming applications on an individual's musical affinity.

**Blake Dixon**  
* Cabrillo College*  
*Mentor: Steve Schessler*  

**The Future of Education: Synchronous and Asynchronous Blended Learning Practices**  
A thorough analysis of synchronous and asynchronous blended learning practices relative to their applications for our current and future education systems.
Session I: 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Room 202

Talha Siddiqui
El Camino College
Mentor: Karl Striepe

Globalization: Promoter or Inhibiter of Inequality?
An examination of the increasingly complex and paradoxical relationship between globalization and inequality.

Zachary Newman
Sacramento City College
Mentor: Paul Frank

Doctors Without Borders Heals the State not Just the Population
Investigating the significance and possible correlation between Doctors Without Borders on a state's economy and health.

Alexandra Vignau
MiraCosta College
Mentor: Christopher Sleeper

The New Military Industrial Complex
The Strategic Role of Private Military Companies in an Age of (In)Security
How private military contractors in a post-draft United States fill gaps in military capacity cost-effectively upholding America’s super-power status in the world.

Room 203

Elona Dahi
Mount San Antonio College
Mentor: Edgar Muñiz

Declaration of Dependence: Desdemona's Downfall

Alexander He
Los Angeles City College
Mentor: Danielle Muller

Tribulations of the Death Drive and Religion in Emily Dickinson’s Poetry
An examination of disillusionment with Christianity and a foreshadowing of Modernism through the persona in Emily Dickinson’s poems.

Anthony So
Mount San Antonio College
Mentor: Edgar Muñiz

A Failed Metamorphosis: The Creature’s failed attempt at becoming Nietzsche’s Ubermensch Ideal
A comparative analysis using Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein to identify humanity’s only true attempt at becoming Nietzsche’s Ubermensch ideal, which ultimately fails.

Muhammad Tahir Shahbaz
American River College
Mentor: Kathleen O’Brien

Psychoanalyzing the Psychopath: Examining the Biopsychological Causes of Humbert Humbert's Actions in Vladimir Nabakov’s Lolita
The fluctuations of Humbert Humbert's underlying psychological sickness and analyzing how it leads to freedom for Lolita, while he gains a degree of redemption.
Sonia Bustos Barocio  
Brianne Visaya  
Los Medanos College  
Mentor: Dave Nakaji

**The Invasion of the Oxygen Snatchers Part II**  
The Effects of Wavelength Variation on Plant Growth
An investigation into the effects of varying wavelength exposure on Egeria Densa- an aquatic invasive species which depletes oxygen within California’s freshwater ecology.

Nicole Ronnie Miller  
Foothill College  
Mentor: Scott Lankford

**Turning over a NuLeaf: Creating Resource Independence from Wetlands and Microbes**
NuLeaf Technologies is a student-run startup with the goal to harness nature’s nutrient recycling and energy transfer processes to purify water and create a sustainable source of electricity.

Janah May Oclaman  
Skyline College  
Mentor: Christine Case

**A Natural Food Preservative from Black Walnut**
Black walnut extract inhibits bacterial growth, which may be useful as a natural preservative for foods.

Aldin Verkler  
Foothill College  
Mentor: Scott Lankford

**Melting Harbingers: Avoiding Climate Disaster by Understanding Glacial Feedbacks**
An analysis of accelerating melt on the Greenland ice sheet and predictive model failure due to poorly understood melt feedbacks.

Alexis d’Alencourt  
College of San Mateo  
Mentors: Michelle Mullane & Christopher Walker

**Jail Diversion Programs: Improving Outcomes for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness**
An investigation of how federal and state legislation is linked to the prevalence of individuals with serious mental illnesses among jail and prison inmates in the United States, with a specific focus upon jail diversion programs and their efficacy.

Angela Kim  
College of San Mateo  
Mentor: John Lucchesi

**Prison Architecture: A Reflection of America’s Warped Justice**
An analysis of the inextricable connection between the prison experience and prison architecture.

Jesus Garcia  
Sacramento City College  
Mentor: Paul Frank

**A Prison or a Playground?**
A comparative analysis of the prison system of Norway and the United States of America.
Room 303

Andrew Boyd  
_Cabrillo College_  
Mentors: Brian Legakis & Michael Mangin

**The Cattle of Ajax: An Examination of the Psychological Effects of Warfare in the Ancient World**

Analyzing the ancient world's views on the psychological effects of war upon soldiers.

Michael Rosenkrantz  
_Saddleback College_  
Mentor: Jennifer Hedgecock

**The Echoes of War: Understanding Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder through War Literature**

A presentation of research into the increasing veteran-civilian divide and effects of post-traumatic stress disorder through the rise of War Literature.

Talish Babaian  
_Glendale Community College_  
Mentor: Michael Harnett

**The Mind-Body Connection: Controlling Reactions to Negative Emotions**

The mind-body connection and the impact of mindfulness on health through controlling negative reactions.

Tiffany Duarte  
_Glendale Community College_  
Mentor: Michael Harnett

**Positive Effects of Exercise on Mental and Neurodegenerative Diseases**

Past studies indicate improvements in mental-health and neurodegenerative diseases after some exercise.
Room 305

Leila Schaumkel
College of San Mateo
Mentors: Timothy Maxwell & Madeleine Murphy

The Pursuit of an Education: The Female Tongans’ Struggle
Uncovering the cultural issues confronted by Tongan females attempting to excel in education and exploring the solutions available to allow them to reach their potential.

Quynh Tran
American River College
Mentors: Edward Hashima & Joshua Weiner

Silencing, Again: The Homogenization of the East Asian American & Southeast Asian American Experience
A criticism of the academic and statistical generalization of “Asian,” through a comparative examination of the distinct historical experiences and educational success of Southeast Asian-Americans (SEAA) and East Asian-Americans (EAA).

Vanessa Reynolds
MiraCosta College
Mentors: Jodi Mulhall & JP Schumacher

Increasing Access to STEM for LGBTQIA+ Students
How mentoring programs can address underrepresentation of LGBTQIA+ students in STEM.

Tien Do
Mission College
Mentor: Jeff Cormier

The Challenge of International Students
Culture Shock
Research on the growing population of international students in the United States and their struggles to acculturate.
All presenters and attendees are expected to arrive no later than 1 p.m. and stay for the entire session. Please refrain from entering the room once the session is in progress.
### Room 13

#### William Scott-Curtis
*Cabrillo College*
Mentor: Michael Mangin

**A Lacrimis Romae ad Pacem Romana: From the Tears of Rome to the Roman Peace**
How the rise of the Roman Empire highlights vulnerabilities of republicanism in nation-states of the modern era.

#### Alexis Dye
*Modesto Junior College*
Mentor: Bill Anelli

**Ask Not What You Can Do for Your Country**
The Competing Ideals of Civic Virtue
A philosophical analysis of the changing ideals of citizenship and civic virtues in the United States based on Alt-Right and left politics.

#### William Robertson
*Foothill College*
Mentor: Scott Lankford

**Machiavelli's Modest Proposal**
Revisiting *The Prince*
*The Prince* demonstrates a deep devotion to republicanism and a penchant for biting contemporary satire.

### Room 30

#### Andrea Gomez
*Crafton Hills College*
Mentor: Judy Cannon

**Viva Los Doyers: The Reclamation of America's Pastime by America’s Minorities**
An examination of the relationship between the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team and the Hispanic community of Los Angeles and Southern California.

#### Nilton Serva
*Los Medanos College*
Mentors: Euutiquio Chapa & George Serva

**Latinxs in Entrepreneurship: Understanding why Latinx startups have less diverse financing options**
A study of Bay Area Latinx startups and their sources of capital.

#### Kiara Taylor
*Los Medanos College*
Mentor: Jennifer Saito

**This Land is MY Land: Using Ethnic Grocery Stores to Study Changing Suburban Diversity**
An examination of how suburban culture is changing through the addition of diverse grocery stores.

#### Yuliya Ivanova
*MiraCosta College*
Mentor: Christopher Sleeper

**'Do You Believe in Miracles?': How the USA Hockey Victory Over Russia Transformed the Economics of Professional Hockey**
The dramatic forces of globalization on the National Hockey League following the iconic American victory at the Lake Placid Olympics in 1980.
**Meeting Workplace Demands: Why Corporate Culture is More Important than Ever for Millennials**

An analysis of the effects and importance of having good corporate culture for a business to succeed in the millennial generation.

**Building Resiliency in Upper-Class Communities**

An exploration into how high depression and suicide rates affecting adolescents in upper-class communities can be combatted by increasing resiliency and mental toughness.


Examining an increase of religious tolerance in the Millennial generation.

**Russia's Economic Advantages of Global Warming**

This presentation explores the economic benefits that Russia will gain from global warming, including access to farm land, oil and gas, and efficient shipping routes.

**China’s Emerging Global Leadership in Combating Climate Change: Hoax or Hope?**

An analysis of China’s burgeoning commitments in tackling global climate change in light of President Trump’s efforts to stifle scientific discourse and eliminate U.S. climate change policies.

**One Child Policy in China: Is it Beneficial or Detrimental to Economy?**

An examination of the economic growth in China from 1979 to 2016 and its relationship to the One Child Policy.

**Marxism, Leninism, and Stalinism: A Dissection of Ideology**

Identifying differences in ideology between the three major guiding forces of Communism and an extrapolation of these differences in the real world.
Room 205

Kaushik Sankar  
Foothill College  
Mentor: Robert Cormia

**Rise of the Robo-Driver:** “Magic Roundabouts” as a Test Case for Autonomous Driving  
Utilizing computer vision and machine learning techniques to program a robot to autonomously navigate through nested roundabouts.

Kivilcim Cumbul  
College of San Mateo  
Mentor: Alex Wong

**Haptoclones: Touchable Holograms**  
An analysis of the newest research on touchable and interactive holograms.

Alam Figueroa Aguilar  
Cabrillo College  
Mentor: Jeffrey Clarkson

**Optimization of UV Stabilization Processes**  
The optimization of UV stabilization processes for critical dry etch applications using DUV 210 positive photoresist.

Alexander Einarsson  
College of San Mateo  
Mentors: Lena Feinman & Christopher Walker

**Statistics in Hockey: Is an Aggressive Playing Style Preferable?**  
A statistical analysis of optimal playing style in ice hockey.

Room 219

Samar Al-Haqab  
Crystal Johnson  
El Camino College  
Mentor: Karla Villatoro

**The Danger of Desert Tortoises’ Not Blowing Their Noses**  
An analysis of the two antibiotics used to treat desert tortoises’ upper respiratory tract infection and the behavioral changes experienced by these tortoises.

Adrian Barrera-Velasquez  
Skyline College  
Mentor: Nick Kapp

**Red Alert: Making Bacteria Glow Red in the Presence of Carbon Monoxide**  
A study determining the practicality of using genetically engineered bacteria as an alarm mechanism for carbon monoxide.

Nicholas Wong  
College of San Mateo  
Mentor: Kathy Diamond

**The Talking Forest**  
A thorough examination of the various applications of plant communication through mycorrhizal fungus networks.
Room 303

**Erik Hammerquist**  
Sacramento City College  
Mentor: Paul Frank  

**Economic Heart of Darkness or Africa’s Saving Grace: FDI and Emigration in Post-Colonial and Non-Colonial Nations**  
The relationships between foreign direct investment (FDI), emigration rates, and their macroeconomic effects in postcolonial and non-colonial African countries.

**Vanessa Newman**  
Lindsey Tam  
MiraCosta College  
Mentor: Lynne Miller  

**Implications of Child Labor in Cote d’Ivoire Cocoa Plantations**  
This project explores cultural traditions and incentives that drive the practice of child labor on cocoa plantations in the Cote d’Ivoire region of West Africa.

**Andrea Lizalde Sanchez**  
Modesto Junior College  
Mentor: Everett Vieira III  

**Renegotiating Trade: is Energy Reform Mexico’s Wild Card?**  
A breakdown and analysis of the policies surrounding the Mexican energy reform and how it affects American politics and economics in correlation to NAFTA and international diplomacy.
Zain Peeran  
*Foothill College*  
*Mentor: Scott Lankford*

**You Were Not “Right All Along”: How Confirmation Bias Corrupts Our Views on Climate Change and Gun Control**

How confirmation bias negatively affects our responses to the issues of climate change and gun control.

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Israel Castro Cortez  
**Al-Ameen Ishola**  
*Los Medanos College*  
*Mentors: Cindy McGrath & Jennifer Saito*

**It’s a Murderer... it’s a Bigot... No, it’s a Terrorist: A Content Analysis of Media Partiality**

An examination of media bias with regard to terrorism within the three most read publications in the United States.

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Nikole Gorin  
*Skyline College*  
*Mentor: Joanne Babin*

**Media and the Art of Persuasion**  
*A Storytelling Approach*

An examination of the psychological and evolutionary impact of storytelling and a comparison to the media’s widespread use of persuasive techniques.

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Rachael Idiarte  
*Sacramento City College*  
*Mentor: Greg Rose*

**Cabernet or Counterfeit**  
*How Chinese Grapes Diluted an Industry*

An exploration of the economic impact of counterfeit wines on the consumer market.
Session III Presentations 2:30-3:45 p.m.

All presenters and attendees are expected to arrive no later than 2:30 p.m. and stay for the entire session. Please refrain from entering the room once the session is in progress.
Alex Bazaar
Citrus College
Mentor: Brian Waddington

Robert Morris: The Art of Finance Through Bold Methodology
Explains how Robert Morris saved the American Revolution and stabilized the national currency by appealing to the monetary interest of people.

Whitney Unanue
MiraCosta College
Mentor: Christopher Sleeper

Andrew Jackson Redux?: Comparing Leadership Styles of Andrew Jackson and Donald Trump
The Donald Trump presidency will leave a trail of tears and destruction that will test the limits of federal institutions, democracy and presidential power.

Curtis Wang
El Camino College
Mentor: Mark Crossman

Orientalist Rhetoric: The Dangers of Trump’s Rhetoric towards Chinese Americans
The 2016 election has legitimized Donald Trump’s anti-Chinese rhetoric, which, along with the rise of white nationalism, poses a new danger for Chinese Americans.

Margaux Hingeey
MiraCosta College
Mentor: Lynne Miller

Impact of Kin Selection and Parity on Allomothering in Angolan Colobus Monkeys
An original study exploring the influence of kin selection and the importance of learning to mother among captive Angolan colobus monkeys.

Cassidy Schneibel
MiraCosta College
Mentor: Lynne Miller

Handedness as a Manifestation of Neural Complexity in Gorillas and Guenons
The relationship between handedness and neural complexity in nonhuman primates, which is important for tracing brain development throughout human evolution.

Selen Dikici
Michael Monaco
Josephine Tjitra
Caroline Tomasik
Irvine Valley College
Mentor: Benjamin Mis

The Influence of Priming and Color on Eye Motion and Perception
An examination of the relationship between eye movement and an individual’s interpretation of ambiguous stimuli with an emphasis on the effect of priming and color.

Vaheh Shamirian
Glendale Community College
Mentor: Michael Harnett

What’s So Funny?
Exploring how the development of laughter and humor jointly encompasses human emotions and behavior, as well as provides symbolic meaning in order to illustrate a social message.
Room 202

Jane Tobias  
Cabrillo College  
Mentor: Leticia Scott-Curtis

The Panopticon Prison and Internet Monitoring: The Evolution of Surveillance and its Effects on Societal Behavior
A comparative analysis of surveillance as it exists in Jeremy Bentham’s Panopticon Prison and in our digital lives.

Carey Lai  
Foothill College  
Mentor: Eta Lin

Does Facebook Protect Us?: An exploratory Analysis of Mindset, Social Media Usage, and Self-Esteem
An investigation into the influence of one’s mindset on Facebook usage and the possible effects on self-esteem.

Susanna Zheng  
City College of San Francisco  
Mentor: Rebecca Ancheta

Personality Type and Online Dating
This research studies whether characteristics of introversion and extroversion impacts the use of online dating.

Sophia Nikravesh  
Jasleen Sahota
Foothill College  
Mentor: Kay Thornton

Make ‘Em Laugh
An exploration of the not so laughing matter of gender biases against female comedians on YouTube.

Room 203

Ji Yeun Lee  
Foothill College  
Mentors: Scott Lankford & Brian Tapia

Pills of Post-Truth: Updating Rachel Carson’s 1962 Silent Spring in an Era of Anthropogenic Climate Change
Rachel Carson’s trusted but non-partisan legacy calls for an agora in which policymakers, scientists and the public meet to discuss and combat climate change.

Alec Roa  
Skyline College  
Mentors: Lori Slicton & John Ulloa

Oklahoma: A Climate Continues to Change While a Political Climate Remains the Same
A positivist critique of Oklahoma’s deep-seated political outlook on their physical environment, and their constant struggle with belief and fact.

Nicole Ronnie Miller  
Foothill College  
Mentor: Scott Lankford

A Blackened Truth: Modern Slavery, Ecocide, and Amazonian Coal Production
The link between modern slavery and ecocide.

Alexander Jackson  
Cabrillo College  
Mentor: Nicole Crane

Ulithi: Constructive Resilience Against Climate Change in Indigenous Communities
A case-study on Pacific Island communities in Micronesia merging traditions and modern science to manage local reef ecologies.
Melanie Michel-Stuart  
San Diego Miramar College  
Mentors: Monica Hernandez & Manuel Velez

The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo  
Botiller v. Dominguez’s Significance to Documented Gender Discrimination

An analysis of Chicana resistance to the American legal system, economic violence, and political exclusion using the recovery of Chicana figures in history.

Kathleen Persinger  
Saddleback College  
Mentor: Margot Lovett

The Red Lanterns: On the Girls and Young Women Who Did “Not Fear Dirty Things”

This research focuses on the actions of the women’s group the Red Lanterns during the Boxer Rebellion, and how their image was used during China’s Cultural Revolution, as well as in American cinema.

Jennifer Snow  
Sacramento City College  
Mentor: Pamela Lindell

Gender Expression as an Influence of Cultural Progression and Change

An investigation of the effects of gender expression on culture as an influence of change.

Nirinjan Khalsa  
Pasadena City College  
Mentor: Shane Underwood

Uncaptured Youths: Addressing the Data Collecting Methods of Juvenile Recidivism Studies

A philosophical hermeneutic perspective on the researchers’ methods for data collecting within juvenile recidivism studies in Los Angeles County.

Anthony Rodriguez  
Modesto Junior College  
Mentor: Ginger Charles

Code of Silence: The Dangerous Culture of Secrecy in Law Enforcement

Examining the socio-psychological factors that enable the code-of-silence within law enforcement agencies and their consequences.

Scarlett Wilson  
College of San Mateo  
Mentor: Madeleine Murphy

Applying Mertonian Deviance Theory to Oakland Police Department Reform

Using the Oakland Police Department as a case study to understand police deviance through a sociological lens and to identify effective reform measures.
Room 303

Daryl Jones
College of San Mateo
Mentor: David Laderman

**Walter Hill: Auteur and Ally**
Analyzing portrayals of African Americans in Walter Hill’s films.

Jared Rosander
Foothill College
Mentors: Robert Hartwell & Scott Lankford

**Lights, Camera, Psychology: A Juxtaposition of Color Theory and Narrative Transportation in Wes Anderson Filmography**
Understanding the allure of Wes Anderson's filmography through color theory and narrative transportation.

Justina Sharp
American River College
Mentor: Michaela Cooper

**Being a Black Woman, As Written, Directed and Produced by Tyler Perry**
Through his films and the social mechanism of black exceptionalism, Tyler Perry creates, controls and profits from content that is rooted in damaging stereotypes about black women.

Sanghui Han
Foothill College
Mentors: Scott Lankford & John Wolf

**The Reincarnation of Plastic Bags in California: A Project to Transform Garbage Bags into the Coral Reef Art**
The transformation of plastic bags collected in the Bay Area into art representing the forms of various coral reefs.
Quynh Tran  
American River College  
Mentor: Shahla Mokhtarzada

Monopoly on Knowledge: Examining the Privatization of Research
Evaluating the patenting and privatization of research by the publication oligarchy and comparing its effects on the dissemination of research and the autonomy of researchers to those of open-access publishing.

Hwajung Sung  
College of San Mateo  
Mentors: David Laderman & Madeleine Murphy

Prenatal Stress and Fetal Development
Navigating how prenatal stress affects fetal development and infant health.

Johnathan Acosta  
Glendale Community College  
Mentor: Michael Harnett

Society’s Role in Slowing the Spread of Diseases: Preventing Sexually Transmitted Diseases through Mindset Shift
An investigation into the prevention of STDs in minority communities, changing cultural stigmas about the topic of sex, and ways to inform the communities about these diseases.
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