

Relationship between Aggressive Driving and Various Types of Music

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This research study focused on the relationship between aggressive driving and various types of music to see what factors – i.e. age, consumption of alcohol, and genre of music – affect the individual while driving. Recent studies have suggested that different genres of music can affect one's driving. Among articles that have been read, studies agree that age, consumption of alcohol, and genre of music affect an individual's driving. Recent studies have indicated that different genres of music can affect one's driving aggressiveness along with other, more established factors such as alcohol consumption and age. Our hypothesis #1 (control): There is no relationship between aggressiveness due to age, consumption of alcohol, and the genre of music. Hypothesis #2: There is an increase in aggressiveness while driving due to the music listened to while driving. Consequently, the researchers are hypothesizing that aggressive driving is related to type of music listened to by the driver.

The survey will include over 100 students, faculty, and staff from Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana. Each participant was asked to fill out a questionnaire which asked their age, gender, and alcohol consumption. Then they were asked to fill out five surveys after they listened to a particular genre of music. Students, faculty, and staff who participated in this study were given a verbal explanation regarding the purpose of the study and were assured that confidentiality would be carried out throughout this process. The music that was the focus of this study is rap, rock, and heavy metal.

Information about the Authors:

Karen Davidson, a junior social work major, is currently interning at Opportunity Enterprises and would like to become a school social worker. Her future goals include attending graduate school to receive her MSW. Karen became interested in this topic because she has always wanted to know if there is a correlation between aggressive driving and listening to various types of music while driving. Ora Whitehead, a senior social work major, is currently interning at Porter County PACT-Home Detention Program. She would like to work in a correctional facility setting with juvenile offenders/delinquents. She will be attending graduate school this upcoming fall to earn her MSW, and in the future she would like to earn her LCSW, LMHC, and LCAC. Ora became interested in the topic by having first-hand experience with how music affects one's driving.

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