

Cox, C. (2000). *The influence of preference for novelty and gender on intelligence: investigation*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Auburn University, Alabama.

DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to further investigate the link between preference for novelty and intelligence. The results of numerous studies have demonstrated that preference for novelty in infants has a positive correlation with intelligence scores in childhood and adolescence. A total sample of 86 children in grades 5 - 8 were employed in this investigation and a causal-comparative design was used to analyze the data.

For this study, two independent variables and two dependent were identified. The independent variables were cognitive percent of novelty preference and gender. The Vocabulary IQ and the Matrices IQ from the Kaufman - Brief Intelligence Test were the two dependent variables. Based on the scores from Visual Smiles Test, the children were assigned to high-low groups based on their percent of cognitive preference for novelty.

The results from the MANOVA demonstrated no main effect of cognitive novelty preference or gender on IQ. However, a significant interaction was found between cognitive novelty preference and gender on intelligence. These results indicate that phenomenon of preference for novelty continues to have positive relationship with intelligence in childhood. This link has been previously established in the infant literature continued research in this area may lead to the development of alternatives for the prediction and assessment of intelligence in children at risk for later learning problems.