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Independent Study & Mentorship

Speice 2A

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Drug Abuse Survey

Weekly Report 1/2 to 1/8

During this week, I finalized and submitted a drug abuse survey that was directed towards discovering the accessibility of drugs in cities within North Texas and gathering people's experience and opinions on different aspects of drug abuse. Not only has this survey led my original work, it has also intrigued me of how different age groups understand drug abuse in different ways. While it has taken some time, it is definitely interesting seeing the results of the questions, specifically the short answer question of what the participant's personal definition of drug abuse is. While some answered the question with "abusing drugs" or "it's bad," other responses encouraged me to evaluate my original work and how I want to use the information I have received from this survey. For example, one person responded that "drug abuse is when a person uses drugs in excessive amounts and gets to the point where they are no longer in control of their addiction," which is an uncommon way of defining drug abuse and makes me wonder about what others think about this response.

Of my 205 participants so far, one response that intrigued me is how 85.9% of respondents did not realize that not finishing a prescribed medication is a form of drug abuse. I hope to evaluate this information- as well as the rest of my questions to discover the best way to organize my findings in my presentation at the research showcase.