

PSYCHINQUIRY: PSYCHOLOGY'S METHODS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Fill in the answers and your results for the activities you've completed in this unit.

***Distinguishing Between Correlational and Experimental Research***

Use this table to record the results of the simulated experiment in this activity.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Years married</b>	<b>Baldness rating</b>
Skip	1	
Sal	10	
Deiter	7	
Sammy	14	
Mike	15	
Ronald	0	
Ted	20	
Bruce	8	
Lester	18	
Cal	3	
Saul	27	
Louis	7	

Place a check next to the variables below that are positively correlated.

- Strength of Russian accent and length of time in the United States
- Level of education and number of children
- Level of education and number of books in the home
- Women's ages and length of hair
- Blood alcohol level and score on driving skill test
- Anxiety level and number of cups of coffee consumed

How would you redesign the insomnia experiment in this activity?

Since what we always want to know is WHY things happen - we always want explanations - then why do you think anyone bothers with correlational studies? Why doesn't everyone just go ahead and do experiments?

### ***Operational Definitions***

State a plausible hypothesis of the relationship between watching violent TV shows and aggressive behavior.

Which is the variable being measured in an experiment—the outcome of the experiment?

- Dependent variable
- Independent variable

What was your operational definition for the dependent variable in the violent TV shows/ aggressive behavior experiment?

### ***Demonstrate Effects of Expectation***

Would the following suggestions help control for the effects of expectation? Fill in the table below.

<b>Would these suggestions be helpful in controlling for expectancy effects?</b>	<b>Helpful</b>	<b>Not Helpful</b>
Divide the participants into two groups (an experimental group and a control group ) at random.		
Ask participants to volunteer to be in the experimental group or the control group.		
Inject the new pain medication into all participants.		
Inject the new pain medication into participants in the experimental group and give the control group aspirin tablets.		
Inject the new pain medication into participants in the experimental group, and inject a saline solution into participants in the control group.		
So that there is no confusion, inform participants as to whether they are in the experimental group or the control group.		

According to Dr. David Spiegel, how might expectancy effects play a role in cancer recovery?