Correlation study

An investigation was carried out to see if there is a correlation between mathematical ability and self-esteem. Ninety pupils sat a mathematical test which was scored out of 100. They then completed a self-esteem questionnaire. Self-esteem was rated between 10 and 100 (a high score equalled high self-esteem). A Spearman’s rank order correlation coefficient of +0.87 was found.

An Educational Psychologist warned the investigator that self-esteem research involving children may produce the ethical issues of lack of informed consent and the failure to protect participants from psychological harm.

(PY3, Jan, 2011)

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