

- **Project Title:** Effects of Hue & Artificial Light Sources on Visual Contrast by the Aging Eye

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**Project Summary:**

The study examined the effects of two commonly used light sources, within 4 hue ranges and three levels of saturation on visual contrast for the older subjects with normal vision. Experiment: Sixty elderly subjects (65- 90years) participated in the experiment during summer '07. Individuals were assigned to either incandescent lighting or fluorescent lighting condition, and were presented individually with the twelve color pallets—Red, Green, Blue and Purple in each of the saturation levels (low, medium, and high). Subjects rated each of the hue's clarity using a seven point Likert scale as presented in an impression scale. Results: Regardless of the hue, the elderly rated the high saturation colors as most acceptable with regard to contrast/clarity.

However, within each saturation levels, results varied. In high saturation, the blues received the highest rating followed by green. When hues were presented in low saturation, purple and red received high acceptability while blue received the lowest rating. This study clearly indicates that the color discrimination is affected negatively mainly in the lower saturation and not in the higher saturation. Implications: Practitioners can consider the results of this study and help them make informed decisions about appropriate color specifications for elderly clients in interior environments such as health care, nursing homes, adult daycare and retirement homes. The findings of this study will enable elderly negotiate the interior environments and make visually informed choices about objects and scenes in the environment with confidence.

**Publication:**

Noble, D. N. and Ausbrooks, A. (2008). Social work with children and their families. In D. M DiNitto & C. A. McNeece (Eds.), C. A., Social Work: Issues and Opportunities in a Challenging Profession (pp.239-260). Chicago: Lyceum.

**Presentations:**

1.) North American Association of Christians in Social Work, Orlando, FL, February 7-10, 2008. "An Exploration of Resilience in Child Protective

Services Supervisors: "Why They Stay."

**2.)** Council on Social Work Education, San Francisco, CA, October 27-30, 2007. "About Africa: Preparing the Next Generation of Global Educators." (with K. Brown, and C. Hawkins)

**3.)** Council on Social Work Education, San Francisco, CA, October 27-30, 2007. "Child Welfare Supervisor Retention: An Exploratory Study of Personal and Organizational Resilience."

**4.)** Council on Social Work Education, San Francisco, CA, October 27-30, 2007. "Cultural Climate of an MSW Program." (with S. Jones)

**5.)** Family Preservation Institute, San Antonio, TX, September 5-7, 2007. "Child Welfare Supervisor Retention: An Exploratory Study of Personal and Organizational Resilience."

**6.)** Family Preservation Institute, San Antonio, TX, September 5-7, 2007. "Spiritually Effective Practice: Caring for Families and for Ourselves." (with C. Hawkins)

**7.)** West Coast Child Welfare Trainers Conference, Albuquerque, NM, August 14-16, 2006. "Establishing and Maintaining Successful Title IV-E Partnerships." (with R. Smith)

**8.)** Baccalaureate Program Directors Conference, Austin, TX, November 3-6, 2005. "The Cultural Diversity Initiative." (with, D. Freeman and S. Hill-Jones)

**9.)** National Family Preservation Conference, San Antonio, TX, September 7-9, 2005. "Surviving Graduate School While Working Full-Time." (with R. Smith)

**10.)** International Association of Caribbean Social Workers Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, August 7-9, 2005. "Harnessing the Power of Partnerships and Using the Tools of Technology to Educate Social Workers for Excellence in Practice in an Era of Global Transformation." (with K. Brown)

**11.)** The University of Oklahoma School of Social Work Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program's First National Conference, Santa Fe, New Mexico, July 12-15, 2004. "Building and Maintaining Successful University Partnerships."

**12.)** New Century Child Welfare and Family Support National Conference, Snowbird, Utah, September 16-19, 2000. Child Welfare and University Partnerships. (with R. Smith and V. Yates).

**Student number:** 30