

Method

Commented [PC1]: The methods section should begin on a new page immediately following the introduction.

Participants

Commented [PC2]: Describes the participants in study (e.g., how many you wish to have, where you plan to get them). Get creative! Imagine you have all the money/resources you can ask for.

Participants in this study included 75 Loyola University New Orleans students. Participants included 41 females and 34 males between the ages of 18 and 23. All participants in this study were volunteers. Some participants were recruited from the Psychology Human Participants Pool by signing up on a sheet posted on the psychology board and by convenience sampling.

Materials

Commented [PC3]: Describes the measures or equipment that you plan to use in your study. (e.g., questionnaires, government data, etc.). If possible, try to find a questionnaire online that is suitable for your study. You could also create a questionnaire or simply say, "a 10-item questionnaire will assess self-esteem."

Informed consent forms were used containing information about procedures, benefits and risks of participating, an explanation how to acquire the results of the research, availability of counseling services, voluntary participation, and contact information of the researchers. The purpose of the study was also on the consent form. Additional materials included a self-compiled survey. The survey included six demographic questions. The survey also included a section in which the participant was asked to list how many piercings and tattoos they has and where they were on their body. Earlobe piercings were excluded. A personality survey was also included to see if there were significant differences between those with body modification and those without. This survey was administered using agreement scales assessing the Big Five components of personality (i.e., Openness, Conscientiousness, Extraversion, Agreeableness, Neuroticism).

Design

Commented [PC4]: Describes the type of study you choose to do (e.g., experiment, survey, qualitative study); IVs, DVs, and controls are explained

The research design of this study was correlational as it studied the association between the presence of body modifications and personality. The independent variable in this study was

personality, which is expected to predict the dependent variable *body modification*, which could range from no body modification to more than five body modifications.

Procedure

As participants arrived at the psychology lab they were asked to have a seat and sign two informed consent forms. One was to be turned into the researcher and one was to be kept for the participant. After obtaining informed consent, the researcher gave each participant a survey packet and informed them that they may cease participation at any time. The researcher then asked the participants to please read the directions carefully and fill out both the demographic and body modification sections of the survey to the best of their ability. After the surveys were completed and turned in the researchers debriefed the participants and told them that the study was actually looking for a correlation between personality and body modification. The participants were then asked if they had any questions and thanked for their cooperation.

Commented [PC5]: Brief description of the step-by-step procedure on how to plan to gather data.

Expected Results

As hypothesized, it is expected that there will be a strong positive correlation between scores on Openness (i.e., open to new, creative, and novel situations) and Extraversion (i.e., outgoing and social behavior) and the number of body modifications. Furthermore, it is expected that there would be little to know correlation between the other components of personality (i.e., Conscientiousness, Agreeableness, and Neuroticism) and the number of body modifications.

Commented [PC6]: Explains what results you expect to get from your specific research design.

The expected results section should start on a new page and be formatted like this. The references page should follow (on a new page as well).