



INTRODUCTION

- Although the importance of including cultural factors in behavioral assessment and behavioral therapy have been addressed in past literature (Tanaka-Matsumi & Higginbotham, 1996), few studies have focused on the topic of cultural differences in behavioral treatment.
- We reviewed all recent published articles (i.e., published from 2004-2008) in the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (JABA) to find if cultural differences in behavior assessment and treatment have been addressed.

PURPOSE

- 1) To review how often the impact of culture in treatment was addressed, 2) the percentage of participants in these articles who are a part of an ethnic minority group, and 3) if the treatment outcome in minority populations differed.

METHOD

- Articles were chosen based on a specific inclusionary criteria. A) articles were only from the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis using the PsycInfo database from the years 2004-2008, b) all participants had to be between the ages of birth to 12 years old, c) there could not be any adult-child dyads used as participants, and d) no review articles.

PARTICIPANTS

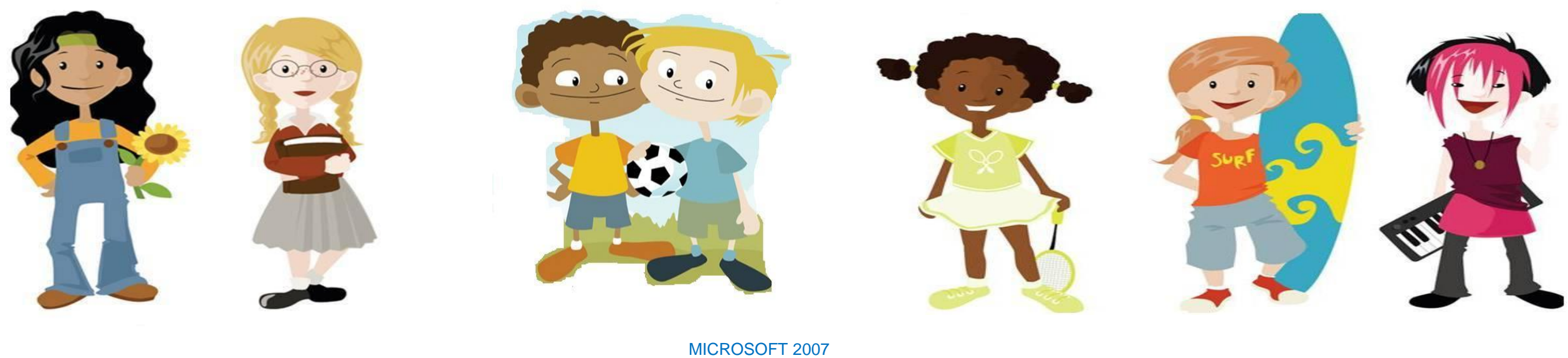
Assessment

Treatment/Intervention

| Gender | |
|---------------|-----|
| Males | 125 |
| Females | 79 |
| Not specified | 76 |
| Ethnicity | |
| Caucasian | 2 |
| Asian | 1 |
| Not specified | 277 |
| Age | |
| 0-2 years | 10 |
| 3-5 years | 141 |
| 6-8 years | 72 |
| 9-11 years | 24 |
| 12 years | 11 |
| Not specified | 60 |

| Gender | |
|---------------|-----|
| Males | 129 |
| Females | 47 |
| Ethnicity | |
| Caucasian | 2 |
| Hispanic | 7 |
| Kurdish | 1 |
| Biracial | 1 |
| Not specified | 165 |
| Age | |
| 0-2 years | 14 |
| 3-5 years | 44 |
| 6-8 years | 27 |
| 9-11 years | 31 |
| 12 years | 5 |
| Not specified | 49 |

RESULTS



CULTURE IN BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT

| Year | Articles Reviewed | Number of Participants | Number of non-Caucasian Participants | Was the influence of culture or ethnicity mentioned? | Was the outcome successful? |
|------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 2008 | 12 | 63 | 0 | N/A | N/A |
| 2007 | 15 | 81 | 0 | N/A | N/A |
| 2006 | 10 | 78 | 0 | N/A | N/A |
| 2005 | 11 | 47 | 0 | N/A | N/A |
| 2004 | 9 | 40 | 0 | N/A | N/A |

CULTURE IN BEHAVIORAL TREATMENT/INTERVENTION

| Year | Articles Reviewed | Number of Participants | Number of non-Caucasian Participants | Was the influence of culture or ethnicity mentioned? | Was the outcome successful? |
|-------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 2008 | 5 | 16 | 1 | N/A | N/A |
| 2007 | 11 | 31 | 1 | N/A | N/A |
| *2006 | 13 | 29 | 3 | YES | YES |
| 2005 | 9 | 17 | 0 | N/A | N/A |
| 2004 | 17 | 78 | 0 | N/A | N/A |

PROCEDURE

- Based on the inclusionary criteria, 112 articles were reviewed using PsycInfo from the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis.
- The articles were found using keywords “assessment,” “treatment,” and “intervention.” “Treatment” and “intervention” were used synonymously and were added into the same excel sheet.
- Articles were added into an excel sheet under “treatment/intervention” and/or “assessment” and each article was reviewed so the articles contents could be broken down into specific categories (see tables).

CONCLUSIONS

- There were a paucity of articles in the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis during the years of 2004-2008 that mentioned culture or ethnicity.
- Out of the 112 articles that were reviewed, only six articles mentioned the ethnicity of the participants, and five out of the 14 participants, mentioned, were minorities.
- When culture was addressed in the reviewed articles, only one article (*Daly et al., 2006) stated whether or not treatment was affected due to the ethnicity of the participant.

LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH

- Only the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis was used for the review, future research should include more journals in the field of applied behavior analysis (ABA).
- There was only one age group that was included in the review, next time we will use various age groups and compare them.

REFERENCES

- *Daly, E. J. III, Bonfiglio, C. M., Mattson, T., Persampieri, M. & Foreman-Ya, K. (2006). Refining the experimental analysis of academic skills deficits: Part II. use of brief experimental analysis to evaluate reading fluency treatments. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 39, 323-331.
- Tanaka-Matsumi, J. & Higginbotham, N.H. (1996). Behavioral Approaches to Cross-Cultural Counseling. In P.B. Pendersen, J.G. Draguns, W.J. Lonner, & J.E. Trimble (Eds.) *Counseling Across Cultures*, 4th Ed. (pp.266-292). Newbury Park, CA: Sage.