

MSU AGEP Discusses If Children Who Get More Love Make For Better Adults

EAST LANSING, Michigan, November 1, 2012 - The November AGEP Community meeting showcased Ashley Hannah and Jacqueline Koonce as CrossTalk presenters. Ms. Hannah is a graduate student in Neuroscience and her presentation was titled, "Mild Cognitive Impairment: Neuropsychiatric symptom effects on disease progression". Ms. Hannah discussed method development in order to investigate early detection of dementia and Alzheimer's. Ms. Koonce is a graduate student in Curriculum, Instruction & Teacher Education, and her presentation was titled, "'Oh, Those Loud Black Girls!': A Phenomenological Study of Black Girls Talking with an Attitude". Ms. Koonce's presentation included slides filled with transcripts from her research of young black girls discussing issues/topics in the school setting, and illustrating the emphasis given to specific words or parts of words.

Our Science in the News segment was presented by Elijah Lowe and based on the article, "Impact of Adversity On Early Life Development Demonstrated". This topic referred to how the environment influences DNA and interactions through a process called methylation, which changes gene confirmation. One study discussed mice whose mothers showed more love when they were pups. The mice with more loving environments had more expression in the hippocampus. This study suggested if this science could be applied to humans, receiving more love as a child could genetically produce a 'better' person.

For more information about the MSU AGEP Community, contact Steven Thomas (deshawn@msu.edu) at 517-353-3220.

