The effect of heat on aggression

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Weather is one of the major factors that affect human behavior. The researchers and social commentators agreed upon the linkage between human behavior and weather. They specifically focus on hot temperature as according to the high temperature would facilitate aggression leading towards violence. The hypothesis, temperature aggression comprises of the theories that how uncomfortable temperature affects human behavior while heat hypothesis specifically referred to as how hot temperature affects one’s behavior. It is also a general perception that hot temperature tends to increase anger and violence while cold temperature exhibits the opposite effects (Anderson & Bushman 2002).

**Hypothesis: Heat will increase aggression**

How heat affects human behavior, and does it intensify aggression and violence in the people living in hot regions? The hypothesis recommends that any exposure of humans to hot weather should have a negative effect on their behavior like an intensification of aggression. Intensification in aggression leads to serious consequences like an increase in crime rate and violence. Another theory claims that during the summer season, there is an increase in crime rates. This is due to the fact that the hot temperature makes people uncomfortable and they tend to fight with others easily. Feelings of resentment and hatred towards other people will eventually increase aggression as well (Bushman 1995). In another theory, it is suggested that although the assault rates are high during summer there is no evidence that hot temperature is the real culprit. Besides, the negative effects of the heat will contribute to reducing the amount of aggression and its intensity. This case is specifically true when the temperature is extreme. During an extreme heatwave or extreme cold temperature, the human body is unable to perform thus the question that temperature affects behavior should be reframed accordingly (Anderson, 1989).

**Independent variable: Heat**

In the topic “the effect of heat on aggression," heat is the independent variable as heat is not dependent upon aggression. It is totally reliant on the climate of the region, more specifically the temperature.

**Dependent variable: Aggression**

In this topic the dependent variable is aggression. Aggression depends upon the behavior of human being which is affected by the hot temperature. Aggression also influences the final outcome of one’s behavior.

References

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