Outline:

Introduction
Why study?
Research Objectives
Proposed Methods and Analysis

“How come it was more fun when you were a kid?”

(Louv, 2005)
Introduction

2005: Book “Last Child in the Woods” published


2008: No Child Left Inside Coalition endorsed by over 60 organizations

2009: Federal Bill “No Child Left Inside Act” proposed


What Is Nature Deficit Disorder?

Definition: A way to describe children who are spending less time outdoors which is resulting in a wide range of behavioral problems.

Symptoms:
Parental Fears
Restricted Access to natural areas
Increases in ADHD and obesity

What does the future hold?

Health Concerns:
Lifespan
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
Continued Increases in Obesity

http://www.drpinna.com
What does the future hold?

Careers
Why did you choose this field?
Where are future workers going to come from?
If no one cares about nature, why keep wildlands and parks?

Research Objectives
How do children spend their time and what are the reason(s) children don't spend more time outside?
Research Objectives

What types of outdoor activities do children engage in?

Structured VS. Unstructured

Research Objectives

To what extent are children engaged in outdoor related organizations and how does this involvement vary by age and gender?

Research Objectives

Where do children play outdoors and how satisfied are caretakers with the places available for the children to play?

http://www.electricscotland.com
Methods

Survey Design
Random Digit Dial (RDD)
Survey Dates: July 2, 2009 through August 6, 2009
1,137 interviews with 244 responses for children (age 5-17)

Sample of Survey Questions Asked

General Demographic Information
Types of outdoor activities that the child has participated:
  - Team Sports
  - Individual Sports
  - Active Outdoor activities such as: Rowing, Hiking, Biking
  - Passive Outdoor activities: Bird watching, wildflower ID

Where does this person play the most often?

Why doesn't this person spend more time outside?

Sample of Survey Questions Asked

How many hours a day does this person:
  - Watch television
  - Spend on a computer
  - Play electronic games

How many hours a day does this person spend outdoors?

How many hours a day would you like to see them spend in outdoor play?
Statistics
Tests run:
Simple difference of means (t-test)
Chi-squared
Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS version 19)

Conclusion
As a society, if we continue allowing children to suffer from nature deprivation future generations will not appreciate nature and all it has to offer. Hence, future generations will not see it’s importance nor a reason for preserving it.

Works Sited
• [Camp fire] [Photograph]. (n.d.) Retrieved from http://www.alohafoundation.org/aloha-hive/activities
Acknowledgements:

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Questions?