

Social Psychology

Halloween Optional Activity

'Parapsychology & Group Influence'

Have you ever felt someone was 'watching you'? Have the hairs on your neck or arms stood up for no reason? Have you actually ever seen a 'ghost'? ☺ Well thousands of people around the world either currently believe in or have claimed to have seen an apparent 'ghost'. Then there are others who are skeptics and argue against the belief. In Psychology, there is actually a term for this: parapsychology.

Parapsychology is the study of ostensibly paranormal psychological phenomena. Phenomena studied include extra-sensory perception, psychokinesis, and survival of consciousness after death; parapsychologists call these phenomena *psi*, a neutral term non-suggestive of what causes the phenomena or experiences.

The interesting thing about 'haunted' places, is that once someone has claimed to have seen something, more and more people come forward and admit they too have seen something. So, do they actually see 'ghosts' or is it merely a social phenomenon? Does someone admitting to seeing it cause an acceptance amongst others? Does it influence their actions and then responses? Using the key concepts from Unit 14 on Social Thinking, Social Influence, Group Behaviour, Conformity, & Obedience, you are to complete the following task.

Activity:

You must use the ideas of social influence & conformity and 'convince' someone of something not expected. As it is Halloween, you may want to use something from the 'paranormal psychology' lesson we did or you can convince them of something non-Halloween related (ie: you have a 6th toe). After you have tried to 'influence' them with your idea, you must tell me about it using key terms from Unit 14 and how you used them. You must include at least FOUR terms from the unit so far in your 1-2 page written report on your activity.

- You will be marked on:
 - Understanding of Social Psychology terms/concepts
 - Ability to identify the concepts in the activity and how they were used in practice during your activity
 - Overall effort of written submission

/20 Marks



EMERGING Initial understanding of the concepts and competencies in relation to the expected learning.	DEVELOPING Partial understanding of the concepts and competencies in relation to the expected learning.	PROFICIENT Complete understanding of the concepts and competencies in relation to the expected learning.	EXTENDING Sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies in relation to the expected learning.
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C⁻ Minimally acceptable performance	C Satisfactory performance	C⁺ Good performance	B Very good performance	A Excellent performance
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In Progress or Incomplete

Social Psychology: Halloween Activity

'Burnaby/Vancouver's Most Haunted...'

In Burnaby and Vancouver, some of the 'most haunted' places include:

- The present location of the Burnaby Art Gallery was the mansion Fairacres built by a tycoon Henry Ceperley in 1909. There are sightings of a woman dressed in an old fashioned white gown who strolls the halls and walks through walls. There is also the figure of a man in old fashioned clothing who stands at the top of the main staircase. These two ghosts are believed to be Henry and Grace Ceperley. Pictures appear to move off the walls and children's faces can be seen looking out of the third floor windows. Other weird stuff...

- Mysterious voices, screams and laughter
- Footsteps heard in empty hallways and stairwells
- Lights and electrical appliances turning on and off
- Doors that lock, unlock, open and close
- Padlocks on doors that rattle violently when staff pass by
- Thuds coming from within the walls and ceiling
- Paintings leaping from their place on the wall to the floor, occasionally striking gallery patrons
- Tools in the basement workshop disappearing and reappearing in different places
- Kitchen utensils which have moved on their own accord in front of several witnesses
- Electrical interference with audio and video equipment during town meetings
- Outdoor sprinklers turning on and off by themselves



- Shadbolt Centre for the Performing Arts, which is next door to the Burnaby Art Gallery, there was a girl actress who drowned in the nearby lake. It is believed that her ghost rearranges furniture and props. Doors seem to open for no apparent reason. One time, there was a girl dancing on stage and the lights went out when a song about spirits was performed. Once the song stopped, the power went on again. This same performer saw the ghost of the girl actress in the back room of the theatre.
- In the same area of Burnaby, a grandfather clock at the Hart House restaurant seems to chime at very odd times.
- In Burnaby's Central Park, ghosts have been seen around the lake, forest and stadium. Apparently a ghost is seen walking in the forest. People have reported seeing an apparition of little boy playing around the lake in the evening. He then disappears. In the stadium, a woman calling out in an undistinguishable language can be heard. It is believed this woman lost her kids in the park in the 1930s.
- Apparitions that look like nuns can be seen at Gilmore School during the nighttime.
- A phantom jogger seems to disappear and reappear in Confederation Park.

- The ghost of a little boy is sometimes seen running around the gravestones at the Masonic Cemetery.
- The history of Deadman's Island, today a small naval base just off Stanley Park, is almost too gothic to be believed. Once a pest-house for smallpox victims, it was also the city's first graveyard. Nobody has any idea how many people have been buried there. The sound of chains being dragged around the island late at night is often heard.
- Old Spaghetti Factory in Gastown
With no fewer than four resident ghosts, the Old Spaghetti Factory in Gastown is a hotbed of paranormal activity. The restaurant's various apparitions include a street-car conductor, a talkative girl holding a balloon, a young boy (who is apparently called Edward) and a mischievous red-headed fellow known as "little red man." The building was constructed in 1912 by W.H. Malkin as the warehouse for his grocery company. The enterprising Mr. Malkin was also the city's mayor for a time.
- West 16th Avenue from Point Grey to UBC
One of the city's most enduring ghost tales is that of the mysterious female hitchhiker who haunts West 16th Avenue, out towards UBC. The long stretch of road through Pacific Spirit Regional Park can seem remote, it's dark at night and surrounded by forest. Coming across a lonely young woman hitchhiking on the side of the road might seem odd. It will seem even more odd when she climbs into the back of your car without saying a word, gives you a piece of paper with the UBC library address on it, and then promptly disappears into thin air.
- Vancouver Public Library
The most modern building on our list, the Vancouver Public Library Central Branch at Library Square opened its doors in 1995. However, apparently 20 years is long enough to acquire a resident ghost. Rumour has it that a man with long grey hair can be found on the fourth floor, crouching down between the aisles, seemingly picking through a pile of books on the floor. If you happen upon him and ask him if he needs help, it's said that he'll lie down on top of the books, then both man and books will promptly melt into the floor
- New Westminster Secondary School
In the early 1970s, a boy drowned in the pool located in the basement. Security guards have reported seeing a young boy floating around in the water. A man shooting bows and arrows has also been seen in the basement, where an archery range was also located. Another student died in the woodworking shop in the late 1980s and security cameras have caught images of a boy walking around in the room.

- **Fairmont Hotel Vancouver**
First opened in 1939, the hotel is haunted by the "Lady in Red," according to reports from guests and staff. The woman haunts the 14th floor where she likes to glide through the hallways. Some say the elegantly dressed woman is the ghost of Jennie Pearl Cox, a Vancouver socialite. A Japanese family once called the front desk asking if the room on the 14th floor had been double-booked because they were greeted by the woman in their room.
- **Vogue Theatre, Vancouver**
Built in 1941, the theater was used for concerts and plays. It also houses two ghosts who sometimes like to spook guests. The first spirit is of a dark-haired man who likes to hang out by the catwalk and main stage. Another man has been seen wearing a black tuxedo and a black bow tie, he is said to appear nonchalantly in the seating area near the front stage. Both ghosts have been spotted in the audience by performers.
- **Waterfront Station, Vancouver**
Waterfront Station is considered to be "the most haunted building in Vancouver." The busy transit hub is home to many ghosts and paranormal activities. A security guard claims to have seen the apparition of a woman dancing by herself from the 1920s. Another guard came face to face with a shining white ghost who reached out towards him. In addition, others have seen spirits of three little old ladies sitting on a bench. Random furniture has also been seen moving.
- **Hycroft Manor, Vancouver**
There have been countless reports of ghost encounters over the years at the Hycroft Manor. The 20,000 sq.-ft. mansion is located in upscale Shaughnessy. Seven ghosts are known to roam the 30-room structure. Staff say three ghosts known as "The Pranksters" are responsible for lights flickering and doors mysteriously closing. Apparitions of a WWI veteran and a woman in a nurse's uniform have been reported. Spirits of a well-dressed lady and a sobbing man have been heard on the main floor.
- **The Orpheum Theatre**
The Orpheum Theatre was built in Vancouver in 1927, and has been a main stay for actors and actresses showing their talents ever since. One of these is that the presence of a spirit has been seen many times over the years. It is said that during one performance, the acrobat fell to his death and has been wandering the theatre since.

Remember.... Social Thinking & Social Influence are powerful tools... and so is the power of the situation. ☺