**Introduction**

Research Question: How are uniforms correlated to the academic performance of adolescents in the United States?

Although many adolescents appear to be against wearing uniforms, there are a lot of positive aspects to it. Studies show that uniforms lower the rates of bullying which promotes attendance. Students are also less distracted and are able to focus much more in class. Schools that require uniforms are the schools that are academically flourishing.

**Methods**

In order to explore how uniforms affect schools, we will:
- Explain reasoning and importance of the effects of uniforms on schools in the Introduction section.
- Search for reliable sources that analyze the effects of uniforms on schools.
- Collect data on the effects of uniforms on schools.
- Place the data tables, displaying what we found, on a poster board.
- Summarize the main findings of the research, adding them to the Findings section on the poster board.
- Discuss findings with group and add final thoughts to the poster board.

**Discussion**

**Pros of Uniforms**
- Prevents the formation of gangs in school.
- Prevents peer pressure on having new clothes.
- Helps identify intruders from students.
- Erases economic and social barriers between students.
- Increases school pride and attendance.

**Cons of Uniforms**
- Violates the right to express oneself.
- Doesn’t fully end school violence.
- Makes students targets for non-uniform school students.
- Serves as a financial burden on economically unstable families.
- Difficult to enforce in public schools.

**Conclusion**

After researching the impact of uniforms upon learning institutions, we found that uniforms do positively affect students. Some of the ways that students are positively affected by uniforms are in the number of students that attend school regularly and the reduction of cases of bullying between students. We also found that uniforms alone do not directly affect academic performance of students, but we believe that they do indirectly cause a positive effect on the overall experience for most students in school.

**Findings**

- Virginia Draa, an assistant professor at Youngstown State University, found that schools with uniforms had improved attendance, higher graduation rates, and lower suspension rates.
- Elisabetta Gentile and Scott A. Imberman of Houston University found that middle and high schools adopting uniforms experienced a rise in attendance and a cease in the rise of disciplinary infractions.
- Gentile and Imberman also found that the improvements observed after the adoption of uniforms remained steady as the time after the adoption increased.
- The statistical results of the study showed that the uniforms, while showing no significant academic improvement, caused a significant rise in attendance and a decrease in disciplinary infractions.

**References**

Draa, V. (2005). Results, Conclusions and Implications. In School uniforms in urban public high schools (pp. 155-191). Youngstown: School of Graduate Studies and Research, Youngstown State University.

