

Speech/Language Impairments and Levels of Social Anxiety

Student McStudent

CUNY York College

Author Note

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PART ONE (Introduction Section) OUTLINE**Paragraph One (at least 2 citations):** Paper Overview

- A. Statistic:** Stuttering is a speech impairment that is found to occur in approximately....(Author F, 20XX).
- B. Introduce topics and literature gap:** Previous work has investigated the risk of developing anxiety and depression in children with speech/language impairments and other disabilities (Author E, 20XX), but has not specifically focused on social anxiety levels in participants who only have speech/language impairments.
- C. Specific research goal:** The current study sought to investigate the potential impact of speech/language impairments on social anxiety levels.

Paragraph Two (at least 2 citations):

Introduce, Define and Explain the FIRST variable: **Language Impairment**

- D. Define Speech/Language Impairment:** A speech or language impairment is when you have a disorder that affects your speech or language. There are neurogenic disorders, such as aphasia (Author A, 20XX), and speech disfluencies such as stuttering (Author, 20XX). Stuttering is a speech impairment that is a neurodevelopmental disorder that can be due to many factors (Author A, 20XX).
- E. Symptoms (Features) and Possible Causes of Speech/Language Impairment:** The symptoms of speech impairments vary, depending on the impairment that the individual is diagnosed with. For example, features of stuttering are lack of fluency and no sense of flow in speech. The causes of speech/language impairment also differ depending on the type of impairment. If you look at stuttering, then it is believed that the deficits in basal-ganglia and sensorimotor internal modeling mechanisms cause this impairment (Author B, 20XX).

Paragraph Three (at least 2 citations):

Introduce, Define and Explain the SECOND Variable: **Social Anxiety**

- F. Define Social Anxiety:** Anxiety is a psychological disorder, and has been defined as a disorder that causes excessive fear and behavioral disturbances. Social anxiety is a type of anxiety that causes excessive fear of social situations (American Psychological Association, 20XX) (Author C, 20XX).
- G. Features and Correlates of Social Anxiety:** A feature of Social Anxiety Disorder is that a person avoids social situations, in order to reduce or avoid going through the anxiety that a social environment causes them to have. Social Anxiety Disorder has been linked

to loneliness, and general social isolation. With the lack of closeness in friendship, loneliness increases (Author D, 20XX).

Paragraph Four (at least 1 citation): Identifying similar work & the GAP

- H. Similar Work:** Speech/language disorders are now being researched, in order to see the emotional effects it can have on a person and their quality of life. It has been found that if an individual that stutters had experienced cyber bullying in middle school or high school, they had higher levels of stress, anxiety and depression compared to those who did not experience cyberbullying (Author G, 20XX). Also, children who have speech/language disorders have a higher risk of developing anxiety or depression (Author E, 20XX).
- I. Literature GAP:** However, no research has yet investigated the impact speech/language impairments can have on social anxiety.

Paragraph Five (at least 1 citation): Restate the GAP, identify Hypothesis

- J. Current Study Addresses the GAP:** Given the lack of research on this topic, the current study sought to examine the impact of speech/language impairments on levels of social anxiety.
- K. Importance of Study:** Social anxiety is a variable that affects many people's lives and has been linked loneliness and isolation (Author D, 20XX). Having information and data about the connection between social anxiety and speech impairments can help researchers find treatment options to help those with speech impairments live without excessive fear of being judged.
- L. Hypothesis:** I predicted that a quasi-experimental group with speech or language impairments will lead to reports of higher levels of social anxiety compared to a quasi-control group with no speech or language impairments.

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