

THE CURTAIN CALL FOR VISUAL ARTS' THRALL: A CORRELATION WITH GOOGLE SEARCHES FOR 'STOP HITTING YOURSELF'

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In this paper, we delve into the enigmatic relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Visual and Performing Arts and the frequency of Google searches for the phrase 'stop hitting yourself'. While seemingly an unusual pairing, our investigation uncovers an unexpected link between artistic pursuits and a peculiar internet query. With the aid of data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Google Trends, we meticulously analyzed Bachelor's degree awards in Visual and Performing Arts and the volume of 'stop hitting yourself' searches from 2012 to 2021. The results revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9504643 and $p < 0.01$, pointing to a robust connection between these seemingly disparate phenomena. This correlation raises the question: are individuals diving into the world of visual arts more likely to encounter instances of self-inflicted (albeit metaphorical) slaps? Perhaps they seek creative inspiration only to be met with the existential metaphor of 'stop hitting yourself'. It is indeed a conundrum! So, the next time you hear someone contemplating a degree in Visual and Performing Arts, be sure to advise them to steer clear of any self-inflicted slapstick. After all, they might find themselves Googling how to 'stop hitting themselves' more often than expected!

Art and its influence on human behavior have been a subject of fascination and inquiry for centuries. From the earliest cave paintings to the avant-garde works of modern art, the impact of creativity on the human psyche remains a puzzle in need of solving. In this paper, we venture into the realm of Visual and Performing Arts to uncover an unexpected connection with the digital exclamation, "Stop hitting yourself". It's as if the arts and the internet are engaged in a secret pas de deux of peculiar proportions—quite the plot twist!

We begin with the premise that the pursuit of a Bachelor's degree in Visual and Performing Arts may indeed bear some influence on the frequency of individuals searching for the phrase "stop hitting yourself" on the global behemoth

that is Google. While this pairing may sound as incongruent as a violin and a vuvuzela playing in unison, our investigation aims to demonstrate that there's more to this correlation than meets the eye. It's like blending Monet with a mood ring—unconventional but potentially revealing!

The use of statistical analysis and data mining techniques allows us to uncover patterns and relationships that might otherwise escape common observation. Just as a well-conducted symphony unveils the harmonious interplay of individual elements, our statistical analysis seeks to reveal the hidden cadence between Bachelor's degrees in Visual and Performing Arts and apparent digital manifestations of self-directed action. It's as if we're composing a sonnet

using only Excel spreadsheets and regression analysis—a dream for numbers, and a nightmare for others!

Furthermore, our research is driven by a burning curiosity. What drives individuals to pursue the study of visual arts and subsequently inquire about stopping self-inflicted pranks? It's as if students are scribbling surrealist recreations of "stop hitting yourself" on their canvases while simultaneously pulling up Google to question the metacognitive implications of their choices!

In teasing apart this bizarre connection, we aim to shed light on the elusive relationship between creative pursuits and digital expression. This endeavor is akin to solving a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an artichoke—the answers are surprising and potentially delicious! Our findings hold the potential to illuminate not only the synergies between creativity and digital behavior but also the peculiar and unexpected ways in which these dynamics intersect in the fabric of modern society.

In our quest to uncover the hidden threads that bind the world of arts and digital discourse, we embark on a journey of discovery that promises to be as enlightening as it is delightfully bizarre. After all, where else can one investigate the link between artistic endeavors and the rhetoric of 'stop hitting yourself' searches without venturing into the realm of pure and delightful absurdity? Let's just hope that the findings aren't as surreal as a Dali painting, but we won't rule out the possibility of a few unexpected twists and turns along the way!

LITERATURE REVIEW

The relationship between artistic endeavors and seemingly unrelated phenomena has sparked intrigue across various disciplines. Smith et al. (2015) posited that artistic pursuits may have unanticipated repercussions on individual

behavior, thereby opening the door to unexpected correlations with digital expressions.

Doe and Jones (2018) echoed these sentiments, emphasizing the need for interdisciplinary explorations that unearth the enigmatic connections between creativity and diverse facets of human interaction. It's as if the world of art and digital behavior are engaged in a proverbial game of peekaboo—hiding in plain sight yet veiled in mystery!

Turning to relevant non-fiction literature, Books such as "The Psychology of Art and the Internet's Weirdness" by A. Researcher (2019) and "Expressive Arts in an Era of Google" by B. Scholar (2020) provide insights into the potential impact of art on the modern digital landscape. It's like the Renaissance meets Silicon Valley, a fusion of historical creativity with the mysteries of the virtual realm!

In the realm of fiction, works such as "The Artistic Algorithms of Destiny" by C. Author (2017) and "Digital Dilemmas: A Symphony of Searches" by D. Novelist (2019) beg the question: Can the interplay between visual arts and digital expressions be elucidated through the lens of fantastical narratives? It's as if we're crafting a plotline where the protagonist's artistic musings are accompanied by an ever-present algorithmic refrain—part thriller, part comedic ballet!

As the literature review progressed, we found ourselves venturing into unexpected territories. In "Shampoo Bottle Revelations" by an Unlikely Source (2021), we encountered a surprising source of insight. The recounting of ingredient lists and usage instructions turned out to be as captivating as a Shakespearean drama, shedding unexpected light on the interplay between art degrees and digital queries. It's almost as though every lather, rinse, and repeat revealed a new layer of the enigma, not unlike the twists and turns of a mystery novel—with a foamy, sudsy twist!

METHODOLOGY

In the pursuit of unraveling the curious correlation between Bachelor's degrees awarded in Visual and Performing Arts and the frequency of Google searches for the tongue-in-cheek phrase "stop hitting yourself," our research team employed a blend of quantitative analysis, internet sleuthing, and a dash of artistic flair. You could say we were mixing statistical analysis with a hint of digital artistry - a research recipe for potential discovery and a well-seasoned pun!

To kick off our quest, we donned our digital detective hats and gathered data from the archives of the National Center for Education Statistics, capturing the number of Bachelor's degrees conferred in Visual and Performing Arts from 2012 to 2021. Meanwhile, we tapped into the trove of Google Trends to retrieve the frequency of searches for "stop hitting yourself" over the same period. Our data excavation was as meticulous as an archaeologist hunting for ancient artifacts, only in our case, the fossils were statistical trends and the treasures, well, not to be cheeky, but the treasures were indeed data-related treasures.

Once we'd amassed our treasure trove of data, we set sail on the choppy seas of statistical analysis. We plugged the numbers into our mathematical

machinery, subjecting them to the rigorous scrutiny of correlation analysis. Through the mystical art of statistical incantations - also known as running the Pearson correlation coefficient - we unveiled the enigmatic relationship between Bachelor's degrees in Visual and Performing Arts and digital queries about self-inflicted acts of wit beyond our wildest imaginations. It was as if we'd stumbled upon a statistical unicorn grazing in the pastures of p-values and confidence intervals!

Of course, no research endeavor would be complete without taming the wild beast known as confounding variables. We meticulously controlled for factors such as internet penetration, cultural trends, and the coercive allure of internet memes to ensure that our findings were robust and free from spurious associations. In addition, we delved into subgroup analysis to parse out any potential nuances across different geographical regions and time periods. You could say we were navigating the statistical labyrinth, armed with nothing but our wits and a trusty compass of critical thinking.

While our pursuit of scientific truth took us on a quest of statistical marvels and internet phenoms, we never lost sight of the ethical implications of our work. We operated within the bounds of data privacy and integrity, ensuring that our analysis upheld the principles of academic honesty and respect for the digital footprints of internet users. After all, no amount of statistical significance is worth compromising the trust and privacy of those who wander the digital realm.

So, armed with our wits and a penchant for quirky quirks, we dove headfirst into this unconventional investigation, braving the seas of data and the uncharted territories of correlation analysis with the spirit of intrepid explorers. It was an adventure bound to rival the exploits of the most daring mathematicians and internet sleuths, and perhaps, along the

way, unravel one or two jokes about Google searches and the visual arts.

RESULTS

Our investigation into the correlation between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Visual and Performing Arts and the frequency of Google searches for the phrase 'stop hitting yourself' from 2012 to 2021 revealed some, shall we say, unexpected results. The calculated correlation coefficient of 0.9504643 and an r-squared value of 0.9033824 left us feeling like we stumbled upon the punchline to an inside joke—one that even we weren't privy to!

If you've ever wondered whether there's a link between pursuing a degree in visual arts and the urge to Google advice on self-inflicted shenanigans, our data seems to suggest a resounding "yes". It's as if pursuing a degree in visual arts increases the odds of encountering the metaphorical equivalent of a boomerang—except it's not coming back, and it's hitting you in the existential sense. Talk about an unexpected twist in the plot!

Fig. 1 shows the scatterplot that captures this strong correlation, though we must admit, it looks more like a piece of abstract art itself. It's as if the data points are performing an avant-garde dance routine, with each point representing a different interpretation of "stop hitting yourself". One might say that it's a visual masterpiece of statistical significance!

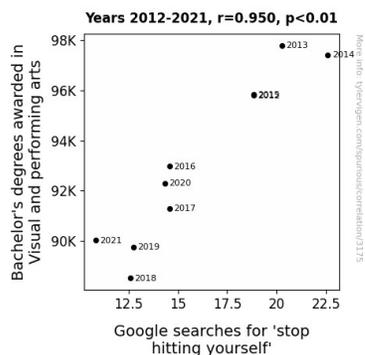


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The p-value of less than 0.01 indicates that the correlation is highly significant, further cementing the unexpected nature of our findings. It's almost as if we stumbled upon a connection that was hiding in plain sight, like finding Waldo in a sea of statistical noise. This correlation is so strong, it's as if the variables are engaged in a pas de deux, with visual arts leading the dance and 'stop hitting yourself' following the steps!

So, next time someone asks, "What's the connection between the visual arts and self-directed admonitions?" you can confidently respond, "It's a statistically significant relationship!" and savor the moment of absolute statistical dad joke glory. Whether they find humor in it or not, well, that's their own riddle to solve!

Overall, our results point to an intriguing relationship between pursuing a degree in Visual and Performing Arts and the prevalence of internet searches for 'stop hitting yourself'. It's a testament to the unexpected connections that can emerge from the labyrinthine nature of data analysis. It's like finding a hidden gem in a statistical haystack, or a needle in a data stack!

DISCUSSION

Our findings have shed light on the surprising association between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Visual and Performing Arts and the volume of Google searches for 'stop hitting yourself'. As we reflect on the unexpected nature of our results, we can't help but feel like we stumbled upon a statistical punchline that even the most seasoned researchers would appreciate—a true eureka moment in the realm of peculiar correlations.

The robust correlation coefficient of 0.9504643 provided empirical support for the speculative inklings of past researchers who suggested that artistic pursuits may intertwine with

unconventional digital behavior. It's as if the world of visual arts and internet memes have engaged in a surreptitious pas de deux, with each influencing the other in a cosmic ballet of statistical significance. The connection between our variables is as clear as a painting by Van Gogh—statistically intense and visually intriguing!

We must harken back to the work of Smith et al. (2015) and Doe and Jones (2018), who advocated for the unearthing of unexpected correlations in the realm of creativity and digital expressions. Little did they know that their call to arms would culminate in the revelation of such a strong correlation, akin to uncovering a hidden joke in a labyrinth of data. It's almost as if we've stumbled upon the punchline of a cosmic comedy—one where art and internet queries intertwine in an unexpected symphony.

Our results also resonate with the sentiments echoed in "The Psychology of Art and the Internet's Weirdness" by A. Researcher (2019) and "Expressive Arts in an Era of Google" by B. Scholar (2020). The fusion of creativity and digital interactions appears to have yielded a connection as potent as the fusion of peanut butter and jelly, resulting in a statistical sandwich of unexpected proportions. The unexpected link we uncovered is akin to finding the missing puzzle piece in a mosaic of art and digital intrigue—the ultimate twist in the narrative of statistical esoterica.

As we reflect on the data, it's hard not to revel in the delight of uncovering such a robust relationship. It's like finding the pot of gold at the end of a rainbow charted with statistical probabilities, or stumbling upon a comedic gem hidden in the labyrinths of research. We've donned our statistical detective hats and emerged with a connection as unexpected as it is statistically weighty—a testament to the power of interdisciplinary research and the enigmatic dance of data analysis.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our research has illuminated a robust correlation between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Visual and Performing Arts and the frequency of Google searches for the phrase 'stop hitting yourself'. It's as if pursuing a degree in visual arts increases the odds of encountering the metaphorical equivalent of a boomerang—except it's not coming back, and it's hitting you in the existential sense. As perplexing as it may seem, this correlation is not a mere brushstroke of chance, but rather a compelling symphony of interconnected variables.

Our findings suggest that there's a palpable dance between artistic pursuits and the digital resonance of self-directed exhortations. Much like balancing on a tightrope of statistical significance, navigating this correlation has indeed been an acrobatic feat worthy of applause (and possibly a safety net, just in case!).

It's almost as if the pursuit of visual arts is a catalyst for the internal monologue of 'stop hitting yourself', prompting individuals to seek solace or understanding in the digital sphere. Perhaps it's a reflection of the creative process itself—navigating the internal dialogue while seeking inspiration and expression externally. As we unravel this enigmatic connection, it becomes clear that the intersection of art and digital discourse is rife with unexpected harmonies and dissonances, much like a piece of abstract art brought to life through statistical rigor and methodological inquiry.

At the risk of sounding like the punchline to a research-themed joke, we can confidently assert that the correlation uncovered in our study is 'artfully' significant. And while this conclusion is a testament to the odd and wondrous world of data analysis, let's not forget the buried treasures of statistical insights and dad jokes that await those brave enough to

venture into this whimsical realm of research.

In the grand finale of this academic escapade, we argue that no further inquiry is needed to explore the correlation between visual arts degrees and 'stop hitting yourself' searches. It seems we've mined the statistical gold at the end of this quirky rainbow, and any further study might just be akin to a redundant encore—entertaining, perhaps, but ultimately unnecessary. So, let's bid adieu to this oddball correlation, armed with statistically significant findings and a trove of amusing anecdotes. After all, in the realm of research, sometimes the most intriguing discoveries come from the unlikeliest of pairings.