

Abstract Submitted  
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**Encouraging Women to Pursue Physics**<sup>1</sup> JORDAN GREGOR,  
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field of physics suffers from a lack of diversity, prompting several studies to be con-  
ducted that investigate the reason for the low number of women in the field. Instead  
of focusing on why there is a lack of women in physics, this research project looks  
to find what has contributed to the success of the women that are currently in the  
field of physics with the goal of finding better ways to encourage young women to  
study physics. This was accomplished by interviewing 51 women that fit the studys  
pre-determined criteria. Every woman was asked questions regarding why they like  
physics and chose the field, as well as how they believe women should be encouraged  
to pursue physics. Several common themes were identified in the womens answers  
that may be applied to STEM initiatives or may be useful to physics educators.

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