Mike Wiese

Comm 408

2/5/2013

Beth Le Poire

Beth Le Poire is an extremely interesting scholar who specializes in family communication. Beth Le Poire is from Zeeland, Michigan and currently lives in Moorpark California with her husband. She received her Bachelor's degree from California State University and went on to receive her Masters and Ph.D from the University of Arizona. Beth began teaching family communication in 1995 and is currently a full professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara.  
 Beth Le Poire is not your average professor she has numerous notable achievements in the field of Communication Studies. Beth has given over 70 presentations at various conferences and published 40 studies in a variety of Communication journals. Finally, she uses quantitative methods to study the nonverbal aspect of family communication.

Beth Le Poire's first study, "Nonverbal Behaviors as Indices of Arousal: Extension to the Psychotherapy Context" was published September 1, 1992. The study took a sample of 18 people and attempted to test how effective different therapies are for treating depression disorders. She split the participants into groups and they began their first of twenty weekly therapy sessions. The therapists used a fascinating technique called, "Focued Expressive Therapy" where the participants took turns sitting in a chair, pretending that their romantic partner who made them angry was sitting in front of them. They would then express an amplified version of their anger towards the imaginary partner both verbally and nonverbally while the rest of the group watched. Beth Le Poire analyzed video of the therapy and utilized quantitative methods using scales to rate the participants on various forms of arousal and behavior. There were many findings but the most noteworthy would be the significant relationship between "overt nonverbal behaviors" and "arousal intensity and valence". Beth Le Poire's study supported the first hypothesis and shows that blatant nonverbal behaviors are a reliable indicator of arousal.

Another study that I found interesting is titled, "Nonverbal Involvement, Expressiveness and Pleasantness as predicted by Parental and Partner Attachment style". The study was made up of 100 couples half male and half female who state they are in a serious relationship. Each couple was brought into a simulated house setting and were filmed by two cameras. They were then left alone 5-7 minutes with the discussion topics of how they first met, the first time they were romantic, and their first major fight. Next, the couples were separated, given a questionnaire, interviewed, and had to complete a scale. Finally, the quantitative research confirmed that, "parental attachment style is not the only predictor of outcomes in later relationships".

The last study of Beth Le Poire that I analyzed was titled: "Nonverbal Cues and Interpersonal Judgments: Participant and Observer Perceptions of Intimacy, Dominance, Composure and Formality". The study consisted of 162 participants and 123 observers who were college students. The Participants filled out questionnaires and then started to solve 3 different predicaments while the observers watched through a two way mirror. Lastly, the groups were combined to discuss the issues. The results of this study were extremely vast and complicated, but main focus is that nonverbal behaviors are strongly connected to perceptions in person to person interactions.

In conclusion, Beth Le Poire is an exceptional Communication Studies scholar who specializes in family communication. She began teaching in 1995 and has published 40 scholarly articles. She focuses on quantitative research methods in her studies to attempt to find significant correlations between attitudes and behaviors. Finally, Beth Le Poire has done an abundant amount of research on family and nonverbal communication that will be used for many years to come.

**Work Cited**

Beth Le Poire Bio:  
"Beth A. Le Poire." *SAGE*. Sage Publishing, n.d. Web. 05 Feb. 2013. <http://www.sagepub.com/authorDetails.nav?contribId=530048>.

Article #1:

Burgoon, Judee K., and Beth A. Le Poire. "Nonverbal Behaviors As Indices Of Arousal: Extension To The Psychotherapy Context." *Journal of Nonverbal Behavior* (1992): 159- 79. Web. <http://web.ebscohost.com.www.libproxy.wvu.edu/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=fb5f6 c6e-ec72-4a74-a294-35a81d1c1467%40sessionmgr111&vid=2&hid=108>.

Article #2:

Le Poire, Beth A., Carolyn Shepard, and Ashley Duggan. "Nonverbal Involvement, Expressiveness and Pleasantness as Predicted by Parental and Partner Attachment Style." *Communication Monographs* (1999): 293-311

Article #3:

Le Poire B (1999). Nonverbal Cues and Interpersonal Judgments: Participant and Observer Perceptions of Intimacy, Dominance, Composure and Formality. Communication Monographs. , 105-124. <http://web.ebscohost.com.www.libproxy.wvu.edu/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=e378 c757-c860-4ac3-867d-945a01d892a1%40sessionmgr110&vid=2&hid=108>