

11-1-1998

Nine and One Third Circles of Rejoicing

Michael Capobianco
St. John's University

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarship.claremont.edu/hmnj>



Part of the [Mathematics Commons](#), and the [Poetry Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Capobianco, Michael (1998) "Nine and One Third Circles of Rejoicing," *Humanistic Mathematics Network Journal*: Iss. 18, Article 12.
Available at: <http://scholarship.claremont.edu/hmnj/vol1/iss18/12>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Claremont at Scholarship @ Claremont. It has been accepted for inclusion in Humanistic Mathematics Network Journal by an authorized administrator of Scholarship @ Claremont. For more information, please contact scholarship@cuc.claremont.edu.

by the students.

The range of answers included those ideas which were anticipated as a direct result of studying game theory. Among the answers: a feeling that mathematics is everywhere, an understanding of the usefulness of mathematics, its relevance to life, its depth, the proof as a basis for mathematics — in general, a change in the modification of the mathematical world-view. Answer number 10 to question number 2 is atypical, but exists nonetheless; the perception of mathematics as technical may be so strongly rooted in some people that even this course could not change it. The answers to the attitude survey seem to validate our choice of game theory to enrich and enlarge the student's conception of mathematics.

In conclusion, our hopes for the course were realized. As a result of the course, the number of students with an open-minded attitude to mathematics increased; the students were able to see mathematics as not only technical and computational, but also as an expanding and developing world of its own. Students discovered that the world of mathematics is much richer than they had previously thought. Indeed, it appears that the very encounter with a new sphere of mathematics in and of itself creates a new receptivity in the students to the assimilation of new concepts and values.

REFERENCES

- Aumann, R. J. "What is Game Theory Trying to Accomplish?" *Frontiers of Economics*, K. Arrow and S. Honkapohja, Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1985, pp. 28-76.
- Gale, D. and L. S. Shapley. "College Admissions and the Stability of Marriage." *American Mathematical Monthly*, 69: 9-15, 1962.
- Gura, E. "Teaching Game Theory in High School," unpublished doctoral dissertation, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1989 (Hebrew).
- Gura, E. "Game Theory as a 'Different' Mathematical Experience for High School Students," in *Proceedings of ICMI Regional Conference*, pp. 311-315, 1995.
- Halmos, P. R. "Mathematics as a Creative Art." *American Scientist*. 56(4): 375-389, 1968.
- Steen L. A. "Mathematics Today" in L. A. Steen (ed.), *Mathematics Today, Twelve Informal Essays*. New York: Springer-Verlag, pp. 1-12, 1978.
- Yin, R. K. *Case Study Research: Design and Methods*. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage: 1984, p. 23.

Nine and One Third Circles of Rejoicing

Michael Capobianco
St. John's University
Staten Island, New York

Alleluia!
Noble word
We greet you with joyful
Jubilations
You and your three thousand three hundred sixty
Permutations.
Let each one inscribed be
Round a circle on each degree
Then with clarity will be heard
The sound of nine circles and a third.