Violent Video Games Linked to Increased Aggression

June 01, 2011

MSN Health:

Violent video games trigger aggression among those who play them, according to a new University of Missouri study.

Such players showed more hostility because their brains had become less responsive, or desensitized, to violence — a response that the researchers linked to increased aggression.

"From a psychological perspective, video games are excellent teaching tools because they reward players for engaging in certain types of behavior. Unfortunately, in many popular video games, the behavior is violence," study co-author Bruce Bartholow, an associate professor of psychology at UM College of Arts and Sciences, said in a university news release.

Read more: MSN Health