

Explanation of Claustrophobia Experiment

The claustrophobia experiment is an example of diffusion.

Diffusion is the movement of particles from an area of high concentration to an area of low concentration.

Some other examples of diffusion in our environment are:

- A smell (perfume, air freshener, food cooking) distributes itself over a room by diffusion.
- A sugar cube in a glass of water dissolves slowly and the sugar molecules will distribute over the water by diffusion.
- A balloon filled with helium will deflate a little bit every day, The helium atoms diffuse out of the balloon through the “skin” of the balloon
- A crowd of people squished together in an elevator... when the doors open, they immediately fan out into wider open spaces.

Here are a couple of websites that visually show how diffusion works:

http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0072495855/student_view0/chapter2/animation_how_diffusion_works.html

<http://www.biologycorner.com/bio1/diffusion.html>