



The Effects Of Chemical Hair Products And Its Solution

Maryam Salim and Betty Pentzel

61. Popatlal



Introduction:

Nature determines the texture and color of your hair. How your hair looks and behaves depends mostly on you. Your hair care routine, diet, rest and exercise all play a part in how your hair looks. However due to an advance in science and technology, in recent years, the application of hair products (chemicals) has become popular with many people especially African women and some men. We assume to look modern and attractive and to deal with hair related problems for example dandruff, hair-fall and dry skin.

But we believe that the chemicals present in these hair products make them more harmful than beneficial.

AIM: "Our aim is to find an alternative to these chemical hair products which will satisfy the users needs and at the same time have no or less health risks".



Method:

The main methods used in the research were interviews of students from our school, a nearby school in town, owners and customers of different hair dressing saloons and skin specialists (dermatologists). Also we distributed some questionnaires to be filled by users of hair products.

Experiment 1: Chemical Product	Experiment 2: Natural Product
Method:- Here we applied a commonly used hair product on the hair.	Method:- Here we made a paste out of the following- ½ an avocado fruit, 1 leaf of aloevera,
-We applied the product on hair and washed it off after five minutes.	1 spoon of honey and water from boiled neem leaves.
-This was done once a week for two months.	-We applied the paste on hair, washed it off after half an hour.
	-This was done once a week for two months.



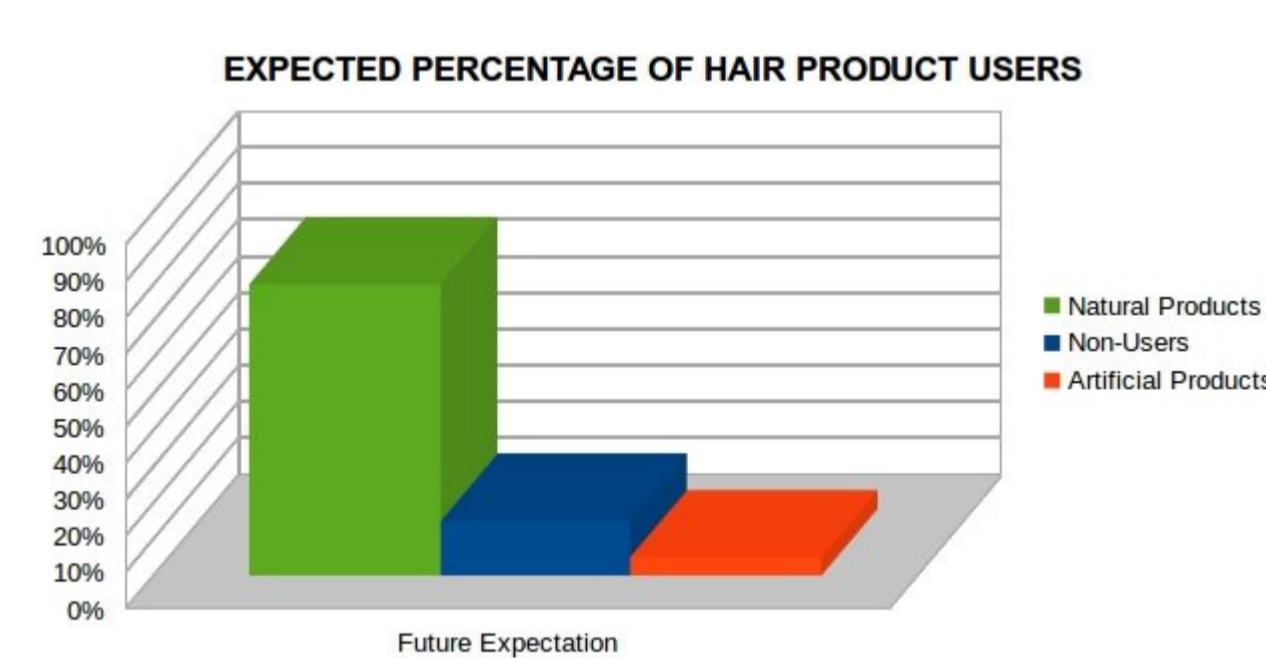
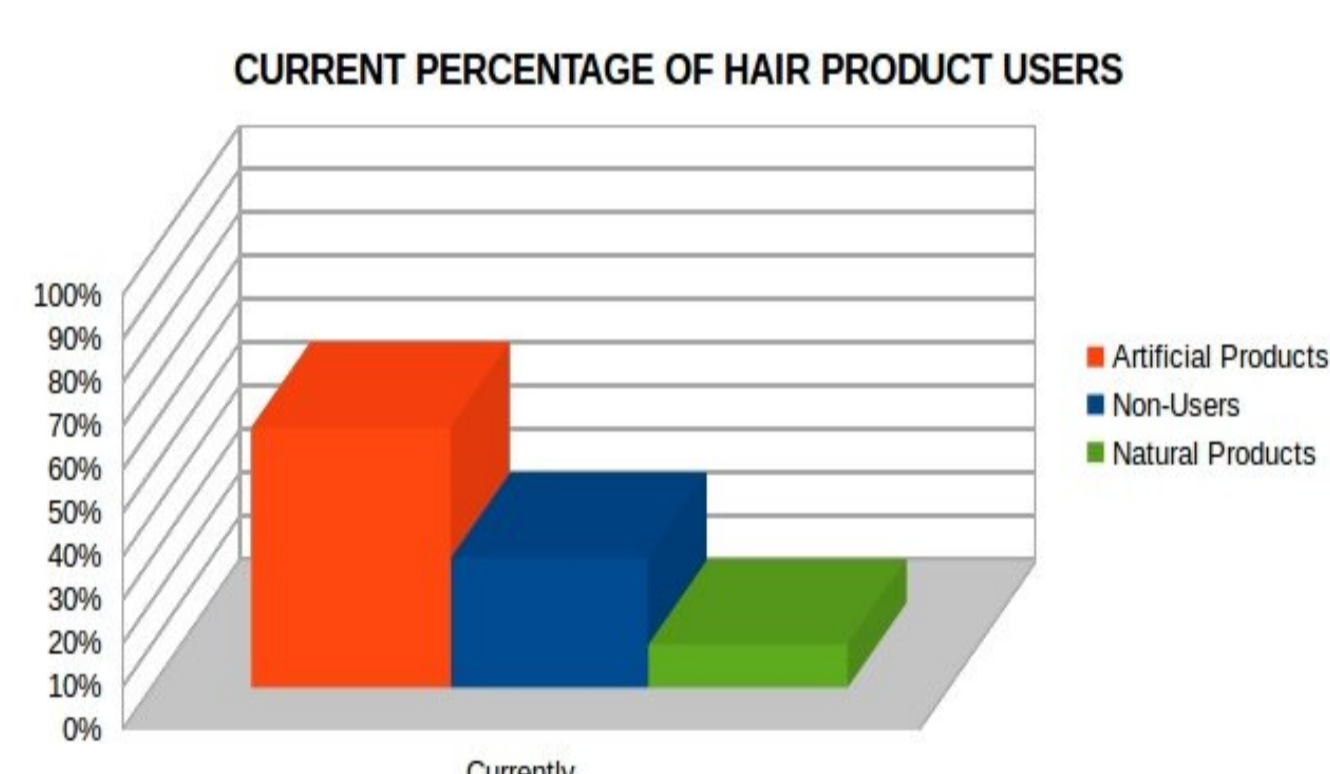
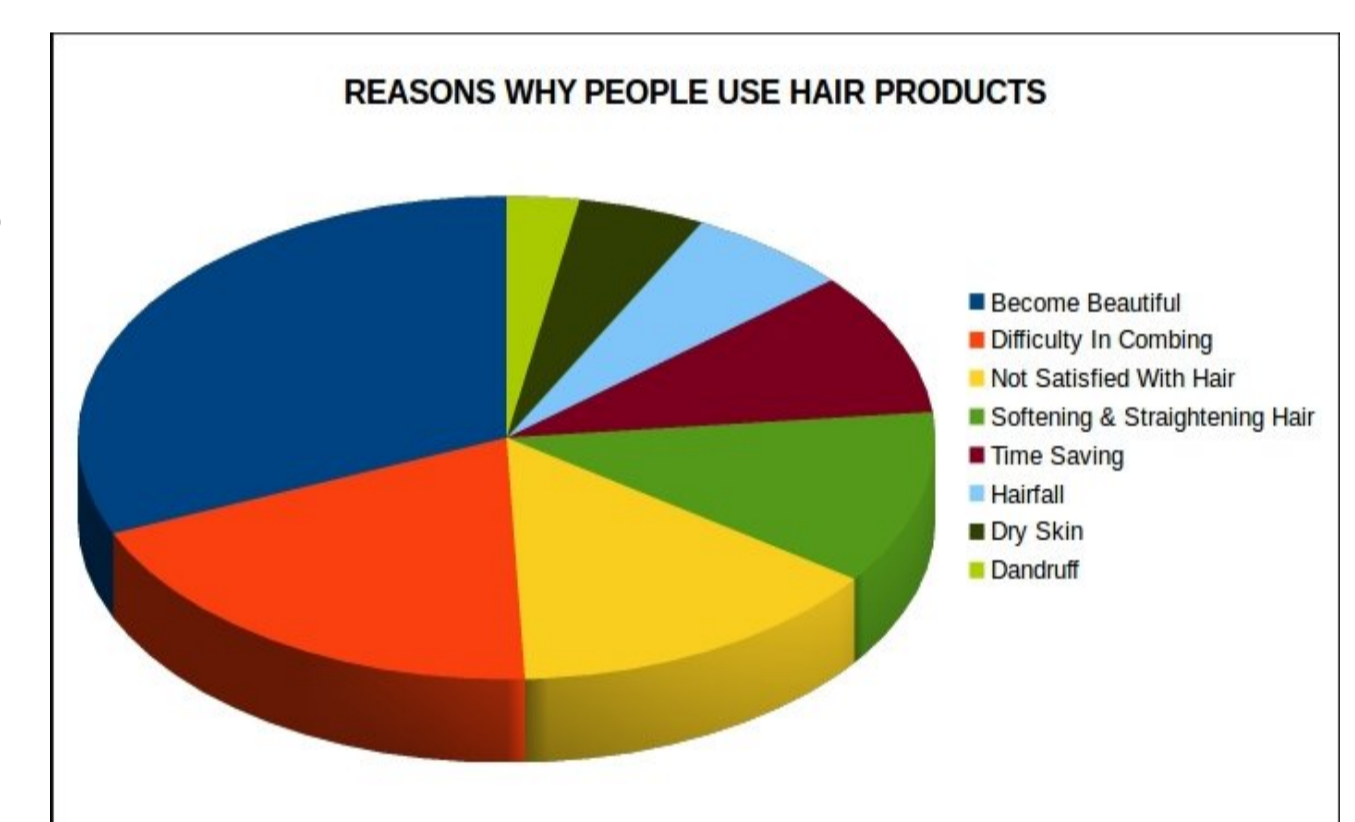
Results:

From the data collected from our research we learned that the use of chemical hair products leads to the rise of the following problems to those who use them.

However, from the information that we gathered, we learned that natural items such as oils (coconut, olive, castor), neem leaves extract, vinegar, henna, pawpaw seeds and aloe vera, are beneficial towards ones hair health and beauty and at the same time they have no harmful effects.

In order to see the effects, both good and bad, of the natural and chemical products, we conducted the following experiments.

In our first experiment, where we used normal hair, we observed that over a course of two months the hair became weaker, lost its texture and color, and brittle, due to the chemical ingredients in the products. Whereas; In our second experiment, where natural hair products were used on normal hair, we observed that over a course of two months the hair became stronger, healthier, and thicker.



S/N	PROBLEM	CAUSING AGENT
1	Carcinogenic (Cancer)	Petrolatum
2	Hormonal imbalance	MEA (Monoethanolamine)
3	Dandruff	Calcium Hydroxide
4	Dermatitis	Quaternium-15
5	Hair loss/fall	Polyethylene Glycol
6	Frizzy hair	Polyethylene Glycol
7	Dry skin	Sodium Hydroxide
8	Brain problems	Fragrance and Isopropyl Alcohol
9	Headache	Isopropyl Alcohol
10	Burns	Propylene Glycol
11	Allergic reaction	Imidazolidinyl Urea

Conclusions

It is seen that the chemicals present in these hair products are actually causing more harm than good. Therefore throughout our project, we proved that "nature is indeed the best healer" and so we should make use of what we have.

We would like to advise people in our societies to stop applying chemicals on their hair and instead use natural products which are efficient, safe and cheap.

Also we would like to advise our government to prohibit the importation and manufacturing of non-approved products, that is, they should have the Tanzanian Bureau of Standards (TBS).

The government should also begin programs on television, announcements on radios and articles in newspapers and magazines so as to create widespread awareness on the subject at hand.

And mostly, our government should insist on using our national language (Kiswahili) and English on packaging materials about the product information so that our fellow citizens can understand.

References

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