

"Effects of beer on breast fed infants"

- **How would you - a priori - have decided the sample size for this study?**
- **Do you have a way to reconstruct the SD of the 11 within-pair differences? If yes, explain how; if not, why not?**
- **What do you think the ± 18.4 and ± 13.1 are? What are other possibilities and why do you tend to rule them out?**
- **Are you comfortable with the statistical analysis performed? List 2 other tests that were available to the authors.**
- **In the last para., why are the authors careful about their inferences?**

"Thornton Wilder's original design"

- Suppose, before funding him, the funding agency had asked Brother Juniper to document how reproducible his ratings (and overall index) were. Suppose he had consulted you. What data would you have advised him to assemble to answer this question and what data summaries/presentations would you have recommended?
- Suppose the pestilence left 9 survivors for every 1 it carried off, and that his budget and other constraints only allowed him to study a total sample size (cases and controls) of only 30 "souls" ("subjects"). Why would Brother Juniper use samples of 15 and 15 rather than say 27 and 3?
- Translate the last sentence of the passage from the book ("He added up ... ") into the way one might report the results today (you do not have to use a ratio).
- If he submitted his report to the journal *Religio-Epidemiology*, the reviewers might have had concerns about study design, data analysis, and interpretation. What issues of a more statistical nature might they have raised?
- Not all statistical tests/procedures available today were available in Brother Juniper's time. What relevant statistical tests would have been available to Brother Juniper if he were analyzing his data today?