



INFORMED CONSENT FORM TEMPLATE

The Effects of Age on the Internal and External Controls of Behavior and the Perception of those Controls Over Time

You are invited to participate in a research study being conducted by Sara Jones, a PhD Candidate at Brandeis University. The study is being conducted under the supervision of Dr. Candace Stapleton, Professor of Psychology at Brandeis University.

Please read this form carefully. We encourage you to ask questions if you want more information about any part of the form or the study.

If you decide to participate in this study you will be asked to sign this form. A copy of the signed form will be given to you to keep for your records – it has important information, including whom to contact if you have questions in the future.

What is this study about?

We are conducting this study because we are trying to learn more about what people think about why they do or don't participate in certain behaviors at different points in their life.

Why have we asked you to participate?

We are asking you to take part in this study because you are between the ages of 18 and 65 and grew up in the United States.

What will you be asked to do if you participate?

If you decide to participate in this study, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire about yourself, your background, and your participation in a variety of activities at different points in your life. You will then be asked to participate in a one-on-one interview with the lead researcher of the study one to two weeks after you complete the questionnaire.

We would like to audiotape you during this interview. However, if you would prefer not to be audiotaped, that is okay – you may still participate in the study. We will ask for your consent to be audiotaped at the end of this form.

The questionnaire will take you about 30 minutes to complete and will be conducted in a lab at Brandeis University. The interview will take about 45 minutes and can be conducted in the lab or at a location convenient to both you and the researcher, such as a coffee shop.

Are there any possible risks to you?

You may feel uncomfortable answering some of the questions. If a certain question or topic makes you feel uncomfortable, you are free to skip the question or ask the interviewer to move on to another topic. You can also withdraw from the study completely at any time.

There is always the risk that your information could be accidentally disclosed to people not connected with this study; however, we will do our utmost to secure your information so this does not happen.

Will you benefit from participating in the study?

You will not benefit directly by participating in this study, however we hope the study will result in a better understanding of how and why people think they behave at different points in their life.

Will it cost you anything to participate in the study?

The only cost to you will be your time.

Will you be compensated or receive anything for participating in the study?

You will receive \$15 in compensation as a result of completing the questionnaire and another \$25 as a result of participating in the interview.

How will your information be kept private?

Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can be identified with you will remain confidential to the extent permitted by law. Your name will be coded using a random combination of letters and numbers (for example b4h86). The list that connects your name with your code number will be kept separate from the actual data we collect.

The audiotape of the interview will be transcribed without any information that could identify you. After it is transcribed, it will be destroyed.

The list with your name on it will be stored in a locked file cabinet in the researcher's office. The audiotapes will be stored in a separate locked cabinet, also in the researcher's office. The coded data we collect (including the transcribed interviews) will be stored electronically in a password protected encrypted file on Box.com.

When the data from the questionnaire is reported (in publications and presentations), it will be in aggregate form – your information will not be separable from the findings as a whole. Pseudonyms will be used when reporting data from the interviews – no identifying information (name, race/ethnicity, etc.) will be used. No quotations will be used without your express permission. (If we do ask you to give us permission to quote you, you will be asked to sign another consent form specifying the exact quotation and your permission.)

What will happen with your information once research is complete?

After three years, your information will be de-identified (information that can identify you will be destroyed – note that, despite our best efforts, we cannot guarantee anonymity of your personal data). The de-identified information will be held indefinitely and may be made available for future research.

What if you don't want to participate or change your mind partway through?

Participating in this study is completely voluntary. You have the right to refuse to participate in all or a part of this study. Even if you decide to participate now, you may change your mind and withdraw from the study at any time without penalty. You may also refuse to answer specific questions at any time without penalty – simply skip them on the questionnaire or ask the interviewer to move on to another topic.

Who can you call if you have more questions?

If you have any questions about the research being conducted or your participation in the study, feel free to contact the researchers at 781-736-0101 or SaraJones@brandeis.edu.

If you have any questions about your rights as a subject in this study, would like to speak with someone other than the researchers about concerns you have about the study, or in the event the researchers cannot be reached, please contact the Brandeis University Human Research Protection Program at 781-736-8133 or irb@brandeis.edu.

Subject Consent

I have read the contents of this consent form, have been encouraged to ask questions, and have received satisfactory answers to my questions. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I may withdraw my participation at any time without penalty. I voluntarily agree to participate in this study.

I do I do not give you my permission to make an audiotape of me during this study.

Participant's Signature _____ Date _____

Investigator's Signature _____ Date _____