

Parent's or Guardian's Informed Permission Form
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

A first-hand experience with laboratory procedures is an educational part of the first course in psychology. At N.Y.U. we take advantage of the need of our faculty researchers for student participation in their studies. Each student is given the opportunity to participate in carefully supervised studies, thus gaining otherwise unobtainable experience with original research in psychology.

We have both department and university-wide committees that approve studies for our students. These committees are very exacting in enforcing high ethical standards. Each of the research projects contains safeguards designed to protect the rights and welfare of the students who participate. All records are confidential, so the privacy of the student's data is protected.

The Study: Your child, _____, is invited to take part in a study named Chat Room. It is being conducted by Gwendolyn Seidman who is the principal investigator. She can be reached at Room 760, 6 Washington Pl., New York, NY 10003, 998-7799, gs561@nyu.edu. The faculty sponsor of this work is Dr. Katelyn McKenna, who can be reached at 988-7789, kym1@nyu.edu.

Its Purpose: The study is designed to learn more about first-time social interactions.

Its Procedures: If you give permission for your child to be in this study, he or she will be asked to do the following: S/He will provide information about him/herself to another individual, either in a face-to-face meeting or in an Internet chat room. S/He will later be asked about his/her feelings about the interaction. His/her participation will take about one hour.

Its Benefits: Although your child will receive no direct benefits for participation in this study, it may make your child more aware of how knowledge is discovered in psychology and help the investigator better understand first-time social interactions.

Its Risks: There are no known risks associated with this study.

Privacy: Confidentiality of your child's research records will be strictly maintained by coding all responses, not connecting your child's name to any of the materials used in the study, and looking at the data after all data has been collected. Your child's data will be stored in a locked office in the psychology building until five years after publication, at which time it will be destroyed by shredding.

Consent: Participation in this study is completely voluntary. Non-participation or withdrawal will not affect your child's grade or academic standing in any way. Further, once participating, he or she may withdraw at any time and still receive his/her one credit in Introductory Psychology offered in exchange for that participation.

Debriefing: On completing the study your child will receive a thorough written explanation of it that you may ask to see.

The information above has satisfied me such that I agree that my child may participate in your study. If I have any additional questions or want to report a problem, I may reach the researcher, Gwendolyn Seidman, or her Faculty Sponsor, Dr. Katelyn McKenna, at their contacts provided above. For questions about my child's rights as a research participant, I may contact the University Committee on Activities Involving Human Subjects (UCAIHS), Office of Sponsored Programs, NYU, (212) 998-2121.

I have received a copy of this permission document to keep.

Permission Granted for my Child's Participation

Parent's or Guardian's Signature

Date