



New York University

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Parent's/ Guardian's Permission Form for Introductory Psychology Scales Demonstration

Your child, _____, has been invited to take part in an exercise called the "Introductory Psychology Scales Demonstration," also known as the Battery. It is designed to teach students about self-report scales used in psychology research. It is also designed to help faculty and graduate students in the NYU Psychology Department by providing data for research studies and for selecting participants. It is being conducted by Professor James Uleman, a faculty member and investigator in the Psychology Department and the Director of the Psychology Subject Pool. Because your child is under 18 years of age, he or she must have parental or guardian permission before his or her responses to the scales can be used in research studies.

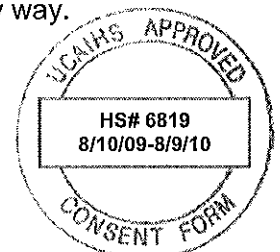
The Battery consists of a series of scales about an individual's feelings, attitudes and beliefs, knowledge of attitudes held by society in general, and perceptions of one's own personality characteristics. It is important that students complete these measures as part of their education in the course. The Battery takes about an hour to complete.

Your child must indicate whether or not s/he consents to having his/her responses used as research data. The Introductory Psychology course requires that students either (a) write a paper about psychology research methodology, or (b) participate in 7 hours of research studies. The Battery counts as 1 of those hours. If your child consents to having his/her responses used as data, they will be analyzed and may qualify him/her for additional studies, thus broadening his/her choices of studies to sign up for, for the other 6 hours. If your child does not give his/her consent, your child's responses cannot qualify him/her for these additional studies (although there are many other studies to choose from). It is entirely up to you and your child. Deciding to not allow your child's answers to be used as data will not affect your child's grades or academic standing in any way, and your child will still get 1 hour's research credit for completing this battery.

If your child qualifies for additional studies, we will need a way to contact him/her. Some researchers may want to contact your child because they are seeking particular kinds of participants. If your child is willing to be contacted directly for particular studies, s/he has filled out the Confidentiality Key. It asks for personal identity and contact information. How your child's contact information might be used is described in detail later in this Permission Form, and you will be able to indicate the uses to which you consent.

There are no known risks associated with your child's participation in this research beyond those of everyday life, although some measures may ask about sensitive topics or issues. If your child finds any of the measures upsetting, your child may speak with Professor Uleman or the NYU counseling services at 212-443-9999. Although your child will receive no direct benefits for taking part in this research, it may make him/ her more aware of how knowledge is discovered in psychology and the kinds of measures used in a wide range of research programs.

Taking part in this study is voluntary. Except for a few basic demographic questions at the beginning, your child has the right to skip or not answer any scales or questions s/he prefers not to answer. The decision you and your child make to take part, to skip scales or questions, or to withhold consent for using his/her responses as research data, will not affect your child's grade or academic standing in any way.



Confidentiality of your child's responses will be strictly maintained by separating them from the Confidentiality Key (if your child submits one). If you give your permission on this form -- to treat your child's responses as data -- the scale responses and the Demographic Information Sheet (but not his or her identity) will be available to qualified researchers conducting related research in the psychology department. Your child's responses will only be connected with his/her identity if your child completes the Confidentiality Key and indicates that we may use it, and you agree. Personal identifying information will never be directly linked with his/her other responses in any research report, publication or presentation. Only summary or statistical data will be used, so that it will be impossible to identify your child or any other specific person from these reports. Data from this demonstration will be kept for at least 5 years, as recommended by the American Psychological Association. But de-identified data, which cannot be connected to any one person, may be kept longer.

1. Permission for your child to participate: I give my permission to having my child's responses used for research, which may qualify him/her for additional studies. (Without your permission, s/he cannot qualify.)

Parent's or Guardian's Signature

Date

Parent's or Guardian's Name (please print): _____

As noted above, some researchers will want to select participants for particular studies, instead of relying on sign-ups. They may be looking for participants with particular skills, attitudes, beliefs, traits, cultural backgrounds, race, ethnicity or experiences. For example, they may want only left-handed people in their study. Or they may want to select a truly random sample of students from the class. If you and your child agree that your child may be contacted for particular studies through information on the Confidentiality Key, there are two ways this can happen. Either way, your child would be contacted only once per study.

Contact by the Departmental Representative: If you agree to this way of contacting your child, a designated Departmental Representative, who is specifically trained to keep participants' identities confidential, will send him or her an email on behalf of researchers. The email will tell your child what studies s/he qualifies for, and invite him or her to sign up for them. Whether or not your child signs up for those studies is completely up to your child. Researchers will not know the identity of qualifying students (like your child) until they sign up for a particular study.

Contact by Researchers: If you and your child agree to this way of contacting him/ her, the researchers will be allowed to review your child's data and contact him or her directly by phone or email. They would call or email your child. The psychology department prefers this option because it is administratively simpler. But under it, you child's identity will be known by researchers doing the studies for which your child qualifies, whether or not your child signs up for the studies.

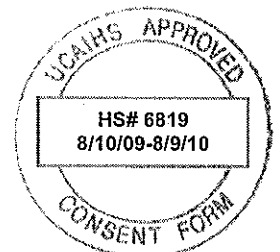
Note that even if your child qualifies for a particular study (e.g., s/he is left-handed), **we cannot get in touch with your child**, to let him/her know this, **unless you answer "Yes" to at least one of these two questions.**

2. I agree that my child can be contacted by the Departmental Representative, if my child qualifies for particular studies.

____ Yes ____ No

3. I agree that my child can be contacted by researchers working on particular studies, if my child qualifies for them.

____ Yes ____ No



If there is anything about the study or your child's part in it that is unclear or that you do not understand, if you have questions or wish to report a research-related problem, you may contact the principal investigator Professor Uleman at 212/998-7821, or at jim.uleman@nyu.edu, or at the Department of Psychology, 6 Washington Place, Room 753. For questions about your child's rights as a research participant, you may contact the University Committee on Activities Involving Human Subjects (UCAIHS), NYU, (212) 998-4808 or ask.humansubjects@nyu.edu, 665 Broadway, Suite 804, New York, NY 10012.

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

