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Social decision-making

Dear participant,

we are inviting you to take part in an online research project.

Please read the following information carefully and ask any questions before deciding whether you would like to participate. By signing the consent and privacy statement, you agree to all the terms and conditions mentioned below.

You are completely free to decide whether you wish to participate in this study, and you may terminate your participation at any time. If you decide not to participate, there will be no disadvantage to you. You can withdraw your consent to participate in this study at any time and without giving reasons, and without incurring any disadvantages as a result. Even if you terminate the study prematurely, you are still entitled to appropriate compensation for the time spent up to that point.

The following text is intended to inform you about this study, as well as about the maintenance of confidentiality and data protection, your right to know and not to know the results of the investigations, and your right to revoke your consent. Please take time to read the following information carefully. Ask us if anything is not clear or you would like more information.

If you wish to participate in this study, you must:

- Be between 18 and 40 years old
- Have unimpaired vision; the use of contact lenses or glasses is permitted.
- Speak and read English fluently

Goal of this study

In this study, our team at Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg, Germany and at the University Hospital Heidelberg, Germany, have developed computerized psychological experiments to understand how humans learn and make decisions in social contexts. We are particularly interested in understanding how we learn about the preferences of others. All steps of the study consist of established or safety-regulated psychological procedures, none of which are expected to cause any particular strain or harm.

Who is conducting the research study?

This research is being conducted by a research team led by Prof. Dr. Mona Garvert and Prof. Dr. Andrea Reiter at Julius-Maximilians-University Würzburg, Germany in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Christoph Korn at the University Hospital Heidelberg, Germany.

Who can participate

Anyone over 18 years old who speaks English sufficiently to follow the instructions and is willing to perform the study procedures on her own device can participate in this research.

What does participation involve?

You will play different computer games that will take [[add exact time here – no more than 120 minutes]]. Your main task is to tell us how much you like different things such as types of foods, styles of music, movies, and books, activities (including various types of sports, hobbies, arts and crafts, vacation destinations, etc.) or other stimuli you have not previously encountered. We will then ask you to evaluate how much other people like the same stimuli. Afterwards, you will play a cooperative game with the other participants, in which you will work together and coordinate your strategies and actions to achieve a high score. After the experiment, we ask you to fill in a set of questionnaires about your personality, your mood and your mental health.

Data and privacy

The primary dataset will be stored in a pseudonymized form: During the study, you will be assigned a code (pseudonym, e.g., 12345678). In the primary dataset, only the pseudonym, not your email address, will be stored. The table linking pseudonyms and email addresses remains exclusively with the responsible project leader and will not be shared with third parties. After the data collection is completed, this assignment list will be deleted in compliance with data protection regulations.

An anonymized version of the primary dataset is created, in which all potentially person-related data are recoded so that no association between the data in this anonymous dataset and your person is possible. Data use is compliant with GDPR and DPA (2018).

In addition, Prolific collects certain personally identifiable information from you (e.g., to ensure payment). This information is stored on secure Google Cloud Platform servers located in Belgium. Prolific's data processing complies with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). You can find detailed information about Prolific's privacy policy [here](#).

We do not have access to personally identifiable information, nor will we attempt to obtain such information. Participants are identified exclusively by anonymous alphanumeric codes provided by Prolific, which cannot be linked to individual identities. In accordance with the requirements of the GDPR, you have the right to modify or remove their personal data at any time, and personal data will also be deleted within a reasonable period after account closure. Prolific does not store any data collected within our study.

Use of Primary Data

The primary data generated in the study will be collected and processed at the University of Würzburg and the University Hospital Heidelberg exclusively for scientific purposes. The results obtained from the primary data will be published in a summarized form as a scientific publication. The primary data will be stored locally for scientific reasons without a fixed deletion date.

Revocation

You can request the deletion of your data from the primary dataset at any time – but no later than the deletion of the assignment file - by sending an email stating your pseudonym to Prof. Dr. Mona Garvert (mona.garvert@uni-wuerzburg.de). The deletion will be carried out immediately and cannot be reversed. The revocation of consent does not affect the legality of the processing carried out on the basis of the consent until the revocation.

Use of Anonymized Data

To help future research and make the best use of the research data you have given us (such as answers to questionnaires), the exclusively anonymized data will be made available for reuse to third parties on the internet in a data archive named Open Science Framework (<https://osf.io>). Any personal details will be removed and a code used e.g. 00001232, instead of any ID linked to you or your Prolific account. The purpose, nature, and extent of potential reuses cannot be foreseen at this time. This follows the recommendations of the German Research Foundation (DFG) for quality assurance in research. Since these data are no longer personally identifiable, it is not possible to delete your data from the anonymized dataset.

Right to Access, Rectification, Erasure, etc.

You have certain rights as a data subject, i.e., rights that you can exercise as an individual affected in a particular case. You can assert these rights against the University of Würzburg. They arise from the GDPR:

Right of Access, Article 15 GDPR

You have the right to obtain information about your personal data that is stored.

Right to Rectification, Article 16 GDPR

If you find that incorrect data about you is being processed, you can request rectification. Incomplete data must be completed considering the purpose of the processing.

Right to Erasure, Article 17 GDPR

You have the right to request the deletion of your data if certain grounds for deletion are present. This is particularly the case if the data is no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was originally collected or processed, or if you have withdrawn your consent.

Right to Restriction of Processing, Article 18 GDPR

You have the right to restrict the processing of your data. This means that your data may not be deleted, but marked to restrict their further processing or use.

Right to Data Portability, Article 20 GDPR

You have the right to request the data you have provided to us in a common electronic format.

Right to Object to Unreasonable Data Processing, Article 21 GDPR

You generally have the right to object to lawful data processing that is in the public interest, performed in the exercise of official authority, or based on the legitimate interest of a body.

Right to Lodge a Complaint with a Supervisory Authority

You have the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority if you believe that the processing of your data is not in compliance with data protection laws. The complaint to the supervisory authority can be made informally. For the University of Würzburg, this is the Bavarian State Commissioner for Data Protection, Postfach 22 12 19, 80502 Munich, Germany.

Reimbursement

You will receive €6 for helping us out. If you decide to withdraw from the study before completion, you will be compensated proportionally for each quarter-hour segment that you have started.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

If you have questions about this study, please contact :

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Mona Gavert

mona.garvert@uni-wuerzburg.de

Next steps

If you are satisfied with this information and would like to participate in the study, please proceed to the consent form.