

CONSENT FORM

Lexical Decision Task for Native and Nonnative English Speakers

You are invited to be in a research study of the psychological processes involved in reading texts of moral nature. You were selected as a possible participant because you are a speaker of English, either as your first language or your second language. We ask that you read this form before agreeing to be in the study.

This study is being conducted by: Mai Al-Khatib, a graduate student in Cognitive Science at the University of Minnesota under the direction of Professor Charles R. Fletcher, Graduate faculty member of Cognitive Science, University of Minnesota.

Procedures:

If you agree to be in this study, we would ask you to perform a sequence of tasks of the following format:

1- Read a Moral Dilemma then choose a response of yes or no to it. Moral Dilemmas are hypothetical scenarios of a moral nature where you need to choose between different possible reactions with different consequences. In these scenarios, you need to make hard decisions with grave consequences involving loss of life, physical pain, or undignified treatment for hypothetical characters in the dilemmas.

2- Perform a Lexical Decision Task. You will be shown letter strings (such as “dog”/“deg” in English) on a computer screen. After each string is presented, you will be asked to decide if it forms a word. If it does, you press the “L” button with your right index finger on the right of your keyboard as quickly as possible. If it does not, you press the “A” button with your left index finger on the left of the keyboard as quickly as possible.

This study requires about half an hour to complete.

Payment:

You will be awarded 5 dollars through Prolific for participating in this study and completing the experiment.

Confidentiality:

The records of this study will be kept private. In any sort of report we might publish, we will not include any information that will make it possible to identify a subject. Research records will be stored securely and only researchers will have access to the records. We will not include any information that will make it possible to identify individual participants. Research records are accessible to the investigators listed at the top of this form. Your name and other identifying information will not be recorded on the data that we collect from you. Should the experiment data be stored in public database, parts of data that identify you as a participant will not be included. The IP address used in performing the experiment will be discarded by the investigator.

Voluntary Nature of the Study:

Participation in this study is voluntary. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relations with the University of Minnesota or the Cognitive Science

Program in any way. If you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without affecting those relationships. However, compensation for participating will be given only if you complete the experiment.

Benefits and Risks of the Study:

We cannot promise any benefits to you or others from your taking part in this research. However, possible benefits include exposure to thought experiments of the moral type which may be welcome by some people. It also includes the possibly welcome cognitive challenges of recognizing words in English. This Research may hurt you by leading you to think about hypothetical situations of graphical nature and making difficult decisions in those hypothetical situations.

Contacts and Questions:

The researchers conducting this study are: Mai Al-Khatib and Charles R Fletcher. You may ask any questions you have. If you have questions, **you are encouraged** to contact the researchers at alkh0020@umn.edu or fletc002@umn.edu

This research has been reviewed and approved by an IRB within the Human Research Protections Program (HRPP). To share feedback privately with the HRPP about your research experience, call the Research Participants' Advocate Line at 612-625-1650 (Toll Free: 1-888-224-8636) or go to z.umn.edu/participants. You are encouraged to contact the HRPP if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research participant.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.

You may keep a copy of this consent form by taking a screenshot of it and saving it. You may also find it at <https://github.com/Mai-Kh/LDT-ExperimentConsent> for later access.