**Study Debriefing Form**

Thank you for participating as a research participant in the present study. This study explores whether responses to objective questions, those that have a correct answer, may be influenced by the responses of others. Ultimately, this study explores whether conformity would occur in an online environment.   
  
In this study you were asked to solve a mathematical equation. All participants solved the same equation; however some participants were shown feedback in the form of a percent that signified how many other individuals had selected the associated answer. This feedback was intentionally manipulated and misleading for purposes of our study. We anticipated that participants in the feedback condition would incorrectly answer the solution more frequently compared to participants in the control group, those who solved the equation without influence from feedback. If this occurs then our original hypothesis regarding conformity in an online environment when influenced by others may be supported.   
  
Incorrect solutions and frustration, or even boredom, are normal reactions to equations like this one. To alleviate any lingering confusion or frustration we now provide the correct solution for the mathematical equation. To solve for 23-8÷4×2+7 the order of operations must properly be used. We all remember “Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally” or “PEMDAS” right? First, do all operations that lie in parenthesis. This equation does not have any. Next, do any work with exponents or radicals. In this equation 23=2×2×2=8. At this step the equation is 8-8÷4×2+7. Next, working from left to right do all multiplication and division. In this equation division comes first, so do this work before the multiplication. At this step the equation is 8-2×2+7. Then work the multiplication, 8-4+7. Lastly, working from left to right do all addition and subtraction. In this equation subtraction comes first so the equation is 4+7. The correct answer is 11.   
  
If you are interested in learning more about online conformity, would like to see the complete results and poster, or have any questions regarding this study, please contact the researchers, Shanda Handsaker and Sara Reese at [shandsaker@eou.edu](mailto:shandsaker@eou.edu) and [reeses2@eou.edu](mailto:reeses2@eou.edu), respectively. If you have concerns about your rights as a participant in this experiment, please contact the head of the Institutional Review Board of Eastern Oregon University, Charles Lyons, at [clyons@eou.edu](mailto:clyons@eou.edu).   
  
  
Thank you again for your participation.