

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
CONSENT FORM
Skin Tone Annotation Study

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We are asking you to be in a research study. This form gives you information to help you decide whether or not to be in the study. Being in the study is voluntary. Please read this carefully. You may ask any questions about the study. Then you can decide whether or not you want to be in the study.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

We are seeking to investigate the consistency of skin tone annotations for people in images.

STUDY PROCEDURES

The study will be conducted through a computer application over the Internet.

After reviewing this consent form and indicating your consent, you will be presented with a brief training on how to use the annotation system. After the training, you will be asked to annotate yourself along the continuous scale of skin tones. Then, you will proceed to annotate a series of images with the annotation system.

After the annotation is complete, you will proceed to complete a short survey about your experience annotating the images (i.e. Did consider the racial identity of the image subject when annotating?).

We will record your annotations, survey responses and log interactions with the interface of the annotation tool for later analysis. We will also collect the ethnic and gender identity associated with your crowd work profile for later analysis. No other data will be collected.

RISKS, STRESS, OR DISCOMFORT

This task involves the self-identification of skin tone, as well as the annotation of medical images of infected skin. There may be discomfort in providing personal information such as perceived skin tone and viewing medical images may be discomfoting or stressful. Given the historical harm of classifying skin tone and other phenotypical features related to race or ethnicity, the annotation task may cause momentary discomfort. We do not anticipate further risks.

BENEFITS OF THE STUDY

This study aims to broadly benefit Machine Learning (ML) auditors and other ML Fairness practitioners by evaluating the consistency of skin tone annotations for datasets used in evaluations of performance bias. We do not anticipate any direct benefit to you.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESEARCH INFORMATION

All of the information you provide will be confidential. The data we collect will be stored with a subject code that is not personally identifiable. Any personally identifiable information will be kept in a separate secure location. We may report anonymized findings or share anonymized records with other researchers conducting related research.

Government or university staff sometimes review studies such as this one to make sure they are being done safely and legally. If a review of this study takes place, your records may be examined. The reviewers will protect your privacy. The study records will not be used to put you at legal risk of harm.

USE OF INFORMATION AND SPECIMENS

*SECTIONS BELOW WITH ASTERISKS (**) ARE REQUIRED FOR STUDIES APPROVED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 21, 2019. OPTIONAL FOR ALL OTHER STUDIES:*

Using Your Data in Future Research

***If you or others will never use information and specimens from this study for future research (this applies to very few studies), insert the following, or similar, language:*

The information and/or biospecimens collected as part of this research will not be used or distributed for future research studies.

***If it is possible that information and/or specimens from this study will be used for future research (this applies to most studies), insert the following, or similar, language:*

The information and/or specimens that we obtain from you for this study might be used for future studies. We may remove anything that might identify you from the information and specimens. If we do so, that information and specimens may then be used for future research studies or given to another investigator without getting additional permission from you. It is also possible that in the future we may want to use or share study information that might identify you. If we do, a review board will decide whether or not we need to get additional permission from you.

If there are plans to store or share data and/or specimens for future research, for example the data will be submitted to a repository, describe those plans here, including whether or not the data will be shared with identifying information and the purposes for which the data and/or specimens will be used.

OTHER INFORMATION

You may refuse to participate and you are free to withdraw from this study at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

If you wish to withdraw, you will be paid for your involvement in the training session and for each annotation you provide to us.

RESEARCH-RELATED INJURY

If you think you have been harmed from being in this research, contact Teanna K. Barrett (tkb23@uw.edu) as soon as possible.

Subject's statement

This study has been explained to me. I volunteer to take part in this research. I have had a chance to ask questions. If I have questions later about the research, or if I have been harmed by participating in this study, I can contact one of the researchers listed on the first page of this consent form. If I have questions about my rights as a research subject, I can call the Human Subjects Division at (206) 543-0098. I will receive a copy of this consent form.

By accepting the task (HIT) and continuing to the next section, I am providing consent for participating in this study and sharing information as stated above.

[I agree] [No thanks, I do not want to do this task]