

Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences Debriefing Statement



PROJECT TITLE: *Preferences and Decision-making under Risk and Uncertainty*

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Thank you for participating in our study!

You have now completed the experiment. Your code to claim this HIT is [Subject ID]. In case you're interested, here is some background information about the experiment and the aims behind it.

As we mentioned earlier, we are researching people's preferences and decision-making under risk and uncertainty. Specifically, we are interested in what has been labelled 'ambiguity aversion': the tendency for people to prefer situations with clearly defined probabilities (i.e. 'risk') than situations which are not clearly defined by probability (i.e. 'uncertainty'). This phenomenon has been widely studied but has ordinarily been done so with contrived economic games and bets concocted by experimenters that may not be representative of decisions in the 'real world'. In this study, we are seeking to ascertain whether ambiguity aversion occurs in (1) more life-like scenarios, (2) a variety of life-like scenarios, and (3) for qualitative as opposed to quantitative scenarios. As such, we will be analyzing the degree to which you (and all our other participants) indicated a preference for either the risky situation or the uncertain situation in the vignettes.

As always, we are very grateful to the thoughtful data you provide, as it tells us a great deal about how humans think and reason.

This research has been cleared by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC 1953838.1. If you have any concerns about this project please contact the Executive Officer, Human Research Ethics, The University of Melbourne (Tel: 8344 2073; Fax: 9347 6739).