**Debriefing Script**

Out of place, in the mind: False memory made by schema.

In this experiment, you were shown a picture about a hotel room for 12 seconds. After watching the picture carefully, you were given a 20 seconds’ distraction. And then you wrote as many things as you could remember in this picture in 1 minute.

There are actually two pictures, one of them contains pillows on the bed, while the other does not. If you were given the one with pillows, you are more likely to write pillows on the paper. If you were given the one without pillows, you might still write pillows according to schema of a hotel room. Lew and his colleagues (Lew & Howe, 2017) examined false memory effects for object-location bindings. From his experiment, participants are more likely to correctly remember individual schema-relevant objects originally viewed in unexpected, but are then more likely to misplace these items in the original room scene to expected places, relative to control schema-irrelevant objects.

Similar to Lew’s hypothesis, it is possible that people will not pay attention to the objects that are supposed to appear in the specific place (e.g. pillows on the bed) because their schema tells them that there must be pillows on the bed. Event schemas, which affect both the interpretation of the event and how attention is allocated (Bartlett, 1932; Graesser, Gordon, & Sawyer, 1979; Graesser, Woll, Kowalski, & Smith, 1980; Schank, 1982, 1999).

If you would like to learn more about schema and false memory, see:

Bartlett, F. C. (1932). Remembering: A study in experimental and social psychology. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.

Brainerd, C. J., & Reyna, V. F. (2005). *The science of false memory* Oxford University Press, New York, NY.

Gallo, D. A. (2010). False memories and fantastic beliefs: 15 years of the DRM illusion. *Memory & Cognition, 38,* 833–848.

Johnson, M. K., Hashtroudi, S., & Lindsay, D. S. (1993). Source monitoring. *Psychological Bulletin, 114,* 3–28.

If you have questions about the research, please contact Yuke Luo at [ybl5130@psu.edu](mailto:ybl5130@psu.edu) or 646-954-5449

Thank you again for your assistance in this research.