Consent form

Texas State University – San Marcos and the department of Communication Studies support the practice of the protection of human rights and research participants. The following information is provided so you can decide whether or not to participate in this study. The purpose of this study is to collect data for a graduate thesis project focusing on how your romantic partner’s communication choices affect how you think and feel about the relationship. If you have any questions regarding this research project, or would like to request a summary of results for this research after completion, you may contact Stephanie Pridgen (IRB# 2010K6468) at [sp1106@txstate.edu](mailto:sp1106@txstate.edu) or (512) 757-3388.

You have been asked to be a participant in this research study due to your enrollment in a specific core course in the Texas State University – San Marcos curriculum. For participation you are being offered extra credit in this same course. Of course, you will be offered other opportunities for extra credit if you choose not to participate.

If you do participate, you are free to withdraw from the study at any time. If you do, it will in no way affect your relationship with the department, the services the department may provide to you, or Texas State University – San Marcos. You may withdraw your consent to participate at any time by notifying the researcher or by ceasing your completion of the survey. You may also choose not to answer any question(s) for any reason.

Data will be collected through an online questionnaire. The time to complete this 32-item questionnaire is estimated around 10-15 minutes. Data gathered about you, your romantic partner, or your romantic relationship is completely anonymous. Survey data will be collected on a one-time basis only.

There are no foreseeable physical risks and the possibility for psychological harm is minimal. However, if this survey does cause any type of distress, the Texas State Counseling Center (LBJSC 5-4.1, 512—245-2208) is free and available to all registered students. Questions in this study will ask you how much you agree or disagree with different statements: “My partner is interested in talking to me” or “My partner found our conversation stimulating”. Pertinent questions about this research, your participant rights, and/or research related injuries should be directed to the IRB Chair, Dr. Jon Lasser (5112-245-3413, [lasser@txstate.edu](mailto:lasser@txstate.edu)) or Compliance Specialist, Ms. Becky Northcut (512-245-2102)

All survey data will be kept in the possession of the researcher for one year, until the conclusion of data analysis and writing of the research report. All research data will be kept electronically and will be password protected on the researcher’s computer.

Please print this page for your records. By clicking “YES” below, you are confirming that you are at least *18 years of age* and *understand and agree* to the terms and conditions listed in this consent form.