

Consent Form

Informed Consent Form

Project Title: Political Ideology and Voting Preference

Principal Investigator: Brier Gallihugh, B.A. Eastern Michigan University

Faculty Advisor: Stephen Jefferson, Ph.D., Eastern Michigan University

Thank you for your interest in this study! Your participation is greatly appreciated. To participate you must be a student at Eastern Michigan University and be able to read prompts fluently in English as well as respond fluently in English. Participation in research is voluntary and you may pull out of this study at any time (**including after starting the study**). Please feel free to ask any questions you have about participation in this study.

Study Purpose

The purpose of this study is to examine your voting patterns, as well as your attitudes and thoughts about your vote after assessing a candidate's individual characteristics and policy positions.

Basic Study Procedure

You will be recruited to take place in this online study through the SONA program at Eastern Michigan University. Upon reading a consent form, you will be redirected to the Qualtrics program which will contain the primary study materials and questionnaires. You will be asked to first complete a demographic survey that asks you to report aspects of your identity such as your gender, age, racial group, etc.) After completion of the demographic survey, you will be asked to respond to a series of questions about your political attitudes. Next, you will read a brief description of a man who is running for political office and you will be asked a series of questions to assess your impression of this individual Lastly, the study will conclude with one final question regarding whether or not you wish to receive credit for your participation. The study will take approximately 25-30 minutes to complete.

Type of Data Collected

You may be asked to provide data that you find to be sensitive. All data will be collected anonymously (i.e., we have no way of linking your actual responses with your name). You will be asked your opinion about a number of common social issues, as well as your opinion about an individual who is running for public office. You will also be asked some common questions about your identity (e.g., age, gender, race, etc.).

Risk of Study Participation

There is no expected risk for participating in this study outside of what a student may face while taking a college examination or listening to a college lecture. However, you may at times potentially experience stress while reading or answering any of the study materials especially any related directly to you. As such, should you feel stress you cannot handle, you are free to withdraw from the study and are encouraged to do so immediately.

Benefits of Study Participation

There are no anticipated benefits to you for taking part in this study. Study results may have general benefit to society by increasing our understanding of how people perceive others. Thus, findings from this study will be used as a basis for potential publications, posters, and/or presentations at conferences or symposiums.

Data Storage Procedures

Data for this study will be kept on the Qualtrics server. Qualtrics is an account-based program where only researchers will have access to your individual responses and data. Qualtrics is GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) compliant. Upon completion of the data collection, the data set will be downloaded from Qualtrics to a laptop computer that is password protected. The data file will also be password protected.

Alternative Task

You will receive no compensation for your participation. However, some instructors in psychology do offer course credit for research participation. Researchers have no control over this. If you are unsure if your instructor allows such credit, please ask your instructor. All psychology instructors who offer research credits in their courses are required by University policy to provide a non-research alternative to students in their classes who do not wish to directly participate in research. In order to be granted research credit, at the end of your participation in this anonymous survey, you will need to follow the link provided to a completely separate survey where you will be asked to give your name. This second survey will not in any way be linked to your earlier survey responses and is only collected so that we can give participants research credits by name. If you do not complete this survey, we cannot award you SONA credit.

Personal Information Confidentiality

We plan to publish the results of this study. We will not publish any information that can identify you individually. All data for this study will be collected anonymously. The only identifying information you will provide the researcher is separate from the main questionnaires of this study, and is only collected to award research credit.

You do not need to provide any identifying information to participate in this study. However, if you wish to receive research credit, once you have anonymously completed the main questionnaires of the study, you will then be asked if you wish to receive course credit for participating in this research. If you answer "Yes" to this question, you will be automatically linked to a completely separate survey that will ask for your name. Because the data from these two surveys are never linked, the only way a researcher will know that you have completed the relevant questionnaires of the anonymous portion of this study is to ask for your name with this completely separate, new survey. Completing this second survey will allow the researchers to know to whom they should grant credit in SONA (i.e., if you do not complete this "exit" survey, you will not receive SONA credit). Your instructors will not know which study you have participated in unless you tell them. Also, the researcher will not know what your specific responses were to any items of the surveys you completed (i.e., they will only know that you participated, but not what you reported in your responses)."

Data Storage For Future Use

We will not store any personally identifying information about you. We will store the anonymous data collected for this study on the Qualtrics survey website, as well on a password protected laptop computer. Finally, we will also password protect the data file.

Cost to Participant

Participation will not cost you anything.

Participation Compensation

You will not be paid to participate in this research study.

You will receive .5 hours of SONA credit if you complete this study. If you do not complete this study, you will not earn research credit for your participation.

Study Contact Information

If you have any questions about the research, you can contact the Principal Investigator, Brier Gallihugh, at bgallihu@emich.edu or by phone at (989)-423-6118.

You can also contact Brier Gallihugh's faculty adviser, Dr. Stephen Jefferson, at sjeffer2@emich.edu or by phone at 734.487.0097.

For questions about your rights as a research subject, contact the Eastern Michigan University Human Subjects Review Committee at human.subjects@emich.edu or by phone at 734-487-3090.

Voluntary participation

Participation in this research study is your *choice*. You may refuse to participate at any time, even after signing this form, without repercussion.

Statement of Consent

I have read this consent form. I have had an opportunity to ask questions and am satisfied with the answers I received.

- Yes I consent
- No I do not consent

Demographics

What is your current class year?

- Freshman
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Graduate

What is your age?

What is your race/ethnicity?

- White/European American
- African American
- Asian
- Hispanic/Latino
- Native American/First Nation
- Middle Eastern
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- Biracial/Multicultural
- Other

What is your political affiliation?

- Democrat
- Republican
- Tea Party
- Libertarian
- Green Party
- Other

I consider myself to be religious person.

Strongly disagree Disagree Neither agree nor disagree Agree Strongly Agree

Demographic

Please use the following options to best describe your gender identity?

- Female

- Male
- Transman
- Transwoman
- Gender variant
- Gender Queer
- Other (please describe)

What is your academic major (if you don't have one, type the phrase, "Not sure")?

What is your minor (if you don't have one, please type the word "None")?

When was the last time you voted in a federal or state election in the United States (i.e., just provide the last numeric year in which you voted; if you have never voted, please type the phrase, "I have never voted in the United States")?

Please read the following statements on the left of your screen and use the scale on the right to indicate your level of agreement with each statement.

Attributional complexity Scale

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
I am very curious about human behavior.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I prefer complex rather than simple explanations for people's behavior.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I give much thought to how my own thinking works in the process of understanding or explaining people's behavior.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
I often think about the different ways that people influence each other.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I seldom take people's behavior at face value, and usually worry about the inner causes for their behavior (e.g., attitudes, beliefs, etc.).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think a lot about the influence that society has on my behavior and personality.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have often found that the basic cause for a person's behavior is located far back in time.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

ATF Scale

Please read the following statements on the left of your screen and use the sliding scale provided to indicate your level of agreement with each statement. Please note that your response will not be recorded unless you move the slider (even if it already rests at the rating you wish to select before you move it).

Attitudes Toward Forgiveness (ATF)

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
0	1	2	4	5	6	7	
1. "I believe that forgiveness is a moral virtue." <small>[SEP]</small>	<input type="text"/>						<input type="text"/>
2. "Justice is more important than mercy."							<input type="text"/>
3. "It is admirable to be a forgiving person." <small>[SEP]</small>							<input type="text"/>
4. "I have no problem at all with people staying mad at those who hurt them."							<input type="text"/>

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
	0	1	2	4	5	6	7
5. "Forgiveness is a sign of weakness."	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. "People should work harder than they do to let go of the wrongs they have suffered."	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Conservatism Scale

How positively or negatively do you feel about each of the following issues? Please use the scale provided below to rate your feelings about these topics. Please understand that “0” represents feeling “very negatively” about these topics, and “100” represents feeling “very positively” about them.

	Conservatism Scale									
	Very negatively (0)					Neutral (50)			Very positively (100)	
Abortion rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Welfare benefits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Taxes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Immigration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Limited government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Military and national security	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Religion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gun ownership	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Traditional marriage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Traditional values	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fiscal responsibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Business	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The family unit	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Patriotism	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

TTF Scale

Please read the following statements on the left of your screen and use the sliding scale provided to indicate your level of agreement with each statement. Please note that your response will not be recorded unless you move the slider (even if it already rests at the rating you wish to select before you move it).

Tendency to Forgive (TTF)

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
	0	1	2	4	5	6	7
"I tend to get over it quickly when someone hurts my feelings." [SEP]							
"If someone wrongs me, I often think about it a lot after- ward."							
"I have a tendency to harbor grudges."							
"When people wrong me, my approach is just to forgive [SEP] and forget."							

Political Identification

If you had to choose, which political affiliation do you tend to lean towards?

- I tend to lean Liberal
- I tend to lean Conservative

LeanLiberal

Please indicate the degree to which you would describe yourself as a liberal.

Degree of Liberal Views	Not at all Liberal	Slightly Liberal	Somewhat Liberal	Moderately Liberal	Very Liberal	Extremely Liberal
	<input type="radio"/>					

LeanConservative

Please indicate the degree to which you would describe yourself as a conservative.

	Not at all conservative.	Slightly Conservative	Somewhat Conservative	Moderately Conservative	Very Conservative	Extremely Conservative
Degree of Conservative Views	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Conservative Profile

Below you will see the picture of a man who is running for political office as a Republican. Please imagine that you are evaluating this man to determine if you would support him in his bid to become the next President of the United States. Please read the candidate's profile carefully and then answer the questions that follow.



John William (R)

- Passionately supports his party's stances on social issues
- Attends church every Sunday
- Coached his son's soccer team
- Valedictorian of his prep high school
- Graduated Summa Cum Laude at Harvard Law School
- Has 2 children
- Happily married to his college sweetheart
- Was Captain of the Debate Club at Harvard
- This candidate has recently been accused of making unwanted sexually suggestive comments towards a female campaign staffer. This is the first time John has been accused of acting in this manner. John however denies that the comment was ever made

Liberal Profile

Below you will see the picture of a man who is running for political office as a Democrat. Please imagine that you are evaluating this man to determine if you would support him in his bid to become the next President of the United States. Please read the candidate's profile carefully and then answer the questions that follow.



John William (D)

- Passionately supports his party's stances on social issues
- Attends church every Sunday
- Coached his son's soccer team
- Valedictorian of his prep high school
- Graduated Summa Cum Laude at Harvard Law School
- Has 2 children
- Happily married to his college sweetheart
- Was Captain of the Debate Club at Harvard
- This candidate has a history of making unwanted sexually suggestive comments towards females

Important Questions

**John Williams**

Now please consider the candidate you just read about (pictured above). Please answer the following questions with that candidate in mind:

This question is included to make sure you were paying attention: To which of the following political parties did the candidate pictured above belong?

- Republican
- Democrat
- Green
- Libertarian
- Independent

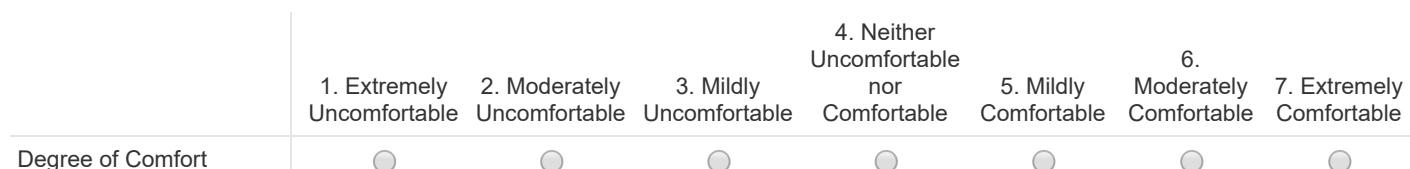
To what extent do you personally believe that the reputation of a candidate who is accused of sexual harassment is irreparably damaged merely because he has been accused of such behavior (please use the scale below to indicate your attitudes):

	1. Strongly Disagree	2	3	4	5. Neither Agree or Disagree	6	7	8	9. Strongly Agree
The candidate's reputation would be completely ruined in your mind.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I cannot trust the denial of someone who has been accused of sexual harassment.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being accused of sexual harassment is unforgivable.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

To what degree would you judge the potential candidate as believable in his denial of the accusation?



How comfortable would you be with this candidate as the President of the United States?



How likely do you believe it is that this potential candidate's own party members will vote for him?



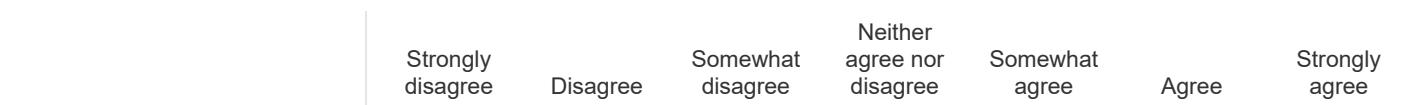
How likely do you believe it is that voters who are **NOT** from this candidate's party would vote for him?

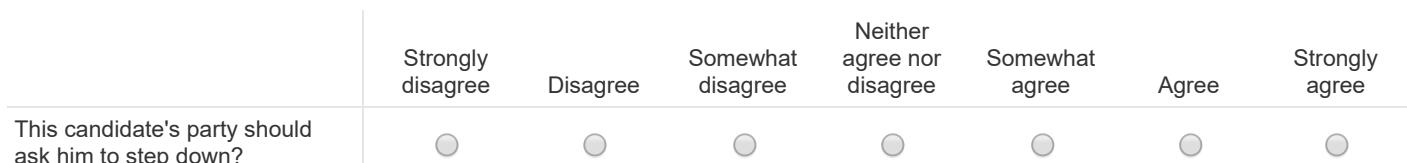


How much do you believe that this potential candidate's values represent his party's values?

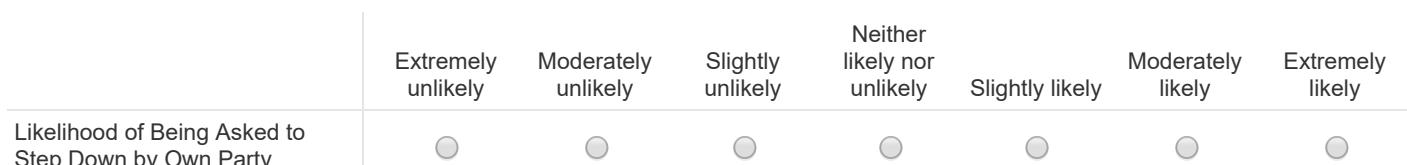


To what degree do you think this candidate's party should ask him to step down from the race?

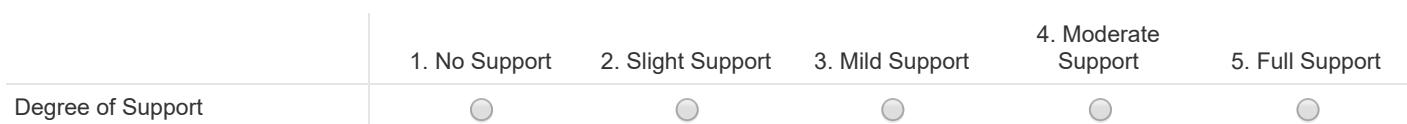




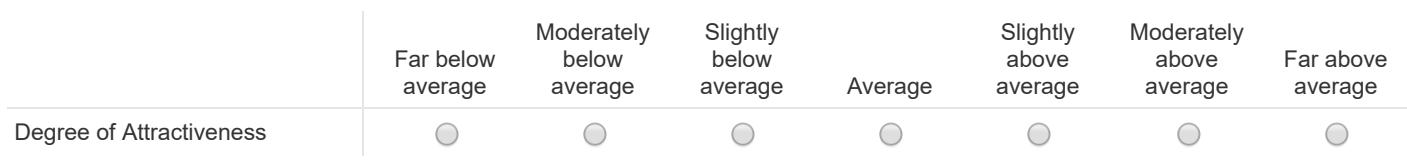
How likely do you think it is that this candidate's party would ask him to step down from the race?



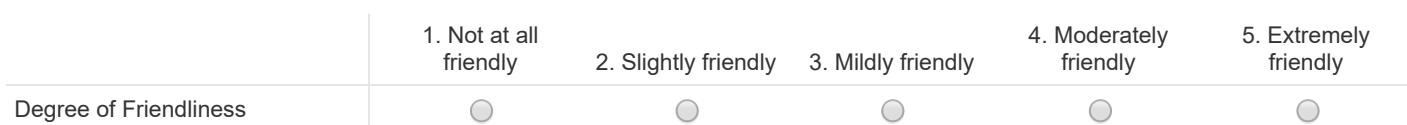
To what degree would you support this potential candidate in his bid to win a Presidential election?



How physically attractive do you find the candidate described in the vignette you read previously?



Please rank how friendly you think this candidate is likely to be:



How smart do you think this candidate is?



To what degree do you feel that you could relate to this candidate?

	1. Extremely Unlikely	2. Moderately Unlikely	3. Mildly Unlikely	4. Neither Likely or Unlikely	5. Mildly Likely	6. Moderately Likely	7. Extremely Likely
Degree of Relatability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How moral would you guess this potential candidate is likely to be?

	1. Extremely Immoral	2. Moderately Immoral	3. Mildly Immoral	4. Neither Moral nor Immoral	5. Mildly Moral	6. Moderately Moral	7. Extremely Moral
Candidate Morality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please indicate your level of support for the "#MeToo" movement -- i.e., this is a movement that seeks to allows the targets of sexual harassment or assault to not only speak out about their experiences, but also to name their perpetrator:

	1. No support	2. Slight Support	3. Mild Support	4. Moderately Support	5. Fully Support
To what degree do you personally support the "#Me Too" movement?	<input type="radio"/>				

Was the potential candidate that you read about accused of sexual harassment?

Yes

No

Debriefing Form

Study Debrief

Thank you for participating in this study! This form provides background about our research to help you learn more about why this study was done. Please feel free direct any questions or concerns you may have to the investigators.

Some studies use deception in situations where there is no other way to conduct the experiment without potentially biasing the results. The current study is one that did involve mild deception. The actual purpose of this study was to investigate the influence of personal political ideology on support for a candidate who was accused of engaging in sexual harassment. However, the profile you read and the picture you were shown it were both fictitious (i.e., the image is an open source image of man in a suit).

The data from this study will be presented to groups and potentially in research journals. However, all data will be kept secure and personally identifiable information left out. Data will only be analyzed by trained researchers. However, should you feel uncomfortable, know that your participation is still voluntary, and you are free to withdraw from the study in which case all your data and responses will be deleted. There is no

penalty for withdrawing

<u>Investigator</u>	<u>Contact Number</u>	<u>Email</u>
Brier Galliugh	989.423.6118	bgallihu@emich.edu
Stephen Jefferson	734.487.0097	sjeffer2@emich.edu

If you want more information about your rights as a participant or want to report any research-related concerns, please feel free to contact the current researchers (if your concerns relate to this study) or you may contact the Institutional Review Board at (734) 487-3090.

Research Credit

Thank you for participation in this study! At this time would you like to receive credit for this study? If yes, you will be directed to a second study where you can place your name so that we can assign credit. Your answers given in the study will not be matched with your name and will be kept confidential

- Yes, I would like to receive credit
- No, I would not like to receive credit

Contact Info

Researcher's Contact Information

Researcher	Phone Number	Email Address
Brier Galliugh, B.A	989-423-6118	bgallihu@emich.edu
Stephen Jefferson, PhD	734-487-0097	