

Consent Form

University of Toronto, Scarborough Research Consent Form

Principle Investigator: Cendri Hutcherson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology

Project Name: Computational modeling of value based decision making and self-control

INFORMATION: You are invited to participate in a research study on decision-making. The purpose of this study is to learn about the psychological and computational mechanisms that support value-based decision making (e.g., decisions about food or money). If you are over the age of 18, you are eligible to participate in this research.

During the study, which will be conducted in experiment rooms of the Toronto Decision Neuroscience Laboratory, you will be asked to make decisions about pleasant and/or unpleasant foods that may influence whether you will receive something to eat something at the end of the study, and what that food will be. You may also make decisions that influence whether you are paid some money. You will be asked to make ratings of foods. You may also be asked to fill out questionnaires about your personality, habits, or preferences. While you are performing these tasks, we may record your eye or hand movements. These recordings are completely safe and non-invasive.

TIME INVOLVEMENT: Your participation will take approximately 75-90 minutes.

RISKS:

Food allergies and safety: In this experiment you might be allowed or required to consume some food items. An abbreviated list of the kinds of foods used in the experiment is included below. If you are allergic to any of them, or cannot eat some of them for other reasons, you are not eligible to participate in the experiment (but you will still receive compensation for showing up). If there are any of these foods you cannot eat, please let the experimenter know now.

1. Fruits (e.g., avocado, apples, bananas, berries, citrus, grapes, pears, pineapple, tomatoes)
2. Vegetables (e.g. canned, fresh, or frozen broccoli, Brussels sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumber, lettuce, peppers, spinach)
3. Nuts (e.g. almonds, cashews, peanuts)
4. Snack foods (e.g. candy, chocolate, chips, cookies, crackers)
5. Prepared meats (e.g. canned meats, canned fish and seafood, deli meats)
6. Dairy products (e.g. cheese, ice cream, milk, yogurt)
7. Condiments (e.g. soy sauce, ketchup, mustard)
8. Breads and cereals (e.g. white or whole wheat bread, corn cereals, wheat cereals, toasted snacks)
9. Juice or soft drinks (e.g. fruit juice, Coke, Pepsi, Sprite)

Other risks: You may experience mild to moderate negative emotions (e.g. disappointment, disgust). You may also be asked to eat a small amount of some unpleasant foods.

BENEFITS: The benefits which may reasonably be expected to result from this study include the opportunity to contribute to and observe the methods used to study the psychology of decision making, as well as any payments that result from choices you make in the study. The information that we get from this study may help us to answer important research questions about the nature of human decision making. However, **we cannot and do not guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this study.**

CONFIDENTIALITY: All of your choices will be anonymous, and all of your data will be kept completely confidential. Your data will be accessible to qualified researchers, but your name will not be associated with any of your data, and all of the data you provide will be stored anonymously on secure, password-protected computers or on password-protected and encrypted servers. You are also free to withdraw from participation at any time, or to skip any questions that you do not feel comfortable answering. If you withdraw participation, all data associated with your participation will be destroyed.

COMPENSATION: You will receive course credit for your participation. In addition, in some versions of the study, you may receive an amount ranging from \$0 to **\$25** depending on the outcomes of events and choices that you make in the study. If you choose to withdraw from the study prior to completion, you will still receive full course credit for the time you spent prior to withdrawal. In addition, you will be allowed to keep any money that was given to you prior to your withdrawal.

PARTICIPANT'S RIGHTS: You have the right to have any questions you might have about the study answered. If you have read this form and have decided to participate in this project, please understand your **participation is voluntary** and you have the **right to withdraw your consent or discontinue participation at any time** without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You also have the right to refuse to answer particular questions.

PUBLICATION AND SHARING OF RESULTS: The results of this research study may be presented at scientific or professional meetings or published in scientific journals. If you are interested in viewing the results of the study, please feel free to contact the principle investigator, Dr. Cendri Hutcherson, at c.hutcherson@utoronto.ca, or at 647-774-5286.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Questions: If you have any questions, concerns or complaints about this research, its procedures, risks and/or benefits, contact the Protocol Director, Dr. Cendri Hutcherson, at the Department of Psychology, University of Toronto Scarborough, by phone at (647) 774-5286 or via e-mail at c.hutcherson@utoronto.ca.

Independent Contact: This project has been reviewed and approved by the University of Toronto Research Ethics Board. If you are not satisfied with how this study is being conducted, or if you have any concerns, complaints, or general questions about the research or your rights as a participant, you may contact the University of Toronto Research Ethics Board at ethics.review@utoronto.ca or (416) 946-3273.

The extra copy of this consent form is for you to keep. By signing below, you acknowledge that you have read and understand the above information, and agree to participate in this study.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____