**Consent to Participate in an Experimental Study  
Title:** Using Item Response Theory to Explore Scale Psychometrics

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| **Investigator**  Erin Buchanan, Ph.D. Department of Psychology 214D Hill Hall  Missouri State University  417-836-5592 |  |

**Description:**  
This study will investigate the relationship between different meaning in life scales, which will ask you about your perceived meaning in life, thoughts about goals, and general purpose of your life actions. The purpose of the study is to understand the relationship between these feelings and how they might be improved by offering better ways to understand those measures. If you feel troubled answering the questions, please feel free to opt out of the survey. Your information will be kept confidential, so please do not write your name on any other survey sheets. If you are having problems or are worried about your results, please talk to the experimenter, who will give you the information for counseling services on campus.

**Risks and Benefits:**  
Participants may feel uncomfortable while taking this questionnaire. You may leave the experiment at any time and are not required to fill out all the questions.

**Confidentiality:**  
We will not put your name on any of your tests. Only Dr. Buchanan and her assistant will have access to the data collected for this study. All data associated with this study will remain confidential.

**Right to Withdraw:**  
You do not have to take part in this study. If you start the study and decide that you do not want to finish, all you have to do is to tell Dr. Buchanan in person, by letter, or by tele­phone at the Department of Psychology, 214D Hill Hall, or 836-5592. Whether or not you choose to participate or to withdraw will not affect your standing with the Department of Psychology, or with the University, and it will not cause you to lose any benefits to which you are entitled. Experimental credit will be prorated based on the amount of time you spent in the study.

**IRB Approval:**  
This study has been reviewed by Missouri State University’s Institutional Review Board (IRB). The IRB has determined that this study fulfills the human research subject protections obligations required by state and federal law and University policies. If you have any questions, concerns, or reports regarding your rights as a participant of research, please contact the Office Research Compliance at 836-4132.

**Statement of Consent:**  
I have read the above information. I have been given a copy of this form. I have had an opportunity to ask questions, and I have received answers. I consent to participate in the study.

(signature lines for in person studies, online check boxes for online studies – if someone does not consent they are taken to a thank you screen).