

## Debriefing Form

### Title: leadership motivations experiment

Thank you for taking part in our study. Below is additional information about our study.

When we told you about the study, we said that the purpose of the study was to test social psychological theories about how people behave in virtual environments.

The real and full purpose of this study is to understand whether some people expend more effort on tasks when they are told that their performance will be scrutinized. Some participants were told that their group would see their score on the game; others were told their scores were private. Your condition was randomly assigned. Your groupmates were actually computer-controlled bots.

You may have noticed the phrase '© PsycTech 2025. All rights reserved.' on the consent page. This was included only to make the app look like a real, professional web platform. It does not restrict your rights in any way.

You were not told about the real purpose of the study in case that might have changed your answers or how you acted. This is an ongoing study and we do not want the real purpose to effect persons who may later take part in our study. We ask that you do not tell others about the real purpose until the study is over.

All the information we collect in our study will be confidential. We will make sure that in our study records there will be no way to link your name with your answers or the information that we collected. We are not interested in any specific person's responses. Instead, we want to look at the general results when everyone's responses are combined.

Your participation in our study is appreciated and will help us obtain new knowledge about our study topic. Again, we ask that you do not discuss the nature of our study with others who may later take part as this might affect the how they answer our questions or act in our study.

If you have any questions or concerns about our study, you may contact Harrison Miller ([hmill@psy.fsu.edu](mailto:hmill@psy.fsu.edu); 989-743-0434) at the FSU Department of Psychology. If you have any questions about subjects' rights, you may contact the FSU Institutional Review Board (IRB), a committee that reviewed and approved our study, at (850) 644-7900 or [humansubjects@fsu.edu](mailto:humansubjects@fsu.edu).

**If taking part in this study has caused you distress, anxiety, or discomfort, we encourage you to seek support.** You may contact:

- **National Resources**
  - **Crisis Text Line:** Text HOME to 741741 for free, 24/7 support from a trained crisis counselor.
  - **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** Dial 988 for confidential support available 24/7.
  - **SAMHSA National Helpline:** Call 1-800-662-HELP (4357) for free, confidential treatment referrals and support for mental health and substance use concerns.
- **For Questions About Your Rights as a Research Participant**

- You may contact the Chair of the Human Subjects Committee, Institutional Review Board, through the Office of the Vice President for Research, at (850) 644-8633.

If you are experiencing distress and need immediate support, please consider reaching out to one of the resources above or a trusted professional in your community.

If you would like to learn more about this research topic, we suggest the following references:

Case, C. R., Bae, K. K., & Maner, J. K. (2018). To lead or to be liked: When prestige-oriented leaders prioritize popularity over performance. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 115(4), 657.

Henrich, J., & Gil-White, F. J. (2001). The evolution of prestige: Freely conferred deference as a mechanism for enhancing the benefits of cultural transmission. *Evolution and human behavior*, 22(3), 165-196.