**Debriefing Form for the MU Working-Memory Laboratory**

**Department of Psychological Sciences**

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We can never thank our research participants enough. We run a large number of experimental conditions, with the general goal of understanding *working memory*, humans’ ability to keep in mind a small amount of information to be used in ongoing tasks, and *selective attention*, the ability to pay attention to relevant stimuli and block out irrelevant, interfering stimuli. We are interested in the mechanisms of working memory and selective attention, which we examine largely in adults, and in the development of these abilities during childhood.

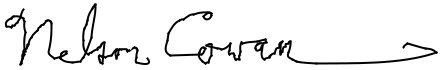
The purpose of this study is to determine the extent to which memory for line angles or colors is interfered with when someone holds another group of other lines and/or colors in their working memory. Research suggests that trying to hold a group of colors and a group of line angles would have less interference than trying to just hold two groups of lines or two groups of colors in working memory since line angles and colors would be held in slightly different areas of working memory and therefore would have less overlap to interfere with each other.

In this experiment, we are looking for group averages. The experiments are not developed enough to be of use in determining how good or how poor a particular person’s memory may be.

For more information about our research, please visit our website at [https://memory.psych.missouri.edu/.](https://memory.psych.missouri.edu/)

If you have additional questions, you are welcome to reach me via phone at 882-4232 or via email at [CowanN@missouri.edu.](mailto:CowanN@missouri.edu) If you require a timely response, email is often the most efficient way to reach me.

Many Thanks.



Nelson Cowan

Professor and Director of the Working-Memory Laboratory