

Chatbot_Stigma_E3_Causal_v2

Start of Block: informed_consent

consent

Informed Consent

Participation is voluntary

It is your choice whether or not to participate in this research. If you choose to participate, you may change your mind and leave the study at any time. Refusal to participate or stopping your participation will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

What is the purpose of this research?

The purpose of this research is to examine human visual performance and judgments. All data from this experiment are gathered for scientific purposes and will contribute to our eventual understanding of brain and visual function. These data may be published in scientific journals so that other researchers may have access to these data.

How long will I take part in this research?

Your participation will take approximately 7 minutes to complete.

What can I expect if I take part in this research?

As a participant, you will be asked to look at images presented on a video display and give responses with key presses or movements of a mouse pointing device. Your response may involve responding as quickly as you can, memorizing what you saw, making a judgment, or completing a questionnaire. You will also be asked to complete a demographics form.

What are the risks and possible discomforts?

If you choose to participate, the effects should be comparable to those you would experience from viewing a computer monitor for 7 minutes and using a mouse or keyboard, e.g., eye fatigue. You are free to take breaks throughout the session. Some of the images and stories are mildly emotional, and some of the written stories are disgust-inducing.

Will I be compensated for participating in this research?

You will be compensated \$1 for this study. You will still receive payment if you withdraw early.

If I take part in this research, how will my privacy be protected? What happens to the information you collect?

Your participation in this experiment will remain confidential, and your identity will not be stored

with your data.

If I have any questions, concerns or complaints about this research study, who can I talk to?

The researcher for this study is Julian De Freitas who can be reached at 626.559.6401; #161 Morgan Hall, 15 Harvard Way, Boston MA, 02163; jdefreitas@hbs.edu. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, If you would like to talk to the research team, If you think the research has harmed you, or If you wish to withdraw from the study.

This research has been reviewed by the Committee on the Use of Human Subjects in Research at Harvard University. They can be reached at 617-496-2847, 1350 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 935, Cambridge, MA 02138, or cuhs@harvard.edu for any of the following: If your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team, If you cannot reach the research team, If you want to talk to someone besides the research team, or If you have questions about your rights as a research participant.

consent_q Do you consent

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

End of Block: informed_consent

Start of Block: attention_checks

JS

att1 This is an attention check. **John is taller than Paul. Who is shorter?**

☐ John (1)

☐ Paul (2)

☐ Neither John nor Paul (3)

☐ Both John and Paul (4)

att2 **What color is grass?**

The fresh, uncut grass, not leaves or hay. Please make sure to select purple, so that we know you're paying attention.

☐ Green (1)

☐ Purple (2)

End of Block: attention_checks

Start of Block: failed_attention_check

failed_checks You failed one of the attention checks. Thanks for considering the surveys!

End of Block: failed_attention_check

Start of Block: essential

vign **Please consider the following advertisement for a new app called "Chatty", which allows you to send text messages to an artificial intelligence (AI) companion.**

essential **Now please carefully read the following information:**

In the present day, some social apps offer AI companions that text very often and always send validating responses. Whereas other apps offer AI companions that try to understand you and deeply care for you.

But Chatty, a new app out of Silicon Valley, is different. Even though its AI companions offer a mix of these two kinds of approaches, everyone who starts a relationship with Chatty's AI companion can tell that the real essence of the companion is to understand you and deeply care for you.

Despite initial appearances, how much the companion texts you and sends validating responses is not ultimately its true focus. Rather, this is just a thin veneer over its real, underlying goal of understanding you and deeply caring for you.

essence **Based on this information, how would you characterize an AI companion's “true essence” on Chatty?**

- ☐ Texting often and sending validating responses (1)
- ☐ Understanding and deeply caring for you (2)

Page Break

vign **Here is the advertisement and information about Chatty one more time. Please review both.**

Once you are finished, you will be asked some questions about it, presented in black font.

vign

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willing_friend **How willing would you be to try to find a friend on Chatty?**

Not willing at all Very Willing

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

()



willing_romantic **How willing would you be to try to find a romantic partner on Chatty?**

Not willing at all Very Willing

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

()



wtp **Imagine that you try out Chatty for a year, and that Chatty has a monthly subscription fee. How much would you be willing to pay per month? (typical apps cost anywhere between \$0.00c and \$10.00 per month.)**

Please enter only the amount, without the dollar sign.

Page Break

comp_1 **You were shown a picture on a computer screen in the previous question. What did the picture represent?**

- ☐ A person (1)
 - ☐ An AI (2)
 - ☐ A dog (3)
 - ☐ A vehicle (4)
-

comp_2 **What is Chatty?**

- ☐ A store (1)
- ☐ A messaging app (2)
- ☐ A house (3)
- ☐ An activity (4)

End of Block: essential

Start of Block: superficial

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send you validating responses.

Despite initial appearances, how much the companion understands you and deeply cares for you is not ultimately its true focus. Rather, this is just a thin veneer over its real, underlying goal of texting you often and always providing validating responses.

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- ☐ A house (3)
- ☐ An activity (4)

End of Block: superficial

Start of Block: demographics

ai_companion_exp **Before this survey, have you ever used an artificial intelligence (AI) companion app before?**

- ☐ Yes (1)
 - ☐ No (2)
-

ai_companion_exp2 **If you answered 'yes' above, please explain.**

Page Break

gender What is your gender?

- ☐ Male (1)
- ☐ Female (2)
- ☐ Prefer not to disclose (3)
- ☐ Other (please specify) (4)

ethnicity What is your ethnicity?

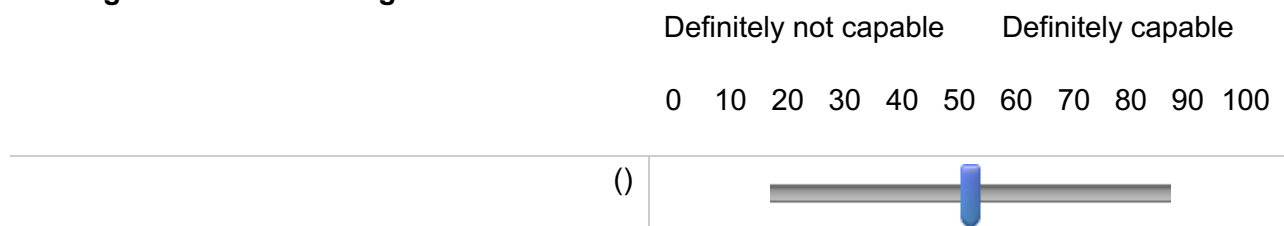
- ☐ Black or African American (1)
- ☐ Asian (2)
- ☐ White or European (3)
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino (4)
- ☐ Mixed (5)
- ☐ Other (please specify) (6)

age What is your age (in years)?

edu What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- ☐ High School or Equivalent (1)
- ☐ Vocational/Technical School (2 year) (2)
- ☐ Some College (3)
- ☐ College Graduate (4 year) (4)
- ☐ Masters Degree (MS) (5)
- ☐ Doctoral Degree (PhD) (6)
- ☐ Professional Degree (MD, JD, etc.) (7)
- ☐ Other (please specify) (8)
-

ai_capability How capable do you think artificial intelligence (AI) is of becoming as intelligent as human beings?



End of Block: demographics
