Gratitude Questionnaire

**Informed Consent Form**

The purpose of this study is to examine how people feel when others do them favors or otherwise behave nicely toward them. In it you will presented with a series of imaginary scenarios in you receive benefits from someone and asked to answer some questions about how you think you would feel if that happened to you. The procedure should take no more than 20 minutes to complete, for which you will receive a half-hour research-participation credit for your class.

There are no known risks or discomforts associated with the tasks in this experiment.

Your privacy is important to us and we will make every effort to protect your privacy. When the study is complete and the data are downloaded, we will immediately and permanently delete any potential identifying information (such as your student ID number) from the data so that all participants will be completely anonymous. Moreover, the results of this experiment will not be linked to any specific individual; we are only interested in group averages.

Please read the paragraph below and type your name in the field that follows:

The general nature of this study has been explained to me. I understand that I will be participating in an interview. My participation in this study should take no longer than 30 minutes. I understand that my responses will be confidential and that my name will not be associated with any results of this study. I know that I do not have to participate in this study and that if I do choose to participate, I may stop at any time without any penalty. I know that I may refuse to answer any question asked and I also understand that any payment for participation will not be affected by my responses or by my exercising any of my rights. I am aware that I may report dissatisfaction with any aspect of this experiment to the Chair of the Protection of Human Subjects Committee, Dr. Jennifer Stevens, jastev@wm.edu. I understand that I may contact Dr. Lee Kirkpatrick about this experiment to ask any questions or to obtain the results of this study after it is completed at lakirk@wm.edu. I am aware that I must be at least 18 years of age to participate. By printing my name in the field below, I signify that I have voluntarily consented to participate in this project and that I have read and understood the content of this consent form.

Type your name here: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Stranger Questions:**

*In the questions below, please indicate “How grateful do you feel”, “How much do you think that you would want to do something equally good for him/her”, and “How much do you think that you would feel obligated to do something equally good for him/her” on this Likert scale:*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Not at all |  |  |  |  | Extremely |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How grateful do you feel | A close up of a device  Description automatically generated |
| How much do you think that you would want to do something equally good for him/her | A close up of a device  Description automatically generated |
| How much do you think that you would feel obligated to do something equally good for him/her | A close up of a device  Description automatically generated |

Prompt 1: Please think about one particular person from your personal life that is a stranger to you.

Question 1: This stranger wishes you a good day.

Question 2: This stranger tells you a funny joke.

Question 3: This stranger lets you go in front of them in the grocery line.

Question 4: This stranger holds a door open for you.

Question 5: This stranger pays for your lunch.

Question 6: This stranger sees you on the side of the road with a flat tire and helps you change your tire.

Question 7: You are trapped in a burning building. This stranger decides to enter the building and saves your life.

Question 8: This stranger sees that a large truck is about to hit you and pushes you out of the way.

Question 9: This stranger sees you accidentally drop your wallet, picks it up, and returns it to you.

Question 10: This stranger tells you that you left your car headlights on.

Question 11: This stranger cooks a meal for you.

Question 12: The stranger gives you a ride to the airport.

Question 13: Someone is mugging you. This stranger steps in and defends you.

Question 14: Someone is insulting you. This stranger steps in and defends you.

Question 15: You are sick. This stranger offers to pick up your prescriptions.

Question 16: This stranger gives you $1.

Question 17: This stranger gives you $10.

Question 18: This stranger gives you $100.

Question 19: This stranger gives you $1000.

Question 20: You have a middle seat on an airplane. This stranger switches seats with you so that you could be more comfortable.

**End of Stranger Questions**

**Friends Questions:**

*In the questions below, please indicate “How grateful do you feel”, “How much do you think that you would want to do something equally good for him/her”, and “How much do you think that you would feel obligated to do something equally good for him/her” on this likert scale:*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Not at all |  |  |  |  | Extremely |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How grateful do you feel | A close up of a device  Description automatically generated |
| How much do you think that you would want to do something equally good for him/her | A close up of a device  Description automatically generated |
| How much do you think that you would feel obligated to do something equally good for him/her | A close up of a device  Description automatically generated |

Question 1: Do you have people in your life that you would consider him/her as a friend? (Yes or No) -- If your answer to this question is “No”, then this is the end of this survey; if you answer to this question is “Yes”, then please proceed to the rest of the questions.

Question 2: Please think about one person from your personal life that is a close friend. Please list his/her initials \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Question 3: <Friend’s Initials> wishes you a good day.

Question 4: <Friend’s Initials> tells you a funny joke.

Question 5: <Friend’s Initials> lets you go in front of him/her in the grocery line.

Question 6: <Friend’s Initials> holds a door open for you.

Question 7: <Friend’s Initials> sees you on the side of the road with a flat tire and helps you change your tire.

Question 8: You are trapped in a burning building. <Friend’s Initial> decides to enter the building and saves your life.

Question 9: <Friend’s Initials> sees that a large truck is about to hit you and pushes you out of the way.

Question 10: <Friend’s Initials> sees you accidentally drop your wallet, picks it up, and returns it to you.

Question 11: <Friend’s Initials> tells you that you left your car headlights on.

Question 12: <Friend’s Initials> cooks a meal for you.

Question 13: <Friend’s Initials> gives you a ride to the airport.

Question 14: Someone is mugging you. <Friend’s Initials> steps in and defends you.

Question 15: Someone is insulting you. <Friend’s Initials> steps in and defends you.

Question 16: You are sick. <Friend’s Initials> offers to pick up your prescriptions.

Question 17: <Friend’s Initials> gives you $1.

Question 18: <Friend’s Initials> gives you $10.

Question 19: <Friend’s Initials> you $100.

Question 20: <Friend’s Initials> you $1000.

Question 21: You have a middle seat on an airplane. <Friend’s Initials> switches seats with you so that you could be more comfortable.

**End of Friend Questions**

**Debriefing**

Thank you for participating in this study! The general purpose of this study is to examine how gratitude and desire/obligation to return a favor (i.e., “reciprocate”) differ depending on whether a favor was granted by a stranger or a friend. Our hypothesis is that when provided with the same benefit, the recipient should feel equally grateful whether the benefit was provided by a friend or stranger, but should feel a greater desire or sense of obligation to return the favor to a stranger than a friend.

No deception was involved at any point in our experiment. Your participation is greatly appreciated and could help us better understand the role and function of gratitude in various relationships.

Questions concerning this experiment or the manner it was conducted in can be sent to Qizhou Duan (qduan@email.wm.edu) or Professor Lee A. Kirkpatrick (lakirk&wm.edu).

Thanks again!