

## **INFORMED CONSENT**

**Protocol Title:** Factors Affecting Risky Choice in a Sampling Paradigm

**Principal Investigator:** James Corter, PhD, Teachers College cognitiontasks@gmail.com

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### **INTRODUCTION**

You are being invited to participate in this research study called “Factors Affecting Risky Choice in a Sampling Paradigm.” You may qualify to take part in this research study if you are over 18 years old. Approximately 200 people will participate in this study and the time range for completion will vary between participants. We expect the survey to take approximately one hour to complete.

### **WHY IS THIS STUDY BEING DONE?**

This study is being done to examine individual differences in decision behavior when participants complete simple decision-making tasks.

### **WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO IF I AGREE TO TAKE PART IN THIS STUDY?**

If you decide to participate, you will be asked to complete five distinct tasks. The first task is to answer a demographic survey covering your gender, age, native language, highest-level of education, employment status, and approximate annual household income. The second task is to select from a list of numbers how frequently certain events actually occur or have occurred in your life. The third task will ask you questions pertaining to your financial behavior and financial attitude. The fourth task will ask you to choose a number for each statement to indicate the extent that each characteristic may or may not apply to you. Lastly, you will be asked to participate in a simple decision-making game. You will have eight different choice problems; each choice problem will consist of two different options that you must choose between. All five aforementioned tasks should take approximately 1 hour to complete.

### **WHAT POSSIBLE RISKS OR DISCOMFORTS CAN I EXPECT FROM TAKING PART IN THIS STUDY?**

This is a minimal risk study, which means the harms or discomforts that you may experience are not greater than you would ordinarily encounter in daily life while answering emails or filling out work-related surveys. However, there are some risks to consider. You may get fatigued or bored during the decision-making game.

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### **WHAT POSSIBLE BENEFITS CAN I EXPECT FROM TAKING PART IN THIS STUDY?**

There is no direct benefit to you from participating in the study other than the payment, described below, provided for your participation.

### **WILL I BE PAID FOR BEING IN THIS STUDY?**

You will receive monetary compensation that ranges from \$7.00 to \$14.00 USD contingent upon your performance on the decision-making game.

### **WHEN IS THE STUDY OVER? CAN I LEAVE THE STUDY BEFORE IT ENDS?**

The study is over when you have completed all parts of the survey and the game. However, you can leave the study at any time even if you haven't finished. There is no penalty for skipping questions or withdrawing from the study at any time.

### **PROTECTION OF YOUR CONFIDENTIALITY**

All collected data will be kept confidential and only reported in aggregate. Every participant will be assigned a unique PIN that will be associated with their data, thus identifying information is never stored with any collected data. Participants will not be asked to record any identifying information on the survey forms. The first four tasks will be collected on paper with the participant's assigned PIN saved on the top left corner for each sheet of paper. As for the decision-making game, the same PIN created for each participant will be stored on a csv file along with their responses. Regulations require that research data be kept for at least three years.

### **HOW WILL THE RESULTS BE USED?**

The general results of this study will be published in journals or presented at academic conferences. Your name or any identifying information about you will never be associated with your data or not be published.

### **WHO CAN ANSWER MY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS STUDY?**

If you have any questions about taking part in this research study, you should contact the principal investigator: Dr. James Corter at [cognitiontasks@gmail.com](mailto:cognitiontasks@gmail.com).

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If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a research subject, you should contact the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at 212-678-4105 or email [IRB@tc.edu](mailto:IRB@tc.edu). Or alternatively, you can write to the IRB at Teachers College, Columbia University, 525 West 120th Street, New York, NY 10027. The IRB is the committee that oversees human research protection for Teachers College, Columbia University.

### **PARTICIPANT'S RIGHTS**

- I have read and discussed the informed consent with the researcher. I have had ample opportunity to ask questions about the purposes, procedures, risks and benefits regarding this research study.
- I understand that my participation is voluntary. I may refuse to participate or withdraw participation at any time without penalty.
- If, during the course of the study, significant new information that has been developed becomes available which may relate to my willingness to continue my participation, the investigator will provide this information to me.
- Any information derived from the research study that personally identifies me will not be voluntarily released or disclosed without my separate consent, except as specifically required by law.
- I should receive a copy of the Informed Consent document.