

INFORMED CONSENT PAGE

KEY INFORMATION

- **We are seeking your consent to participate in research. This research is completely voluntary.**
- **The purpose of this research is to examine how the use of generative artificial intelligence (genAI) in legal services affects client trust and willingness to pay for legal representation.**
- **If you consent, you will be asked to read a legal case summary and answer some questions, which will require 20-25 minutes of your time.**
- **We do not anticipate that being in this study will expose you to any risk of harm.**
- **You will not benefit from being in this study.**

You are invited to participate in a research study titled **Generative Artificial Intelligence in Legal Decision-Making: Understanding Client Perceptions**. This study is being led by Maya Tang, a student at Bowdoin College. The Faculty Advisor for this study is Professor Dale Syphers at Bowdoin College. Dr. Tatyana Avilova is a coauthor on the study. This study is being funded by Bowdoin College and the Alan M. Christenfeld Summer Research Fellowship. Approximately 400 persons will take part in this study.

Being in this study is voluntary, which means that you may choose not to join the study or to quit the study for any reason. Please read this page before you agree to be in the study. If you decide to take part in the study, you will be asked to give your consent at the end of the page. Be sure you understand what you will do and any possible risks or benefits.

WHAT IS THIS STUDY ABOUT?

The purpose of this research study is to examine how the use of generative artificial intelligence (genAI) in legal services affects client trust and willingness to pay for legal representation. It aims to test whether informing clients about genAI's accuracy can influence their perceptions of genAI-assisted legal services. By doing so, we seek to better understand the role of transparency in shaping public trust in genAI within the legal profession.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO?

If you consent, you will proceed directly to the survey. First, you will answer a short set of questions about your views on legal services that use genAI versus those provided only by human lawyers, including your confidence in genAI, perceptions of bias, and willingness to pay for legal services. You will then receive one of several legal case summaries to read. After reading your assigned case summary, you will answer a similar set of follow-up questions to assess any changes in your views. You may also be asked open-ended questions about your concerns or ethical considerations regarding genAI in legal decision-making. This will require 20-25 minutes of your time.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS AND DISCOMFORT?

It is possible that you may experience mild emotional discomfort, boredom, or fatigue from being in this study. Some participants may feel uneasy when reflecting on the use of genAI in legal services, particularly around issues of fairness and trust, which could cause mild stress or anxiety. Completing the 20–25 minute survey may also cause mild boredom or fatigue.

Should you experience any negative effects from being in this study, please inform us as soon as possible.

WILL I BENEFIT FROM BEING IN THIS STUDY?

You may not benefit from being in this study. It is possible, however, your participation may contribute to broader societal benefits by helping researchers, legal professionals, and policymakers better understand public perceptions of genAI-assisted legal services. The findings may also inform future efforts to promote the responsible and ethical use of genAI in the legal field.

WILL I BE PAID FOR BEING IN THIS STUDY?

Yes. For being in this study, you will receive \$7.50.

WILL BEING IN THIS STUDY COST ME ANYTHING?

No.

WILL THE INFORMATION I SHARE WITH YOU BE LINKED TO MY IDENTITY?

No.

WHERE WILL THE INFORMATION I SHARE WITH YOU BE STORED?

The information that you share with us will be stored on the Qualtrics platform and on the Bowdoin College Microsoft OneDrive account. Both storage methods are password protected.

We will make every effort to ensure the security of the data that you share with us. As you are likely aware, it is impossible to completely guarantee the security of data transmitted or stored electronically. In addition to the places where we will store your information (described above), your data may be saved on backups and activity logs (i.e., records of internet activity).

WHO WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION I SHARE WITH YOU?

Only the researchers involved with this study will have access to the information you share with us.

It is also possible that certain people may need to review our research records and may find out about your participation in this study. For example, the following people/groups may check and copy records about this research:

- The Office for Human Research Protections in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Bowdoin College's Institutional Review Board (the committee that reviews and approves research studies)

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE INFORMATION I SHARE AFTER THE STUDY IS OVER?

We will retain the information you share with us for 7 years.

DO I HAVE TO BE IN THIS STUDY?

No. You may choose not to take part in this study for any reason. If you join this study, you may change your mind and stop participating in the study at any time and for any reason. In either case, you will not lose any benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT WITH QUESTIONS?

If you have questions or problems related to this study, you should contact Maya Tang at mtang@bowdoin.edu.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights as a subject in this study, you may contact the Bowdoin College Institutional Review Board (IRB) at irb@bowdoin.edu.

Because of platform limitations, we cannot provide a link to download a copy of this document on this page. However, you will be able to download a copy of this document for your records on the first page of the survey.

CONSENT

By checking the box below, you verify that you have read the above information, that you are at least 18 years of age, and that you wish to consent to take part in the study.

☐ I agree to be in this study