

Material - Debriefing Statement

This document provides the full text of the debriefing statement that will be presented to all participants after they have completed the final post-study survey questions.

Full Debriefing Statement Text:

Thank you for your valuable participation in our study. We sincerely appreciate the time and thought you dedicated to interacting with Kagami and sharing your experience.

The main goal of this research is to understand how different design features of AI chatbots affect the way people feel about and interact with them. To investigate this, we created several different versions of the Kagami chatbot. As part of the study, you were randomly assigned to interact with just one of these versions.

The key features we were examining were:

- **The Chatbot's Appearance (Avatar):** Some participants were given the option to select a premade avatar for the chatbot, others could generate a unique one, and some interacted with the chatbot through text only (no avatar).
- **The Chatbot's Communication Style:** For some participants, Kagami used a consistent, static way of talking. For others, the chatbot was designed to subtly adapt its language style to more closely match the way the participant was writing.

We didn't explain these specific conditions to you before the study began because knowing the exact goal can sometimes influence how people naturally interact with the system. By revealing the full purpose now, we can be more confident that our results reflect genuine user experiences.

Please be assured that all your responses will be de-identified and kept confidential. If you have any further questions about this research or would like to be notified of the aggregated results when they are available, please feel free to contact **James Brandt** at bran1400@umn.edu.