**Sample Informed Consent & Assent Forms**

In this document you will find sample language for various sections of an informed consent & assent forms (pp. 2 – 6).

In addition, you can find

-a sample consent form for experiments, correlational studies, surveys, and other similar projects

(pp. 7 – 8)

-a sample consent form for interview or focus group based projects (pp. 9 – 10)

-a sample informed assent for teenagers (age 13 +, pp. 11 – 14)

-a sample informed assent form for children ages 3 – 12 (p. 15)

If you will be conducting a study with minors, you will need to also have a parental consent form. This type of consent form will look similar to the sample consent forms above except that “you” references to participants will be changed to “your child”. In addition, in place of participant signature signifying consent to participate in your study, you will need a line where parents/guardians list their child’s name and then a place for them to sign signifying consent for their child’s participation.

Language in blue font: represents annotations, helpful notes, or reminders

Language in orange font or in brackets [ ]: represent sample language that is specific to a particular study.

**Sample consent/assent language**

Below you will find sample language for each of the components of an informed consent or assent form.

**Project Title:**

*Example:* Juror Decision Making in a Domestic Violence Case

**Principal Investigator (the head researcher):**

Describe who is conducting the research, including title and affiliation. If you are a student conducting the research under faculty supervision (such as for senior thesis), provide your name and the name of your faculty supervisor.

*Senior thesis example*: This research is being conducted by [student researcher name], a student at Scripps College, as part of the senior thesis requirement under the supervision of [faculty member name], a [rank] Professor in the Department of [department name] at Scripps College.

*Faculty example*: This research is being conducted by [faculty member name], a [rank] Professor in the Department of [department name] at Scripps College.

**Project Description:**

Here you should describe the basic purpose of the research (i.e., what you are interested in studying). This can be pretty general, and you do not need to provide your hypotheses here.

*Example*: You are invited to participate in this research study about [make a general statement here, such as “how jurors make decisions”]. The following information is provided in order to help you to make an informed decision about whether or not to participate. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. The purpose of this research study is to [provide purpose here, for example: “identify how people make decisions when they are asked to determine if a defendant should be held responsible for a crime. In particular, we are interested in how jurors make decisions about battered women as defendants for killing their allegedly abusive husbands.”].

**Who Can Participate:**

Describe qualifications to participate in your study. Qualifications are any defining characteristic of the population of people you are interested in studying. If there are no special qualifications and you are using adults, you must say that they must be 18 to participate.

*No special qualifications example*: You are qualified to participate in this research because you are 18 years of age or over.

*Special qualifications example*: You are qualified to participate in this research because you are eligible for jury duty in the United States. That means that you are 18 years old or older, you are a U.S. citizen, you have never been convicted of a felony, and you can understand spoken English.

**What Participating Involves:**

Describe how much time it will take to participate in your study. Also describe the basic tasks participants will do and the types of questions they will be asked. For experiments, describe to what the participants will be exposed and the kinds of questions you will ask. For interviews, focus groups, and surveys, describe the types of questions that will be asked. For observations, describe what will be observed and what will be recorded. Make sure you describe anything sensitive or potentially upsetting that you will ask them to do.

*Experimental Example*: Participation in this study will require approximately half an hour to one hour of your time. You will be asked to [describe tasks here, for example “read a scenario depicting a criminal trial and to answer some questions about it in the packet provided to you.] [describe anything sensitive such as “The criminal trial contains a description of the trial of a woman who is accused of killing her allegedly abusive husband, much like you would hear on the evening news or see on a crime drama television show.”] [describe the kinds of questions they will be asked, for example: “You will be asked questions about your memory of and your opinion of the trial.”]

*Interview or Survey example*: Participation in this study will require approximately half an hour to one hour of your time. I have a series of questions to ask you for the interview/survey/focus group. [Describe the types of questions you will ask, for example: “The questions I will ask you are about what you think about the legal system, your experience with the legal system, and what you think about trials involving domestic violence.” Also describe anything sensitive: “You also will be asked about your own experience with domestic violence.”]

*Observation example*: Participation in this study will require approximately half an hour to one hour of your time. I will observe you [describe what will be observed, such as “participating in meditation training program”] and I will record [describe the type of information you will record such as “the types of questions participants ask and how they interact with each other”].

**Possible Benefits of Participating:**

Describe the benefits to the participant. For studies with volunteer participants, it is likely that there will be no benefit to participating. If you are paying participants, state that here that they will receive payment including how much they will be paid. If they will acquire skills, such as completing some kind of training program, state that here. But please do not over-sell benefits to your participants. Be honest, even if there are few anticipated direct benefits to participants.

*No benefits example*: You are likely to experience no direct benefits to your participation in this research.

*Monetary benefits example*: You will receive $5 for your participation in this research. You are likely to experience no other direct benefits to your participation in this research.

*Training benefits example*: As part of your participation, you will receive training in how to meditate for six weeks. You are likely to experience no other direct benefits to your participation in this research.

**Possible Risks of Participating:**

Describe the likely and/or foreseeable risks, discomforts, inconveniences to participation and how these will be managed. These can include negative emotional reactions to the study materials or questions, boredom/fatigue, embarrassment, and risks of breach of confidentiality, in addition to many other potential risks. You will need to state whether the risks are expected to be “minimal” or more than minimal. If there are significant physical or psychological risks to participation that might cause the researcher to end the participant’s participation in the study, please describe them. Provide an appropriate resource for locating counseling in the event of lingering discomfort. For 5C students, you can use the Monsour Counseling Center. For non-students, one could provide contact information for appropriate counseling services (e.g., the American Psychological Association counseling locator: locator.apa.org). If you are working with a special population, you may need to consider other services. If you are going to use a local clinic or doctor as a referral, you must have their permission to do so.

*Minimal risk example*: Participation in this study will likely involve minimal risk to you. The [story you will read, questions you will be asked, etc.] will be similar to what you encounter in your daily life. You are not likely to experience any discomfort. In the event of any problems resulting from participation in the study, information about psychological treatment is available through the American Psychological Association at locator.apa.org.

*Minimal risk example with some potential for discomfort*: Participation in this study will likely involve minimal risk to you. The [story you will read, questions you will be asked, etc.] will be similar to what you encounter in your daily life. Because the trial you will read about is for murder and involves domestic violence, this could create some minimal discomfort for you. If you find that the information makes you uncomfortable or feel that it will make you uncomfortable, you are free to decide not to participate or to withdraw at any time. In the event of any problems resulting from participation in the study, information about psychological treatment is available through the American Psychological Association at locator.apa.org.

*More than minimal risk example (must be used when you are asking identifiable questions about a sensitive topic)*: Participation in this study may involve more than minimal risk to you. You will be asked about [describe type of sensitive question here, for example “your personal experience with sexual assault” or “your immigration status” or “your sexual orientation”]. These questions may make you feel uncomfortable, and you may have a negative emotional reaction to them. If you find that the information makes you uncomfortable or feel that it will make you uncomfortable, you are free to decide not to participate or to withdraw at any time. In the event of any problems resulting from participation in the study, information about psychological treatment is available through the American Psychological Association at locator.apa.org.

**Confidentiality:**

Describe the level of confidentiality you will maintain for the information participants provide to you and how you will do that. Data can be anonymous (you do not know who provided particular data and no identifying information will be collected), confidential (you have identifying information or know who provided particular data, but you will not disclose it), or identifiable (you have identifying information and you will disclose it or participants can be identified visually or through their voice or other similar personal characteristic). Please also discuss how you will be presenting or disseminating the results of your research study. For senior theses, please don’t forget that you will be submitting your thesis to the library electronically and it will “published” through scholarship@Claremont, in addition to any public presentations you may do about your thesis.

*Anonymous example (use for surveys that do not collect identifiers)*: Your responses in the study are completely anonymous. No identifying information about you will be collected during this study. You will not be asked to provide your name or any other information about yourself that could be used to identify you or that could be linked to your responses. The information obtained in this study may be published in scientific journals or presented at scientific meetings, but your identity will not be revealed. Results will be kept in a secure location that is only accessible to the investigators.

*Confidential example (use for interviews, surveys that do collect identifiers, etc.)*: I will make every effort to ensure that you will be personally identified only to the Primary Investigator (me). I will not include your name or any identifying details in the write-up of this research project or in any of my presentations that result from this project. No identifying information will be included on any documents associated with this study. Results will be kept in a secure location that is only accessible to the investigators.

*Additional language if you will have audio or video recordings of participants*: The [specify audio or video] recording of this interview will be stored on a password-protected server and transcribed [provide time to transcription here, for example, “within a week”]. Any identifying information that you reveal in the interview will be deleted from the transcription. The recording will then be deleted, and the transcription will be stored on a password-protected server.

*Additional language if you are asking about illegal behavior*: Because we are going to ask you about potentially illegal behavior [related to alcohol consumption], it is Scripps College policy to advise all participants that they should be careful to avoid disclosing information about past or ongoing illegal activity or that of others. While the researchers will do their utmost to keep all information confidential, there is always a very small possibility of disclosure in the case of a legal subpoena.

*Additional language if you are not asking about illegal behavior but it might be disclosed by participants*: I will not be asking you any questions about any illegal behavior during this interview, such as [underage drinking], and you should not provide me with any information about your illegal behavior or that of others because I cannot guarantee that I can keep information about illegal behavior confidential. There is always a very small possibility of disclosure in the case of a legal subpoena.

*Additional language if you are working with children*: Scripps College requires that we inform you that because the participants in this project are minors, the only time data will not be confidential is in the unlikely event that evidence of child abuse is discovered, in which case that information and only that information will be disclosed to the appropriate authorities. This is unlikely because child abuse is not a focus of the study, nor will you be asked about it at any time during the study.

**Voluntary Participation:**

State that participation is voluntary. You should also state that the participant can stop participating at any time or refuse to answer any individual questions. If you are creating an audio or video recording of the participant, you also should state that they can request that you rewind and delete any particular information they provide or destroy the entire recording. Please be sure to include a statement that participants may choose to withdraw from the study or skip any questions without loss of benefits to which they are otherwise entitled.

*Example*: Your participation in this research is voluntary. You are free to decide not to participate in this study or to withdraw at any time without adversely affecting your relationship with the investigators or with Scripps College. Your decision not to participate will not result in any loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You may refuse to answer any question, and you may stop participating at any time. Your decision to discontinue participation at any time during the study will not result in any loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

*Additional sample language for audio or video recordings:* If you want to record over something you just said, you may ask me to rewind the recording and delete a particular response at any time. You may also ask that I destroy all records of your participation, including deleting email correspondence and deleting audio recording files and written documents.

**Questions about the Research:**

Please be sure to provide participants the opportunity to ask questions before beginning the study.

*Example:* You may ask questions concerning the research before agreeing to participate or during the experiment. If you have any questions regarding this research, you may contact [researcher name] at [researcher phone number], [researcher email], or [researcher address]. [Include whatever forms of communication are most appropriate given your methods.]

**IRB and Questions about Your Rights as a Research Participant:**

Please indicate that your research project has been reviewed by the IRB and provide contact information for the IRB in the event that participants wish to contact the IRB.

*Example:* Scripps College is the sponsor of this research study. The study has been reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of Scripps College, a committee that reviews all research involving human participants. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participants that have not been answered by the investigator or you want to talk to a representative of the IRB, you may contact the Scripps College Institutional Review Board at irb@scrippscollege.edu.

**Agreeing to Participate:**

Include an affirmation that is associated with whatever documentation you will obtain for informed consent (documentation can include signing, clicking “agree” on an online survey, recording a verbal consent, or other methods). The affirmation below should be worded in a way that is consistent with that method of documentation.

*For a written signature:*

You are voluntarily making a decision whether or not to participate in this research study. Your signature certifies that you have decided to participate having read and understood the information presented and that you are 18 years old or older. You will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.

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Signature of Research Participant Printed Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Researcher Printed Name Date

[Research Name], Principal Investigator

*For an online study*

You could have one button labeled “By clicking this button, I certify that I am at least 18 years of age and have voluntarily decided to participate in this study, having read and understood the information presented.” and a second button labeled “I do not wish to consent to participate in this study.” And participants can be told that they can print a copy of this consent page to keep.

**Injury Coverage Statement**

Please include the following statement in your consent form: “There is no injury coverage for this project. Scripps College cannot cover any costs of injury resulting from this project if any were to occur.”

**Primary Investigator contact information**

Be sure to provide your contact information somewhere on your consent form.

***NOTE: Feel free to use any of the following language in your consent form, replacing language in each section to fit your study.***

**Sample Consent Form (Surveys, Experiments, or other similar project)**

**Informed Consent Form**

**Juror Decision Making in an Armed Robbery Case**

You are invited to participate in this research study about how jurors make decisions. The following information is provided in order to help you to make an informed decision about whether or not to participate. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

This research is being conducted by [Researcher Name], an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Scripps College (If you are a student, please state this & explain why you are doing your project (e.g., as part of your senior thesis, for a particular class, etc.)). You are qualified to participate in this research because you are jury eligible (18 years of age or over, valid ID, a US citizen, and never convicted of a felony). The purpose of this research study is to identify how people make decisions when they are asked to determine if a defendant should be held responsible for a crime. In particular, we are interested in how jurors use and evaluate expert testimony in criminal trials.

Participation in this study will require approximately three hours of your time. You will be asked to watch a video depicting a criminal trial that includes several witnesses and the testimony of an expert, and to answer some questions about the trial in the packet provided to you. You will then deliberate with your fellow participants as jurors in the case, and we will videotape you for research purposes only. The risks of this research are expected to be minimal. The information in the criminal trial is similar to what you might see on the news or in a legal or crime drama on TV. However, the criminal trial contains a description of an armed robbery. This could create some minimal discomfort for you. If you find that the information makes you uncomfortable or feel that it will make you uncomfortable, you are free to decide not to participate or to withdraw at any time. In the event of any problems resulting from participation in the study, you can seek counseling through a service to search for counselors provided by the American Psychological Association by visiting http://locator.apa.org.

The benefits to your participation in this research include a $40 payment, that you may find the learning experience enjoyable, and the process may help you to better understand the criminal justice process and the way in which jury decisions are made. It is possible that you may experience no direct non-monetary benefit from your participation. However, the information gained from this study may help us better understand the factors that individuals use in their decision-making about crimes and about expert testimony.

The information obtained in this study may be published in scientific journals or presented at scientific meetings, but your identity will be kept strictly confidential. Results will be kept in a secure location that is only accessible to the investigators, and your identity will be kept separate from your responses to the questions you will be asked. You will not be asked to put your name on any of the responses you give during the research. Your responses to the questions we ask you will be anonymous.

Your participation in this project is entirely voluntary. You are free to decide not to participate in this study or to withdraw at any time without adversely affecting your relationship with the investigators or with Scripps College. Your decision not to participate or to discontinue participation at any time during the study will not result in any loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

You may ask questions concerning the research before agreeing to participate or during the experiment. If you have any questions regarding this research, you may contact [Researcher name] at [email address], at [phone number], or in [physical office location]. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant that have not been answered by the investigator you may contact the Scripps College Institutional Review Board at [irb@scrippscollege.edu](mailto:irb@scrippscollege.edu).

There is no injury coverage for this project. Scripps College cannot cover any costs of injury resulting from this project if any were to occur.

You are voluntarily making a decision whether or not to participate in this research study. Your signature certifies that you are at least 18 years of age and have decided to participate having read and understood the information presented. You will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.

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Signature of Participant Printed Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Researcher Printed Name Date

[Researcher Name], Principal Investigator

Office: [Office number], Department of [Department}

Scripps College

1030 Columbia Ave. Box [number]

Claremont, CA 91711

[phone number]

[email address]

**Sample Consent Form (Interview or focus group based projects)**

**Project Title:**

**Principal Investigator:**

**Email:**

**My project:**

This research project is for my senior thesis as an Anthropology major at Scripps College. I am the Principal Investigator for this project and a student at Scripps College conducting a research study about X. My purpose is to provide an analysis of X.

**Voluntary Participation and Right of Refusal:**

To participate in this project, you must be 18 years or older. Your participation in this project is voluntary, and you may discontinue and withdraw your consent at any time, for any reason, and without penalty. I will not ask you any questions about illegal activities, immigration status, or gender identity and I ask that you do not reveal any such information to me about yourself or others. If for any reason you would like to stop the interview, please just let me know. You may also refuse to answer any questions that I ask, and either stop the interview or ask to move on to the next question. If you would like to record over something you just said, you may ask me to rewind the recording and record over a particular response at any time. You may also ask that I destroy all records of your participation, including deleting email correspondence and deleting audio recording files and written documents.

**What Participating Involves:**

I have a series of open-ended questions for the interview, and I anticipate this taking between forty-five minutes and an hour.

**Confidentiality:**

I will take every precaution to maintain your confidentiality as a participant in this research. I will not include your name or any identifying details (e.g., image, voice) in the write-up of this research project or in any of my presentations that result from this project. The digital recording of this interview will be stored on a password-protected server and transcribed within [x days]. Any identifying information that you reveal in the interview will be deleted from the transcription. The recording will then be deleted, and the transcription will be stored on a password-protected server. No identifying information will be included on any documents associated with this study, except for this consent form. But this consent form will be stored separately from your responses.

**Possible Benefits:**

You are not expected to benefit directly from participation in this study.

**Possible Risks and Discomforts:**

Participation in this study will likely involve minimal risk to you. The questions you will be asked will be similar to what you encounter in your daily life. In the event that you experience any emotional discomfort, please let me know immediately. You may also contact The Monsour Counseling Center, if you are a student at the Claremont Colleges. Also note that there is no injury coverage for this project. Scripps College cannot cover any costs of injury resulting from this project if any were to occur.

You may ask questions concerning the research before agreeing to participate or during the experiment. If you have any questions regarding this research, you may contact [Researcher name] at [email address], at [phone number], or in [physical office location].

**IRB Review and Impartial Third Party:**

Scripps College is the sponsor of this research study. This study has been reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of Scripps College. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant that have not been answered by the investigator you may contact the Scripps College Institutional Review Board at [irb@scrippscollege.edu](mailto:irb@scrippscollege.edu).

**Signature for Consent**

You are voluntarily making a decision whether or not to participate in this research study. Your signature certifies that you are at least 18 years of age and have decided to participate having read and understood the information presented. You will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.

Print Participant’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Participant’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principal Investigator’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Sample Informed Assent Form [Ages 13-17]**

**How High School Athletes Feel about Sports**

You are invited to participate in this research study about [make a general statement here, such as “how high school athletes feel about sports”]. The following information is provided in order to help you to make an informed decision about whether or not to participate. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. The purpose of this research study is to [provide purpose here, for example: “see if the kind of sports students participate in, the type of training you do for your sport, and the size of the team affect how you feel about the sport and being an athlete.”]. NOTE: Be sure to use language that is easily understandable by the participants in the study and avoiding jargon and technical terms state what the study is designed to assess or establish

This research is being conducted by [student researcher name], a student at Scripps College, as part of the senior thesis requirement under the supervision of [faculty member name], a [rank] Professor in the Department of [department name] at Scripps College. You can participate in this research because you are a high school student between the ages of 14 and 17 and you participate in organized sports.

Next please describe what happens during the study. Start with a statement that the participant should discuss this with his or her parents. Describe how much time it will take to participate. Also describe the basic tasks participants will do and the types of questions they will be asked **in a language that is easily understandable**. For experiments, describe to what the participants will be exposed and the kinds of questions you will ask. For interviews and surveys, describe the types of questions that will be asked. For observations, describe what will be observed and what will be recorded. Make sure you describe anything sensitive or potentially upsetting that you will ask them to do.

*Experimental Example*: Please talk this over with your parents before you decide whether or not to participate. We will also ask your parents to give their permission for you to take part in this study. But even if your parents say “yes” you can still decide not to do this. If you volunteer to participate in this study, it will take about a half an hour to one hour of your time. You will be asked to [describe tasks here, for example “think back to a recent game you played in.”] [describe anything sensitive such as “This could bring up a strong reaction from you depending on what happened during that game and how you felt about it.”] [describe the kinds of questions they will be asked, for example: “I will ask you questions about your feelings about the game, your team, and your training.”]

*Interview or Survey example*: Please talk this over with your parents before you decide whether or not to participate. We will also ask your parents to give their permission for you to take part in this study. But even if your parents say “yes” you can still decide not to do this. If you volunteer to participate in this study, it will take about a half an hour to one hour of your time. I have a series of questions to ask you for the interview/survey. [Describe the types of questions you will ask, for example: “The questions I will ask you are about what you think about your team, the sports you play, and how you train for those sports.” Also describe anything sensitive: “This could bring up a strong reaction from you depending on how you feel about it.”]

*Observation example*: Please talk this over with your parents before you decide whether or not to participate. We will also ask your parents to give their permission for you to take part in this study. But even if your parents say “yes” you can still decide not to do this. If you volunteer to participate in this study, it will take about a half an hour to one hour of your time. I will observe you [describe what will be observed, such as “participating in your team practice for a day”] and I will record [describe the type of information you will record such as “the types of training you do and how you interact with your teammates”].

Next, please describe the likely and/or foreseeable risks, discomforts, inconveniences to participation and how these will be managed **in a language that is easily understandable**. These can include negative emotional reactions to the study materials or questions, boredom/fatigue, embarrassment, and risks of breach of confidentiality, in addition to many other potential risks. You will need to state whether the risks are expected to be “minimal” or more than minimal. If there are significant physical or psychological risks to participation that might cause the researcher to end the participant’s participation in the study, please describe them. Provide an appropriate resource for locating counseling in the event of lingering discomfort. If you are working with a special population, you may need to consider other services. If you are going to use a local clinic or doctor as a referral, you must have their permission to do so.

*Minimal risk example*: Participation in this study will likely involve minimal risk to you. The [story you will read, questions you will be asked, etc.] will be similar to your daily life. You are not likely to experience any discomfort. If you have any problems from participating in the study, information about psychological treatment is available through the American Psychological Association at locator.apa.org. Please note that there is no injury coverage for this project. Scripps College cannot cover any costs of injury resulting from this project if any were to occur.

*Minimal risk example with some potential for discomfort*: Participation in this study will likely involve minimal risk to you. The [story you will read, questions you will be asked, etc.] will be similar to your daily life. Because I am going to ask you about problems you have had while playing sports, you could be a little uncomfortable. If you feel uncomfortable during the study or feel that talking about this will make you uncomfortable, you are free to decide not to participate or to stop participating at any time. If you have any problems from participating in the study, information about psychological treatment is available through the American Psychological Association at locator.apa.org. Please note that there is no injury coverage for this project. Scripps College cannot cover any costs of injury resulting from this project if any were to occur.

*More than minimal risk example (must be used when you are asking identifiable questions about a sensitive topic)*: Participation in this study may involve more than minimal risk to you. You will be asked about [describe type of sensitive question here, for example “your personal experience with sexual harassment by a coach” or “your sexual orientation”]. These questions may make you feel uncomfortable, and you may have a negative emotional reaction to them. If you feel uncomfortable during the study or feel that talking about this will make you uncomfortable, you are free to decide not to participate or to stop participating at any time. If you have any problems from participating in the study, information about psychological treatment is available through the American Psychological Association at locator.apa.org. Please note that there is no injury coverage for this project. Scripps College cannot cover any costs of injury resulting from this project if any were to occur.

Please be sure to describe any direct benefits to participants, or lack thereof.

As part of your participation, you will receive training in how to run with better form for six weeks. You are likely to experience no other direct benefits to your participation in this research.

Please describe the level of confidentiality you will maintain for the information participants provide to you and how you will do that **in a language that is easily understandable**.

*Anonymous data example (use for surveys that do not collect identifiers)*: The information you give me during this study is completely anonymous. That means I have no way to connect your information to who you are. No identifying information about you will be collected during this study. You will not be asked to provide your name or any other information about yourself that could be used to identify you or that could be linked to your responses. The information obtained in this study may be published in scientific journals or presented at scientific meetings, but your identity will not be revealed. Results will be kept in a secure location that is only accessible to the investigators.

*Confidential example (use for interviews, surveys that do collect identifiers, etc.)*: I will make every effort to ensure that you will be personally identified only to the Primary Investigator (me). I will not include your name or any identifying details in the write-up of this research project or in any of my presentations that result from this project. No identifying information will be included on any documents associated with this study. Results will be kept in a secure location that is only accessible to the investigators.

*Additional language for audio or video recordings*: The [specify audio or video] recording of this interview will be stored on a password-protected server and transcribed [provide time to transcription here, for example, “within a week”]. Any identifying information that you reveal in the interview will be deleted from the transcription. The recording will then be deleted, and the transcription will be stored on a password-protected server.

Because you working with children, please also add the following language.

Scripps College requires that we inform you that because the participants in this project are minors, the only time data will not be confidential is in the unlikely event that evidence of child abuse is discovered, in which case that information and only that information will be disclosed to the appropriate authorities. This is unlikely because child abuse is not a focus of the study, nor will you be asked about it at any time during the study.

Your participation in this research is voluntary. You are free to decide not to participate in this study or to withdraw at any time without adversely affecting your relationship with the investigators or with Scripps College. Your decision not to participate will not result in any loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You may refuse to answer any question, and you may stop participating at any time. Your decision to discontinue participation at any time during the study will not result in any loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

You may ask questions concerning the research before agreeing to participate or during the experiment. If you have any questions regarding this research, you may contact [researcher name] at [researcher phone number], [researcher email], or [researcher address]. [Include whatever forms of communication are most appropriate given your methods.]

Scripps College is the sponsor of this research study. The study has been reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of Scripps College, a committee that reviews all research involving human participants. If you have any questions about your rights as a research subject that have not been answered by the investigator or you want to talk to a representative of the IRB, you may contact the Scripps College IRB at irb @scrippscollege.edu.

You are voluntarily making a decision whether or not to participate in this research study. Your signature certifies that you have decided to participate having read and understood the information. You will be given a copy of this assent form to keep.

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Signature of Research Participant Printed Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Researcher Printed Name Date

[Research Name], Principal Investigator

**Sample Informed Assent Form – [Children- Ages 3 – 12]**

**SCRIPPS COLLEGE**

**ASSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH**

Please discuss each of the following points with your child participant.

[*Insert title of the study*]

1. My name is [identify yourself to the child by name].

2. We are asking you to take part in a research study because we are trying to learn more about [outline what the study is about in language that is both appropriate to the child’s maturity and age]

3. If you agree to be in this study [describe what will take place from the child’s point of view in language that is both appropriate to the child’s maturity and age]

4. [Describe any risks to the child that may result from participation in the research]

5. [Describe any benefits to the child from participation in the research]

6. Please talk this over with your parents before you decide whether or not to participate. We will also ask your parents to give their permission for you to take part in this study. But even if your parents say “yes” you can still decide not to do this.

7. If you don’t want to be in this study, you don’t have to participate. Remember, being in this study is up to you and no one will be upset if you don’t want to participate or even if you change your mind later and want to stop.

8. You can ask any questions that you have about the study. If you have a question later that you didn’t think of now, you can call me [insert your telephone number] or ask me next time.

If you are using written documentation:

9. Signing your name at the bottom means that you agree to be in this study. You and your parents will be given a copy of this form after you have signed it.

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Name of Participant Date