

**CONSENT FORM**  
**OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY**

**PROJECT TITLE:** SOCIAL INTERACTION RESEARCH EXPERIMENT

**INVESTIGATORS:**

Dr. Monica Whitham, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Sociology, Oklahoma State University

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this experiment is to study the structure and process of social interaction in groups.

**PROCEDURES**

During the experiment, you will interact with several other students through a computer network. Your interaction will involve making choices about the allocation of points between yourself and your interaction partners. These points are worth money, and you and the other participants will be paid according to the number of points each of you earn over the course of the experiment. Thus, the choices you make will affect the amount earned by other participants in the experimental network, and their choices will affect the amount you earn. You will interact only through computers; you will never meet the other students. After the interaction period you will complete a brief questionnaire on your computer. Then, you will be paid the amount that you have earned, the experimenter will talk to you about your experience, and you will have an opportunity to ask questions. The experiment will last approximately 45-60 minutes.

**RISKS OF PARTICIPATION:**

There are no known risks associated with this project which are greater than those ordinarily encountered in daily life.

**BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION:**

There are no direct benefits to participants. However, participants may find the experiment interesting and enjoyable. In addition, society may benefit from this study in the future by gaining a better understanding of how people interact under different social conditions.

**CONFIDENTIALITY:**

Your records will be confidential. Interaction with your fellow participants will occur entirely through computers—you will not meet face-to-face prior to or after the experiment. Any written results will discuss group findings and will not include information that will identify you. Research records will be stored on a password protected computer in a locked office and only researchers and individuals responsible for research oversight will have access to the records. No video or audio recordings will be made during the study.

**COMPENSATION:**

Participants will be compensated \$12-\$23 for participating. The exact amount of compensation depends on the experimental condition to which you are randomly assigned and the choices that you and other participants make during the experiment. You will be paid in cash at the conclusion of the experiment.

**CONTACTS :**

You may contact the researcher at the following address, phone number, or email should you desire to discuss your participation in the study and/or request information about the results of the study: Monica Whitham, Ph.D., 465 Murray Hall, Dept. of Sociology, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078, (405) 744-6126, [monica.whitham@okstate.edu](mailto:monica.whitham@okstate.edu). If you have questions about your rights as a research volunteer, you may contact the IRB Office at 223 Scott Hall, Stillwater, OK 74078, 405-744-3377 or [irb@okstate.edu](mailto:irb@okstate.edu)

**PARTICIPANT RIGHTS:**

I understand that my participation is voluntary, that there is no penalty for refusal to participate, and that I am free to withdraw my consent and participation in this project at any time, without penalty.

**CONSENT DOCUMENTATION:**

I have been fully informed about the procedures listed here. I am aware of what I will be asked to do and of the benefits of my participation. I also understand the following statements:  
I affirm that I am 18 years of age or older. I have read and fully understand this consent form. I sign it freely and voluntarily. A copy of this form will be given to me. I hereby give permission for my participation in this study.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I certify that I have personally explained this document before requesting that the participant sign it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Researcher

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date