

Explanation of the study/Consent Form

We would like to invite you to participate as a research participant in a study that will examine college students' attitudes concerning relationships and attitudes toward a variety of situations, including potentially disgusting situations. We are asking for your participation because you are at least 18 years old and currently enrolled as a student at Radford University. We are recruiting approximately 150-200 students for this study.

Purpose of the study.

The purpose of this study is to investigate the perceptions that individuals have with regard to their close relationships and how individuals view different parts of daily life, including potentially disgusting things and situations.

Procedures.

In this study, we will first ask you to provide general information about your age, sex, height, weight, current major, classification, and GPA. We will then ask each participant to complete questionnaires that ask a variety of questions concerning attitudes towards one's (a) relationships with your parents and peers, (b), attitudes about common events in people's lives, and (c) attitudes about disgusting things and situations. You will also be asked to view some video taped of segments of prime-time network TV shows depicting potentially disgusting scenes.

Time requirements.

The testing session will take approximately 30 min to complete.

Potential Risks.

The procedures described above are thought to involve minimal risks to research participants. Although you may become psychologically uncomfortable by answering some of the questions, these risks are not thought to be greater than those encountered in everyday life.

Benefits.

You may receive extra credit for participating in this study. The amount of extra credit will be determined by your psychology instructor. No direct physical, health, psychological, or social benefits to participants are expected to result from participation in this study. However, the research will help improve our understanding of how close relationships shape our view of the world around us.

Confidentiality.

Information obtained as part of this study will remain confidential and no information on individual participants will be released. Signed consent forms will be stored in a locked filing cabinet in Dr. Asplemeier's office and will be stored separately from the questionnaires that you answer.

Financial compensation.

There is no financial compensation for participating in this study.

Withdrawal and termination from the study.

You may withdraw consent and terminate participation in this study at any time without penalty or loss of benefits. You are also in no way required to provide any information, whether it is on a written questionnaire or at any other point during the testing session, if you do not feel comfortable doing so.

Contact persons for questions regarding this study.

You may contact either of the individuals listed below if you have any questions regarding this study:

Dr. Jeff Aspelmeier, Box 6946, Department of Psychology, Radford University, Radford, VA 24142. (540) 831-5520.

Contact person for complaints or concerns.

If you have any complaints or concerns regarding this study contact Janet Hahn, Box 6926, Radford University, Radford VA 24142. (540) 831-5479.

Contact person if you feel psychologically distressed by participation in this study.

In the event that you feel psychologically distressed by participation in this study, we encourage you to call Dr. Jeff Aspelmeier (above). If you are feeling distressed and are unable to contact a person associated with this study, please contact the Counseling center at Radford University. Their telephone number is (540) 831-5226.

Consent

The investigation and my part in the investigation have been defined and fully explained to me by the researcher, and I understand his/her explanation. I understand the procedures as well as the possible risks and discomforts.

I have been given an opportunity to ask questions and all such questions and inquiries were answered to my satisfaction.

I understand that, in the event of injury resulting from this investigation, neither financial compensation, nor free medical treatment, will be provided by Radford University for the injury. Further, I agree that I will not hold Radford University responsible for any liability for personal injury I may incur in the course of, or as a result of, the study.

I understand that my participation is voluntary and that my decision about whether or not to participate will not affect any present or future relationship with Radford University.

By signing these questionnaires, I provide my consent to participate in this study.

Participant's Signature

Date