

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

## Parental Consent Form

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The students and faculty of the Texas Christian University Psychology Department would like to invite students to participate in their studies. Faculty members rely heavily on the support of the TCU community for their research. The research that is performed within the department is approved by the TCU Psychology Human Subjects Committee prior to any studies being run. The Human Subjects Coordinator and researchers in the department carefully monitor the participants' involvement. Furthermore, we ensure confidentiality, and participants are always informed that they may discontinue an experiment at any time. Students may sign up for studies on the Sona Systems website <http://tcu.sona-systems.com> at any time. The Sona Systems website is designed so that students may sign up for available studies as well as monitor their credit during the semester.

Your son/daughter is enrolled in a Psychology course here at Texas Christian University. Part of the course requirement for General Psychology is to gain research experience. This usually is done by participation in experimental studies that are conducted in our department. The other Psychology courses offer extra credit for their students who participate in studies within the department. Your signature below will indicate your acceptance to allow your son/daughter to participate in any of the listed studies on the Sona Systems website.

### Description

One component that counts toward students' participation in psychology experiments is completing an online survey: The Sona Systems Pretest. It takes less than 1 hour to complete and is worth 1 hour of experimental credit. This packet consists of questionnaires from different experimenters who are interested in identifying students with particular experiences, backgrounds, or attitudes for their research. After the researchers identify potential participants, they may contact students individually to set up a time for them to come in for an experiment.

### Risks and Benefits

The benefits will be that participants will have the opportunity to contribute to research and learn more about it. The risks to any of the students are minimal. Students may have to think about issues that they would not have otherwise addressed. Keep in mind, however, that every study listed on Sona has passed the Human Subjects Committee, and students are informed that they can leave the experiment at any point, without penalty. Students are also allowed to fulfill the research requirements by participating in session where they read published psychological articles and write responses. This is done at the end of each semester.

**Time involvement**

Studies generally take between half an hour to an hour, though a few experiments may last up to 4 hours. These studies, however, are conducted over a series of days so that students do not become fatigued.

**Participants' rights**

If you have read this form and have decided to allow participation in psychology studies, please understand that participation is voluntary and students have the right to withdraw consent or discontinue participation at any time. All participants have the right to refuse to answer any questions. Individual privacy will be maintained in all published and written data resulting from this study. If participants have any questions, they may contact the Chair of the Human Subjects Committee, Department of Psychology, Texas Christian University. (817) 257-7410.

Please email [psy\\_work1@tcu.edu](mailto:psy_work1@tcu.edu) or phone (817) 257-7410 with any further questions or concerns.

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Name of Parent or Guardian (please print)

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Signature of Parent or Guardian (please sign)

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Today's Date