



30000820, Version 7.0  
April 26, 2022

### **Informed Consent Form**

**Purpose:** This study will investigate how psychological traits may be associated with patterns of social media and dating app usage.

**Principal Investigators:**

Bernard Crespi, PhD, Supervisor, Faculty, Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University

**Co-Investigators:**

Nancy Yang, MSc Candidate, Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University

Pete Hurd, PhD, Faculty, Department of Neuroscience and Mental Health Institute and Department of Psychology, University of Alberta

Silven Read, Lab Manager and Lab Technician, Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University

**Participation:** Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may withdraw from this study at any time without any consequences. Participation in this study will take approximately 30 minutes.

This study is currently open to males only as the quota for female participants has been filled.

Eligibility: you must be **male, and 18 years old or older** to participate in this study.

**Withdrawal of Data:** If you wish to withdraw from the study, you may do so by exiting the browser. To have your data destroyed, please inform the researcher [nancy\\_yang\\_2@sfu.ca](mailto:nancy_yang_2@sfu.ca) with either your RPS ID or the unique computer code that you have received by August 31, 2022 to have your data destroyed.

**Anonymity and Confidentiality:** All questionnaire data collected from your participation in this study will be labelled with anonymous ID numbers. We will need to collect your name, email address, and RPS ID for the purpose of disbursing you the survey link and course credit. If you sign up as an external participant, we will need to collect your name and email address for the purpose of disbursing you the survey link and e-gift card.

Your name, email addresses, and RPS ID will be stored on SurveyMonkey server during the Summer 2022 semester, after which they will be deleted.

The online study will be conducted via SurveyMonkey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com>. Please know that any data you provide may be transmitted and stored in countries outside of Canada, as well as in Canada. It is important to remember that privacy laws vary in different countries and may not be the same as in Canada.

Your data will be kept on the SurveyMonkey webserver until the end of the Summer 2022 semester, after which they will be deleted from the SurveyMonkey webserver. Only people named on this document will have access to the data collected in this study.

In line with current best practices in psychology research, electronic datasets obtained from this study will be preserved for future use in Open Science Initiatives. Open Science Initiatives allow researchers from other universities to share their data upon completion of the studies, in an effort to stimulate further use and exploration of existing data sets. Electronic forms of datasets obtained from this study will be uploaded to an online data repository in the form of computer software files, and these files are stripped of all identifying information that could identify participants to ensure confidentiality. It should be noted that the Internet is not a confidential medium. However, the collected questionnaire data in this study will not be associated with any identifying information.

Please note that posting to comments sections, liking or sharing on social media or other forums about this study may identify you as a participant. We therefore suggest that if this study was made available to you via a social media site or other online forums, you refrain from posting comments to protect your anonymity.

**Procedure:** You will be administered the following questionnaires: Autism Quotient (AQ), Schizotypal Brief-Revise (SPQ-R), the revised Sociosexual Orientation Inventory (SOI-R), Long-term Mating Orientation Scale (LTMO), Social Media Usage Questionnaire (SMUQ), and Dating App Usage Questionnaire (DAUQ).

The entire study will take approximately 30 minutes. AQ and SPQ-BR will be to quantify individual variations in autistic and schizotypal personality traits. The SOI-R and LTMO are used to assess individual variations in sociosexuality (i.e. preference for short-term versus long-term relationships). The SMUQ and DAUQ will be to assess individual variations in social media and dating app usage, respectively.

**Risks:** There are no potential risks associated with completing the questionnaires. You can terminate the study at any time for any reason. There are no consequences if you decide to withdraw from the experiment at any time for any reason.

**Legal Rights:** You do not waive any of your legal rights against the investigators or anyone else by providing consent to the study.

**Benefits:** Your participation in this study may be a valuable contribution to help research and the greater public communities in understanding relationships between psychological traits and patterns of social media and dating app usage. This is also a great opportunity for you to learn more about psychology and research methodology.

**Incentives:** If applicable, you will be reimbursed with either course credit(s) **OR** a \$15 e-gift card for your participation. Gift cards will be released once we have verified the authenticity of each submission, which will take place at the end of the Summer 2022 semester. Please note that we may contact you at your provided email address to verify your participation before disbursing course credit(s) or the gift card.

**Concerns:** There is little to no potential harm in participating in this study. If you do experience emotional or psychological distress from participating in this study, please contact the SFU Health & Counselling Center at 778-782-4615, located at Maggie Benston Centre, Room 0101. Please note that SFU Health & Counselling services are only available to currently registered SFU students.

Alternatively, you can also contact Wellness Together Canada for free counselling at 1-866-585-0445, <https://wellnesstogether.ca/en-CA/service/talk>.

If you have any concerns about your rights as a research participant and/or your experiences while participating in this study, please contact the SFU Office of Research Ethics at [dore@sfu.ca](mailto:dore@sfu.ca) or 778-782-6618.

**After the study:** Results of this study may be published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. If you are interested in seeing the results of this study when it is published, you can contact the researchers named below for further follow-up.

**Researchers Contact:** If you have any questions about this study, please contact co-investigator Nancy Yang, MSc, Biological Sciences, at [nancy\\_yang\\_2@sfu.ca](mailto:nancy_yang_2@sfu.ca) or Bernard Crespi, Primary Supervisor, from the Department of Biological Sciences at [bernard\\_crespi@sfu.ca](mailto:bernard_crespi@sfu.ca).

Yes, I have read and understood the information outlined above and I consent to this study.

No, I do not consent to this study.