

ABC University

Application for Review of Human Subjects Research

General Information

Principal Researcher's Contact Information

Name: Dr. XYZ JK

Phone No.: 123-456-7890

Address: 123 Street X, New York, NY 10027

Email-address: xyz.jk@abcuni.edu

Department/School:

Psychology

Research Category: (Please mark an X in the appropriate box)

- Faculty Research
- Graduate Student Research
- Senior Thesis
- Undergraduate Independent Study
- Undergraduate student research
- Honors thesis
- Research from another institution
- Other, please specify:

Title: Social Exclusion and Pro-social Behavior

Background

Purpose of the Study:

The purpose of the current study is to investigate the impact social exclusion may have on helping behavior.

Rationale for the Study:

Social exclusion is something that happens to everyone and therefore is important to study. In particular, I want to study whether social exclusion makes people be less helpful. Also, no one has studied anything like this before.

Research Question or Hypothesis(es):

It is predicted that social exclusion will relate to helping.

Research Design:

Social exclusion and helping are the two elements of the research design.

Describe in detail the data collection procedure:

Data collection will be done on an individual basis. The researcher will go to the residence hall where all the residents will be present for a mandatory meeting. To be sure everyone is there, the researcher will arrange to have a list of all the residents' names. At the meeting, residents will first complete a demographic questionnaire. Several "dorm life" items ask things like which other residents they have complaints about, who they could kick out of the hall if given the chance, who is the dumbest resident, who is the ugliest resident, etc. Afterward the residents will be told to sign the consent form. The resident assistants (RAs) and hall director will make sure the residents have filled out the form.

Next, the researcher will give the residents a cover story to hide the true nature of the experiment. Residents will be given a questionnaire about the facilities on campus. The questionnaire will include items such as the number of fire extinguishers, doors, bathrooms, computers, stairs etc. in their assigned area of the building (questions that necessitate being in the building). Participants will be individually assigned to unique areas around campus and told to return immediately to the residence hall with the completed questionnaire. A confederate will be waiting outside the participant's residence hall to stop the participant before entering the building. He/she will ask the participant his or her name to confirm it's the participant. The confederate will then identify him/herself as the "head of conflict resolution committee" for the campus.

The confederate will inform those in the experimental condition that their fellow students in the residence hall have reported the most complaints about them, that the fellow residents listed them as the ugliest, dumb, and the person they most wanted to be kicked out. The confederate will also inform the participant that the hall had a recent meeting about them and the general consensus was that he/she was not liked by anyone in the building. In addition, the participant will be told that the sentiment was so strong that they were getting kicked out and that all of their belongings could be picked

up in the Residence Life office in another building. The participant will be told to head to that building to get pick up their belongings.

Participants in the control condition will be told by the confederate that a number of people in the student's residence hall have praised him/her and that the hall has a recent meeting about him/her and the general consensus was that he/she was liked by everyone in the building. The participant will be told that they are winning a "community citizen award" for being the best-liked person in the hall and that he/she should go to the Residence Life office to get the award.

On the way to the Residence Life office, the participant will pass a table set up right outside the building with a sign and a clearly labeled glass donation jar attended to by another confederate. The confederate will tell the passing student that he/she is taking up a collection to fund students that need help buying books and ask the student to contribute anything he/she could spare to the fund. The confederate will take note of whether the participant donates and the amount of the donation, if applicable, or if the participant gets physically aggressive (i.e. breaking the jar, punching a wall, getting in a fight, etc.) since it is possible exclusion might make some people violent. If the participant goes to the Residence Life office, he/she will be debriefed about the study.

Plan for Data Analysis:

I will use Excel to analyze the data.

Sampling Method And Participant Requirements

What sampling method will be utilized?

I will get the entire population of residence hall students since everyone will be required to participate.

Affiliation of Participants:

Participants will be ABC University students that live in residence halls.

Participant Characteristics - Provide the required narrative:

Participants will be ABC University students that live in residence. If someone seems too happy or fun-loving they won't be included.

**What is the population from which you will select participants for the study?
Please mark an X in all appropriate box(es)**

- ABC University students
- ABC University Employees
- General Public
- Pregnant Women
- Children
- Institutionalized Persons
- Critically or Terminally Ill
- Non-English Speaking Persons
- Physically Disabled
- Mentally Disabled
- Prisoners
- Economically Disadvantaged
- Educationally Disadvantages
- Elderly
- Other, please specify:

How will you recruit or select subjects, how will you gain access to them?

- Flyers/Posters
- Letters
- Email
- Telephone
- Internet
- Radio
- Newspaper
- Other, please specify: I will personally select them and notify them to participate

Will you advertise for participants or volunteers?

- Yes No

What are the participants expected to do?

They will be expected to do whatever they are directed to do by the researcher.

Length of Time Required from participants:

The study will take as long as necessary, therefore the time for data collection will vary.

Setting for Data Collection

It will take place in residence halls.

Timeline for the Study

Expected Start Date: upon date of approval

Expected Completion Date: one year after the approval date

Informed Consent and Assent Procedures:

Please mark an X in the appropriate box(es):

Will this study seek consent from participants?

Yes No

What type of document(s) will be used to obtain consent?

- Signed Consent Form
- Letter of Consent
- Parental Consent Form
- Child Assent
- Other, please specify:

Is there any reason why consent will not be sought? Explain why and what procedure you will use to ensure the participant's understanding in order to guarantee their rights.

Yes No, please explain: Everyone will be required to fill it out.

Instruments, Questionnaires, and Qualitative Data Collection:

Which of the following will be used to collect data:

- Instrument(s)
- Sociodemographic Questionnaire(s)
- Focus Group Discussions
- Interview(s)
- Field notes
- Other, please specify:

Provide the name of any instrument(s) being used and a citation/reference:

1. Demographic Questionnaire
2. Residence Hall Facility Questionnaire

For qualitative studies, what will you be asking participants?

N/A

Feedback: What information will be provided to participants concerning their test results?

No feedback will be given.

If conducting an experiment, please describe in detail the manipulation being used.

I will be measuring the amount of helping given in the form of money donated to the student fund.

Data Collection and Confidentiality:

Please indicate if you will use any/all of the following:

- Audio Recording
- Video Recording
- N/A
- Other, please specify:

What procedure(s) will you use to ensure confidentiality of the data?

I will not tell participants about their individual results.

Will identification numbers be assigned to each participant and used on data collection forms to protect the participant(s) responses?

Yes No

If yes, how will the identification numbers be assigned? _____

Who will have access to the list that identifies participants and the assigned identification numbers?

A list of participants will only be available to those affiliated with the research. Participants will be identified in the data set by first initial and last name to preserve anonymity.

Where, how, and how long will the data from the study be stored?

Data will be kept for a week or so.

Risks to Research Participants:

Immediate Risks:

There no risks from this study. Everyone has experienced social exclusion and it is not a big deal.

Long-Range Risks:

None

If there are immediate or long-term risks to the participant, how will you mitigate these risks?

There are none expected.

Benefits to Research Participants:

Describe any benefits participants may receive as part of volunteering in your study.

There are no benefits to participants for volunteering in this study, but the study may benefit from receiving donations.

Will participants be compensated for their time?

[] Yes, please explain:

[X] No

Deception

If no deception will be used, please mark an X and skip to next section []

Will you be utilizing deception?

[X] Yes [] No

What is the nature of the deception involved?

The cover story.

Why is this deception necessary?

The deceitful cover story is necessary to conceal the true nature of the experiment. The study would be invalid without a nature reaction to social exclusion, so the cover story is necessary.

If deception is employed, describe the procedure you will use to debrief your subjects.

Some participants will be debriefed orally at the Residence Hall office. Please see the debriefing script for more details.

Debriefing

Will you debrief participants?

[X] Yes [] No

How will the debriefing take place?

Some participants will be debriefed orally. See the debriefing script.

Debriefing Script:

To be read to each participant after their participation has ended.

First of all, I'd like to apologize for being misleading about what was going on in the study. The study was not about the residence hall facilities. It was about helping. I wanted to know if you would donate to the student college fund.

Thank you for participating.

ABC University IRB
Informed Consent Form
Social Exclusion and Pro-social Behavior

Researcher's Name: Dr. XYZ JK
Email address: xyz.jk@abcuni.edu
Researcher's Phone number: 123-456-7890

I am engaged in a research study of psychology. The purpose of this research is:

to learn about people.

To help gain further insights into this topic, I will ask you:

complete several activities

This study has no risks or benefits to you.

You can ask questions about the research study or about being a participant at any time by calling me at 123-456-7890 or via email at xyz.jk@abcuni.edu.

Signing your name below indicates that you have read and understand the contents of this Consent Form and that you agree to participate in this study.

Consent

I have read the above information and I consent to participation in this research.

Participant's Signature:

Printed Name:

Date: