

Sample Informed Consent Form

This research is being conducted by Dr. Bill Altermatt, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology at Hanover College. The experiment in which you are asked to participate is designed to examine the impressions we form in the earliest stages of getting to know someone. You will watch a brief video clip which shows two people going out to dinner together. After the clip, you will be asked to answer some questions about the people you saw in the video. After you finish answering questions about the video clip, you will be asked to complete a 10-item questionnaire on your attitudes about men, women, and their relationships. Finally, you will be asked a few demographic questions. After you have finished answering all the questions, you will be debriefed.

The entire experiment will not take more than 50 minutes. There are no known risks involved in being in this study, beyond those of everyday life. The information you provide during the experiment is completely anonymous; at no time will your name be associated with the responses you give. If you have any questions about what you will be doing in the study or about the study itself, feel free to ask them now or at any other time during your participation.

If you have any questions after the study, please contact Dr. Bill Altermatt at altermattw@hanover.edu or in room 155 of the Science Center.

I acknowledge that I am participating in this study of my own free will. I understand that I may refuse to participate or stop participating at any time. Incomplete participation will not result in credit for participating, but I may complete an alternative assignment of equal time commitment in order to receive credit. If I wish, I will be given a copy of this consent form.

Signature

Date

Sample Debriefing Form

The study in which you just participated was designed to measure the effect of payment and polite behaviors on people's impressions. You watched a videotape in which two people were going out for dinner together. Although you only saw one video, there are 4 different versions of this video. There were two possible levels of polite behavior (man polite, neither polite) and two possible levels of payment (man pays, split the cost). We will be testing whether people who see one version reach different conclusions from people who see the other versions. Previous research using a similar videotape found that a man who paid for dinner and acted in very polite ways was perceived as warmer, more intelligent, and (among female observers) more physically attractive than the same man when he did not act especially polite. In contrast, a woman whose dinners were paid for and who received the polite behavior was perceived as less independent than the same woman when she split the cost of the meal and did not receive any special behavior.

Please do not discuss this study with other potential participants until the semester is over. If people know what we're testing before the study begins, they may respond differently, jeopardizing our results.

As soon as the results from this study are available, you can read about them at the following website:

<http://psych.hanover.edu/departments/altermattw/research/videostudy.htm>

If you have any questions or comments about this research, please contact Bill Altermatt in room 155 of the Science Center or at altermattw@hanover.edu. For more information on these topics, we suggest reading:

Glick, P. and S. T. Fiske (2001). "An ambivalent alliance: Hostile and benevolent sexism as complementary justifications for gender inequality." American Psychologist **56**(2): 109-118.