
Prescreen

Welcome! Please fill in this brief questionnaire to determine whether you are eligible to participate in this research study.

In which **country** do you currently **reside**?

In which **state** do you currently **reside**?

What **year** were you **born**?

What is the **highest degree or level of schooling** that you have **completed**?

- ☐ Less than a high school diploma
- ☐ High school diploma or equivalent (for example: GED)
- ☐ Some college but no degree
- ☐ Associate's degree
- ☐ Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Graduate degree (for example: MA, MBA, JD, PhD)

On an **average day** in the past 4 weeks, how many **minutes** would you say **you spent on Facebook**, including through the Facebook app on your phone?

Consent 1: Informed consent

You are invited to participate in an online research study about internet browsing and well-being. The study is administered by researchers at Stanford University and New York University.

STUDY OVERVIEW

The study will last up to **10 weeks**. Over the course of the 10 weeks, you will be asked to **fill out 3 surveys (20 minutes each)**, **answer daily text messages asking you how you are feeling** (only for the first **6 weeks** of the study), **and deactivate your Facebook account twice for a period of 24 hours** (you can then reactivate your account, with your content and friends network unchanged). You may also be offered some money to change your browsing behavior. At the end of the experiment, we may follow-up with you and ask you a few additional questions.

STUDY TASKS

During the course of the study, you will be asked to complete 3 tasks:

Task A) Complete a total of **3 online surveys** (taking around **20 minutes** each)

- Survey 1 (this survey).
- Survey 2 takes place on **{e://Field/DayMidline}, {e://Field/DateMidline}**. If you do not complete Survey 2, you will not be sent a link to Survey 3 and you will exit the experiment.
- Survey 3 takes place on **{e://Field/DayEndline}, {e://Field/DateEndline}**.

Task B) Respond to a **text message** that asks how you are feeling **once per day** (you just need to send back a number between 1-10 or a letter). The first text message will be sent within the next week (depending on the speed of the recruitment process) and the last on **11/08/2018**.

Task C) **Deactivate your Facebook account** (not including Facebook messenger) **twice for a period of 24 hours** (you can then reactivate your account, with your content and friends network unchanged). The first 24 hour period is after Survey 2 and the second is after Survey 3. You may also be offered some money to change your social media usage.

PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Survey 1 will ask you to **provide some personal information** including your **first and last name, Facebook URL, Twitter handle (if you have one), email address, Zip-code and phone number**. The research team will use your email address to send you electronic gift-cards for completing the three surveys, your phone number to send you a text message once a day asking how you are feeling, and the URL associated to your Facebook profile to check whether you have an active Facebook account. The rest of your personal information will be used to link your survey answers to: a public database of political donations, your Twitter account (if any), and a public database of voting records (which records if someone voted in a particular election). The reason for linking your survey answers to the additional databases is to study how social media use relates to political donations, Twitter activity, and voting.

Confidentiality of your research records will be strictly maintained by storing any personally identifiable data in **secure accounts** that can only be accessed by researchers in this study. After the experiment is over, we will **delete all your personally identifiable information** from our dataset and **replace it with an arbitrary participant number**. This will allow us to maintain your privacy in all published and written data resulting from the study. Information **not containing identifiers** (i.e. **not containing** name, date of birth, email address, phone number, Zip-code etc.) may be used in future research or shared with other researchers without your additional consent.

PAYMENTS

You will be paid **\$30** in total for completing tasks A), B), and C). This includes **\$5** per completed survey (paid right after you complete each survey) and a **\$15** completion payment at the end of the study.

It is possible that you may earn an additional **\$35** (on average), paid to you after Survey 3, if you agree to complete an optional task proposed to you in Survey 2.

Notice: failing to give careful, accurate answers may make you ineligible to complete the surveys. Notice also that you cannot take any of the surveys multiple times.

All payments will be given to you in the form of electronic gift-cards redeemable

on Amazon.com and other online stores. All payments described in this consent form will come from the researchers at Stanford University and New York University who are conducting the study.

RISKS AND BENEFITS

There are no foreseeable risks associated with this study. The research team cannot and do not guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this study.

SUBJECT'S RIGHTS

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You can withdraw from the study at any point without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For any questions, comments or complaints, please contact Professor Matthew Gentzkow or Professor Hunt Allcott at online-experience-study@stanford.edu.

For questions about your rights as a research subject, or if you would like to speak to someone independent of the research team, contact the Stanford Institutional Review Board (IRB) at irb2-manager@lists.stanford.edu.

If you agree to participate in this study, please click "**Continue**". Agreeing to participate means you are willing to: complete all three surveys, deactivate your Facebook account twice for 24 hours, answer daily text messages, and provide the personal information described above.

If there is one or more tasks from the list above that you are not willing to do, please click "**I do not agree to participate in this study.**"

Please save this consent form for your own records.

☐ **Continue**

☐ I do **not** agree to participate in this study