

Informed Consent to Participate in a Research Study  
Study Title: *First Glance*  
Principal Investigator: *Jennifer M. Roche*

**INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE, & BENEFITS**

This consent form will provide you with information about the research project, what you will need to do, and the associated risks and benefits of the research. You are being invited to participate in a research study and your participation is voluntary. Please read this form carefully. It is important that you ask questions and fully understand the research in order to make an informed decision. This research project investigates perceptions of the typical adult communicator. We are investigating how a person is perceived based on the perception of person specific attributes (e.g., physical or vocal qualities). Upon completion of the experiment you will be informed of the current state of the literature and how your data will contribute, so that you can learn more about this area of behavioral research. This research may not directly benefit you, however, by including your resulting data, it will provide a valuable contribution toward our understanding of human communication more generally. The potential benefits you may experience in this study may include learning more about the cognitive processes associated with communication, as a typical adult speaker/listener. You will receive a copy of this document to take with you.

**PROCEDURES**

Before the experiment, you will be asked whether or not you have been diagnosed with any speech, hearing and vision impairments. Because this task crucially involves communication through the auditory and visual channels, individuals with speech or hearing impairments and/or non-corrected vision are not eligible to participate in this particular study. Prior to the experiment, you will be given specific instructions about what is required, including the exact duration of the experiment; we expect the session to be completed in approximately 30-60 minutes. You will be asked to perform the experimental task(s), in which you will provide behavioral responses during on a computer based task. You will be asked to make judgments about visual and auditory stimuli (e.g., faces and words) based on person specific attributes (e.g., a person's gender). Additionally, a computer will control some of the experiment trials, so you could be providing your responses via an eye tracker, computer mouse and/ or keyboard inputs during the experiment. The present experiment may also monitor your eye movements while you carry out instructions presented over headphones or visually on the computer screen.

**RISKS & DISCOMFORTS**

There is only minimal risk associated with this experiment, and should you decide, at any point during the course of the experiment that you are not comfortable proceeding, you do **NOT** have to continue participation. However, the current study may involve emotional stimuli that may evoke an emotional response, but these are essential to the nature of this study. Specifically, These emotional stimuli are no more emotional than you would expect to experience in everyday life. Fatigue is another main risk you may experience in this study because multiple observations will be collected for a reliable measure of performance. To counteract this fatigue, there will be planned breaks over the course of the experiment (i.e, a rest break every 15 minutes of interaction). If at any time you would like a break (outside of the planned rest breaks), simply let the experimenter(s) know, and they will assist you. Also, if you are uncomfortable and wish to discontinue the experiment, inform the experimenter(s) as you are free to stop at anytime for whatever reason, with no penalty to you. Should you end the experiment early, you will be compensated for the amount of time you participated in the experiment.

**PRIVACY & CONFIDENTIALITY**

Your personal study related information will be kept confidential within the limits of the law. Any identifiable information collected will be kept in a secure location and only the researchers will have access to the data. Specific research participants data will not be identified in any public forum (e.g., publications, presentation of research results, or online data repositories), rather data will be de-identified and provided only in aggregate form if presented in a public forum. Your research information may, in certain circumstances, be disclosed to the Institutional Review Board (IRB), which oversees research at Kent State University, or to certain federal agencies. For instance, confidentiality may not be maintained if you indicate that you may do harm to yourself or others.

**COMPENSATION**

You will receive either \$5 or .5 extra credit points (only for those participating via Educational Psychology Sona Systems) for each half hour of experimental participation. You may refuse to participate and withdraw from the experiment at **ANY** time during with **NO** penalty to you. If you wish to stop, simply tell the researcher.

**VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION**

Taking part in this research study is entirely up to you. You may choose not to participate or you may discontinue your participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You will be informed of any new, relevant information that may affect your health, welfare, or willingness to continue participation in this study, should it arise.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Any remaining questions or if you feel that your participation has resulted in any emotional or physical discomfort, comments can be directed to the Principal Investigator (Jennifer M. Roche) via email ([vroche@kent.edu](mailto:vroche@kent.edu)) or by phone (330-672-0244). You may also contact KSU's Psychological Services (330-672-2487), which is located on the 2nd floor of the Deweese Health Center. This project has been approved by the Kent State University Institutional Review Board ([researchcompliance@kent.edu](mailto:researchcompliance@kent.edu)). If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant or complaints about research, you may also call the IRB (Paulette Washko, Director of Research Compliance at 330-672-2704).

**CONSENT STATEMENT, FUTURE RECRUITMENT, & SIGNATURE**

I have read this consent form and understand the information that has been provided above. I had the opportunity to have my questions answered to my satisfaction and understand the research and my rights as a participant. I voluntarily agree to participate in this study. I certify that I am at least 18 years of age and that a copy of this consent form will be provided to me for future reference.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



The MADI lab of Kent State University (Dr. Jennifer Roche, Director) would like to present you with the opportunity to be recruited for future experiments in our lab. If you are interested, please fill out your email address and indicate your willingness to get emails from our lab. At any time you would like to be removed from our list, you may request to be removed.

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I want to receive emails about future studies \_\_\_ I do not want to receive emails about future studies