

Informed Consent

Dear Participant, (*print name*) _____.

You have been invited to take part in a research project to learn more about jury decision making. Results from this study may add to our knowledge of the way juries reach verdicts. This study has been approved by the Claremont McKenna College Institutional Review Board (IRB). Participation in this study is voluntary. You may refuse to participate, skip any questions, or withdraw at any time without penalty.

This research will be conducted by Allysa Rueschenberg, as part of her senior thesis project. Her faculty advisor is Daniel Krauss, J.D., Ph.D., ABPP (Forensic Psychology), an Associate Professor of Psychology at Claremont McKenna College.

If you agree to be in this research study, you will be asked to do the following:

- 1) Read a substantial portion of a murder trial from a California criminal court.
- 2) Make a decision regarding the guilt or innocence of the defendant in the trial.
- 3) Complete a questionnaire about your background (age, gender, etc.).
- 4) Answer questions regarding personality characteristics.

Participation in the study will require about 30 minutes of your time. If you are in an introductory psychology course, you will receive one-half credit toward your research participation requirement.

There are no known risks associated with your participation in this research beyond those of everyday life. However, participation mimics the responsibility of a juror who must make an important judgment in a murder trial. This could make some participants feel uncomfortable. If, at any time, you wish to withdraw from the experiment, you may do so without penalty.

Confidentiality of your research records will be strictly maintained. No personally indemnifying characteristics will be included on the experiment materials.

You may keep a copy of this consent form for your records. If you have any additional questions or wish to report a research-related problem, you may contact the researcher at 805-458-1985, ARueschenberg10@cmc.edu, Claremont McKenna College. You may also contact the researcher's faculty advisor, Daniel Krauss, at daniel.krauss@claremontmckenna.edu, 909-607-8504, or the chair of the IRB, Dr. Michael O'Neill at (909) 607-8336, moneill@cmc.edu.

The researcher has explained this study to me and answered my questions. My signature indicates that I have read and understood all of the above and that I am at least 18 years of age.

Signature of Participant /Date

Signature of the Research Director