

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

‘Are people still conditionally cooperative? Experimental Evidence from a Threshold Public Goods Game’.

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This information sheet forms part of the process of informed consent. It should tell you what the research is about and what taking part will involve. Please read this information sheet carefully and ask one of the researchers named above if you have any questions.

1. What is the purpose of the project?

The purpose of this project is to investigate how cooperative individuals are, looking specifically in the context of a threshold public goods game. By observing contributions to a theoretical publicly funded project, it allows insight into the economic behaviour of individuals.

2. Why have I been invited to take part?

Anyone can take part in this study. Previous knowledge of game theory and economics is not needed, and you will be asked to disclose if you have any experience in these. Obtaining a variety of responses from individuals with different background knowledge in economics is important and will allow for a wider range of answers.

3. Do I have to take part?

It is completely your decision if you would like to take part or not. Before you decide, you should read the information in this sheet carefully and direct any questions you may have to bc999@bath.ac.uk . If at any time you decide you no longer wish to take part in this project, you are free to withdraw from the survey without giving a reason.

4. What would taking part involve?

Taking part in this project will simply involve completing a survey. In this survey you will be asked to make two decisions regarding how much you would like to contribute to a theoretical project that will help fight climate change. This project is completely made up, and no actual money will be contributed. More information on how the contributions work will be clearly explained to you during the survey, and you will have to answer some control questions to help you understand

Following this, you will be asked to answer some questions on fairness, selecting how much you agree with four statements. You will be then asked a small number of demographic questions on age, gender and your background in studying economics.

At no point will you be asked to provide your name or email address, no personal identifying information will be collected in this project.

5. What are the exclusion criteria?

This study should only take a maximum of 20 minutes and should be easy to understand. It should not take much time or effort on your part. There are no risks involved, and you are free to exit the survey at any point, and your response will not be used. Your response will be fully anonymous.

6. What are the possible benefits of taking part?

There are no specific benefits of taking part in the project. However, your response will assist in investigating how cooperative individuals are in economic contexts and all responses are much appreciated.

7. What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

We do not anticipate any disadvantages to you taking part in the project. The survey should be clear and easy to answer without much effort required. If the questionnaire asks a question that you do not want to answer for any reason, you can choose not to answer and are able to exit the questionnaire at any time so your response will not be used.

8. Who will have access to the information that I provide?

Only the research team (and University governance staff where appropriate) will have access to information that you provide, and this information will be anonymous and confidential.

9. What will happen to the data collected and results of the project?

We will treat all data as confidential and store it securely at the University of Bath on the University's secure servers. Storage of data will be done in accordance with current UK data protection legislation. Recorded data will be stored securely and confidentially in the University archives for a minimum of 10 years. Your name or any other identifying information will not be collected.

10. Who has reviewed the project?

This project has been given a favourable ethics opinion by the University of Bath (reference 15256-17935).

11. How can I withdraw from the project?

If you wish to withdraw your participation before completing the survey, you can simply withdraw at any time without needing to give a reason and without any penalty.

As data collected will be fully anonymised, it will not be possible to identify and remove any data once the survey has been completed.

12. University of Bath privacy notice

The University of Bath privacy notice can be found here:

<https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/university-of-bath-privacy-notice-for-research-participants/>.

13. What happens if there is a problem?

If you have a concern about any aspect of the project, you should ask to speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer any questions. If they are unable to resolve your concern or you wish to make a complaint regarding the project, please contact the Research Governance and Compliance Team at research-ethics@bath.ac.uk.

14. Who should I contact for more information?

Thank you for your interest in this project. Please do not hesitate to contact Beatrice Carroll bc999@bath.ac.uk or Kei Tsutsui kt511@bath.ac.uk if you would like more information.

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