Consent Form for Participation in a Research Study  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  

Researcher(s):  
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Study Title:  
Data Visualization Practices  

1. WHAT IS THIS FORM?  
This form is called a Consent Form. I encourage you to take some time to think this over and ask questions now and at any other time. If you decide to participate, you will be asked to acknowledge this form by ticking the agreement box.  

2. WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?  
Subjects must be at least 18 years old to participate and have some experiences with producing data visualizations.  

3. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY?  
Data visualization is an ethical practice involving rhetorical savvy. To date, few in situ studies have been conducted to investigate the rhetorical practices and ethical values implicit in the production of data visualizations. This study fills this gap by undertaking a two-year study of data visualization practices at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and for public practitioners. Surveys, interviews, visualizations, and pedagogical material (if applicable) will be collected and analyzed from faculty, students, and practitioners. I aim to understand how and why people learn to visualize data and what kinds of values they learn as they do so.  

4. WHERE WILL THE STUDY TAKE PLACE AND HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?  
The primary researcher, John Gallagher, will be conducting this survey during the fiscal year 2019. You can take this survey at any internet accessible computer or device.  

5. WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO?  
If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to take a survey about your writing activity related to academic publication and dissemination. Some possible questions include, but are not limited to:  
   1. How often do you produce data visualizations?  
   2. How frequently do you produce data visualizations in your research?  
   3. How much time is devoted to data visualization in your research? (hours per week)  
   4. What tools do you use when creating data visualizations?
6. WHAT ARE MY BENEFITS OF BEING IN THIS STUDY?
You may not directly benefit from this research; however, your participation in the study may educate academics and the larger public about the nature of data visualization processes and how students could create better visualizations.

7. WHAT ARE MY RISKS OF BEING IN THIS STUDY?
There are no foreseeable economic or physical risks associated with this study. While there are no expected social risks, you should be aware that your responses to some questions may or may not cause mental distress, although this is unlikely. There also may be unforeseen risks or inconveniences that include the time it takes to fill out this survey.

8. HOW WILL MY PERSONAL INFORMATION BE PROTECTED?
The following procedures will be used to protect the confidentiality of your responses:

- **The researcher will use only aggregated data from the survey.** While the researcher may share the data with other researchers and assistants, all data shared will be anonymized.
- The researcher will keep all physical study records (including any codes to the data) in a private office to which only John Gallagher will have the key.
- Research records will be labeled with a code.
- A master key that links names and codes will be maintained in a separate and secure location.
- All electronic files (e.g., database, spreadsheet, etc.) containing any identifiable information will be password protected.
- Any computer hosting such files will also have password protection to prevent access by unauthorized users. Only the researcher will have access to the passwords.
- At the conclusion of this study, the researcher may publish the findings. Information will be presented in summary format and the subject will not be identified in any publications or presentations.
- If required by laws or university policy, study information and data which identifies you and the consent form signed by you may also be seen or copied by the following people or groups: a) the university committee and office that reviews and approves research studies, the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Office for the Protection of Research Subjects, and b) university and state auditors and departments of the university responsible for oversight of research.

9. WILL I RECEIVE ANY PAYMENT FOR TAKING PART IN THE STUDY?
Although no monetary compensation will be provided, you will have the opportunity to reflect on your texts and writing process.

10. WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?
If you have any questions about this study, please contact John Gallagher at 267-640-9142 or at johng@illinois.edu. If you have any questions about your rights as a participant in this study or any concerns or complaints, please contact the University of Illinois institutional review board at 217-333-2670 or via email at irb@illinois.edu.
11. CAN I STOP BEING IN THE STUDY?
You do not have to be in this study if you do not want to be. If you agree to be in the study, but later change your mind, you may drop out at any time. There are no penalties or consequences of any kind if you decide that you do not want to participate.

12. SUBJECT STATEMENT OF VOLUNTARY CONSENT
By agreeing to take this survey, I am agreeing to voluntarily enter this study. I have had a chance to read this consent form, and it was explained to me in a language which I use and understand. I have had the opportunity to ask questions and have received satisfactory answers. I understand that I can withdraw at any time. A copy of this signed Informed Consent Form is accessible on John Gallagher’s Illinois-approved website (http://publish.illinois.edu/johnrgallagher/).

I agree and consent to this form (check yes to proceed).