

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Participant Information Sheet

You are being invited to take part in a research study on randomness perception. Before you decide whether you want to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with the experimenter if you wish. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you would like to take part.

Thank you for reading this.

Title of the Research: Investigations of apparently irrational judgement and decision making: (Randomness Perception)

What is the aim of the research?

This study investigates the how humans perceive random sources of information and the factors which shape our perception.

Who will conduct the research?

Luke Coltman from the School of Psychological Sciences, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, M13 9PL.

Why have I been chosen?

You have volunteered to take part.

What would I be asked to do if I took part?

You will be asked to provide some basic personal information about your age, gender and educational background before being given a short term memory test. Over the remaining course of the experimental sessions you will then be asked to either simply watch a sequence of unfolding random outcomes (such as the outcome of sequential coin tosses) or generate a sequence of outcomes which you think appears random. In some conditions you will be asked to do this in the presence of a distraction (e.g. background noise or while performing a secondary arithmetic task).

What happens to the data collected?

The data collected will be anonymous and will be stored on password protected university computers.

What happens if I do not want to take part or if I change my mind?

You do not have to take part in the study. If you decide to take part and then later change your mind, either before you start the study or during it, you can withdraw without giving a reason and if you wish your data will be destroyed. After completion of the study all data will be stored in a completely anonymous format and therefore it will not be possible to identify or delete specific participant data.

Will I be paid for participating in the research?

Yes, you will be paid at a rate of £X per hour

What is the duration of the research?

Participation will take no more than 60 minutes in total. Regular breaks will be given as required.

Where will the research be conducted?

University of Manchester, Zochonis Building.

Contact for further information

If you wish to find out more about this study please contact the chief investigators on this project, Dr Paul Warren (paul.warren@manchester.ac.uk)

What if something goes wrong?

If there are any issues regarding this research that you would prefer not to discuss with members of the research team, please contact the Research Practice and Governance Co-ordinator by either writing to 'The Research Practice and Governance Co-ordinator, Research Office, Christie Building, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL', by emailing: research.complaints@manchester.ac.uk, or by telephoning 0161 275 7583 or 275 8093.

**This project has been approved by the
University of Manchester Research Ethics Committee**