qm_logo

**Detailed Information sheet**

**Putting in the effort for the benefit of all: The role of reward and effort requirements**

Thank you for agreeing to take part in our research. We are examining effort exertion in groups. To do this, each participant is assigned to a group of five people. You have been assigned to a group called **“Purple”**.

The experiment has 4 stages: (1) You and the other group members from your group will first individually complete a task where you have to squeeze a hand-grip device for monetary rewards; (2) All the group members will meet in an online chatroom to receive and discuss feedback from this task; (3) You will complete the effort task again; and (4) All group members will meet in another online chat.

**Stage 1**

You will have to squeeze a hand-grip device 40 times. Squeezing the device involves effort, and so each squeeze is associated with a 40p reward. The reward resulting from each squeeze (i.e. effort) can either go to an **individual** pot ora **group** pot. Rewards from the individual pot will be given to you directly. The contributions that you and other group members make to the group pot will be multiplied by 1.5 and divided evenly between members of your group, including yourself. Therefore, your final reward will depend on how much effort you contribute to your individual pot, as well as on how much you and other group members contribute to the group pot. You will receive the money that you won during the experiment at the end of the study.

Before you begin the task, you will have a chance to familiarise yourself with the hand-grip device. You will then need to tell the researcher how many squeezes you intend to contribute to the individual pot and the group pot. There are no right or wrong answers here and you do not have to stick with these numbers. You may have told the researcher that you intend to do X squeezes for the group pot and Y squeezes for the individual pot - but as long as you squeeze the device 40 times, you can change your actual contributions to each pot. What you need to remember is that you can’t switch back and forth between the individual pot and the group pot. Instead, we will tell you before you start whether you are first exerting effort for the individual pot or group pot. Then you can begin to squeeze the device for this pot. When you feel like it you can switch to the other pot and begin to squeeze the device for this pot.

Once you have completed the task, you will be asked to let the researcher know your availability for taking part in a short anonymous online group discussion with the rest of your group. You will be provided with a username and instructions on how to access the discussion.

**Stage 2**

During stage 2 of this experiment you will join an online discussion with the fellow group members to find out how much your group has won. In this discussion the researcher will share results from the task and provide you with an opportunity to discuss the results with the rest of your group. You will be encouraged to provide at least one comment on the group chat. The chat room will be available for 24 hours. The researcher will send a reminder of the online discussion to all the group members 24 hours before the agreed date, and on the morning of the agreed date.

**Stage 3**

You will repeat stage 1 by completing the effort task again.

**Stage 4**

You will repeat stage 2 by participating in another online discussion with your group where you can discuss your results.

To receive your reward at the end of the experiment you need to complete all four stages. If for any reason you are unable to do so or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the researcher.

Thank you.