

**COLGATE UNIVERSITY**  
13 Oak Drive  
Hamilton, NY 13346-1385

**Institutional Review Board Proposal Cover Sheet**

Title of Project: Achieving true inclusion: how personality and labels affect behaviors toward autistic individuals

Anticipated number of participants: females: 75 males: 75 Approximate ages: 18-22

Submission date: XX/XX/XXXX

Anticipated start date: XX/XX/XXXX

**Expedited Review:** for research that does **not** manipulate participants' behavior, use deception, threaten privacy, or cause stress to participants (e.g. observational studies, studies of archival data, some questionnaire and interview studies). Review takes approximately 5 days.

**Full Review:** for all research that is not eligible for expedited review. Reviews occur once each semester.

Investigator(s): Investigator Name Here \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Supervisor: Supervisor Name Here (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information for Principal Investigator:

Name: Investigator Name Here \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (xxx) xxx-xxxx \_\_\_\_\_

Email: Investigator @colgate.edu \_\_\_\_\_

*X I have read and agree to uphold the ethical principles and guidelines for the protection of human research participants as they are described in the Belmont Report issued by the Federal Office of Health, Education & Welfare. This proposal and the attached materials meet the guidelines described by the APA Code of Ethics.*

A copy of the Belmont Report is available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/belmont.htm>

IRB #:	_____
Reviewer:	_____
Decision:	_____
Date:	____/____/____

**Purpose of Investigation and Procedures:**

Autism-spectrum disorders, including High Functioning Autism and Asperger's Disorder, are

common to individuals with autism. The participants will all be made aware that they may choose to leave the study at any time without negative repercussions. Finally, we will include the contact information for the counseling center in the debriefing statement, so that participants can receive professional intervention if they do experience any negative reactions to the research procedure.

## **Certificate of Informed Consent**

Overview and Procedure: This is a study on personality characteristics and friendships. As a participant you will view four short video clips and be asked to respond to a few questions about each clip. The study should take approximately one hour to complete.

Risks and Benefits: There are no direct benefits to you as a participant. This is a low-risk procedure,

## Debriefing Form

This study examines differences in attitudes and behaviors toward individuals with autism. We were looking to see if contextual factors would predict how similar an individual would feel to a peer with autism and how close a friendship they would be willing to forge. Autism is extremely prevalent in today's society, yet little research has focused on the factors that influence the social acceptance and integration of individuals with autism. Your participation in this study helps contribute to the literature on this topic.

In the video clips that you saw, two of the individuals had autism. There were three different conditions in which you could have been placed. In the first condition, participants were told that these individuals had autism and were given a description of what that means. In the second condition, participants were told only that these individuals had autism. In the third condition, participants were told nothing about their diagnoses. We hypothesized that participants in the first condition would be more likely to relate to individuals with autism than participants in the second or third condition.

We also believed that participants' orientations toward others would predict the level to which they related to individuals with autism. Specifically, we hypothesized that people with eco-system orientations would be more likely to relate to individuals with autism than people with ego-system orientations. An eco-system orientation refers to a focus on the well-being of others, whereas an ego-system orientation refers to a focus on one's own well-being. Both orientations are normal and serve different important purposes. However, we predicted that people with eco-system orientations would feel a more genuine connection with individuals with autism, and as a result turn their empathy into pro-social actions, as opposed to people with ego-system orientations, who would feel less of a connection with individuals with autism, even if they did feel sympathy for them.

If you are a Psychology 150 student, you may have the researcher sign your card in order to obtain one credit toward your class requirement.

If this study was in any way distressing to you, we encourage you to contact the Counseling and Psychological Services at Conant House. To speak with a counselor, email office manager XXX or call the office at extension XXX. If you are interested in learning the findings of the study, reports will be made available upon completion of the research. For the results of this study, or if you have any additional questions, contact the principal investigator XXX.

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Materials and description of videos (Excluded from the example)