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Come 180

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IRPP Paper

For my interdisciplinary research participant pool assignment, I participated in five online research projects. The five projects I participated in were online surveys that I completed through sona. The research projects I participated in consisted of the “Basic study”, “How Drug Education Programs Affect Drug Usage at St. Norbert College”, “Sex Education Survey”, “The Effects of Entertainment Television”, and the “NFL Fan Study”.

The first project that I participated in was the Basic Study. This project consisted of an online survey in sona that took about thirty minutes to complete. . The survey consisted of completing questions about your mood, personality, and experiences to access emotions, trait-like ways of relating to your emotions, personality, behavior, and stressful life events. The Basic Study focused on exploring how emotional processes are related to people’s personality characteristics, as well as how both emotion and personality are related to stressful life events. For example, some people tend to “push away” their emotions, which can keep them going longer than the person wants. Additionally, some personality traits may influence how resilient a person is following stressful life events. My experience as a participant in this study was overall good, the questions were short and easy to understand and I feel like they got to the point. I also feel like the questions were very well phrased and clear to get the question across.

The second research project that I participated in was an online survey issued through sona titled, "How Drug Education Programs Affect Drug Usage at St. Norbert College". This survey also lasted around 30 minutes and asked specific questions about the participants level of education about drugs and if they felt as though the more education they had, the less of an urge they have to try drugs. This survey consisted of questions about when the participant first received education about drugs, where they learned these things (school, home, friends, etc.), and if you felt comfortable with the amount of information you know about drugs. My experience as a participant in this study was overall very good, I thought it was an interesting topic of research and it made me reflect on my knowledge of these subjects and how I should educate myself more on these topics since I never had much education on drugs at home or at previous schools.

The third study that I participated in was the Sex Education Survey. This was also an online survey issued through Sona that had a duration of about 20 minutes. This study was conducted as part of a course requirement for students in SOCI300. This study mainly asked questions about sexual education and the participants habits and beliefs in order to look to see if there is an association between a person's sex education and sex practices. The survey started with demographic information, then into questions about schooling and specific types of sexual education the participant has received. After that, the survey asked about the participant's stance on topics related to sex and sex education, and the fourth section of the survey focused on the participant's personal sexual habits. My experience as a participant in this study was very good. The questions were very straightforward, the survey did not last very long, and I thought it was a very interesting topic of research.

Another study that I participated in was an online survey titled “Effects of Entertainment Television”. First, as a participant I was asked to watch a 45 minute episode of *Grey’s Anatomy*. The episode that I watched was mainly about domestic abuse and how the characters dealt with it. The episode was aired on prime-time broadcast television and is available on Netflix, so it is similar to what you might encounter in everyday TV viewing when you might see something you find objectionable or disconcerting. The content was aimed to possibly make you feel uncomfortable answering some of the questions asked of you. However, by answering these questions the point was to help the researchers and advance knowledge on an important topic. After watching the episode, the participant was asked to answer questions about your viewing experience and your attitudes about social issues. The survey then ended with questions about demographics. This was my favorite study that I participated in because it made me reflect the most on a serious issue that many people in our world have to deal with on a daily basis.

The final study that I participated in was the NFL Fan Study. This was an online survey that involved completing a questionnaire about your views and experiences as a Green Bay Packers Fan. The purpose of this study is to explore the personality characteristics and emotional experiences of supporters of the Green Bay Packers. The survey started out with questions about demographics and then into questions regarding the participant’s behaviors. After that, the question prompts changed to reasons why the participant watches Packer games, and then into traditions or routines that the participant may have as a Packer’s fan. I enjoyed participating in this study because growing up in Green Bay, the Packers are a big part of my life. I also thought the study was well constructed and a very interesting topic of research.

Overall, I had a very good experience with all of the research projects that I participated in. I thought it was interesting to participate in different types of studies throughout Sona and it was useful to see different types of studies and different types of research questions that we learned about in class. After completing these studies, I feel like I have a much better grasp on how research projects should be set up and conducted.