Debriefing Statement

Below is an example debriefing statement that you may use as the basis for your debriefing statement. You need to include a debriefing statement with your application if:

1. You use REP or
2. Your study employs deception or you do not explain some aspect of it (e.g. the objectives) in your plain language statement or
3. It is possible that as the result of participating in your experiment the participant’s mood, self-esteem or psychological state may have been negatively affected.

If any of these three conditions apply then a debriefing statement is required. If in doubt, it is always best to include a debriefing statement.



**Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences**

**Debriefing Statement**

PROJECT TITLE: **XXXXX**

**Dr. XXX (Responsible Researcher)**

Tel: XXXX XXXX; email: [XXXX@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:XXXX@unimelb.edu.au)

**Ms. XXX XXX (PhD student)** email: [XXXX@student.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:XXXX@student.unimelb.edu.au)

**Ms XXXX (Masters student)** email: [XXXX@student.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:XXXX@student.unimelb.edu.au)

**Ms XXXX (Honours student)** email: [XXXX@student.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:XXXX@student.unimelb.edu.au)

etc

Thank you for participating in a project on **XXXX**. This research aims to **[Insert a 2-3 sentence description here]**.

**[Insert a one paragraph description of what the participant did]**

**[If there was deception – you must now explicitly acknowledge the deception and explain why it was necessary]**

**[If there is a risk that the subject’s mood, self-esteem or the participant’s psychological state could have been negatively affected this must explicitly be acknowledged and the participant invited to contact the researcher for support as needed and/or provided with contact details for appropriate counselling services. For example Lifeline or the University Psychology Clinic (Tel: 03 9035 5180; Email: clinic@psych.unimelb.edu.au). You must not refer people the University Counselling Service]**

This research has been cleared by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC ***insert ethics number here, this is the same as the themis number of your ethics application***). If you have any concerns about this project please contact the Executive Officer, Human Research Ethics, The University of Melbourne (Tel: 8344 2073; Fax: 9347 6739).