***Sample Consent to Participate Form for Adult Subjects***

***(If you use this form remove the red material.)***

**Consent to Participate in Research**

**Southwestern College**

**PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR:** Jane Austen, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Southwestern

College, Winfield Kansas (620-555-6296)

**TITLE OF STUDY:** Letters to the Editor

**PURPOSE:** You will be asked to complete questionnaires for a research study on human judgment and attitudes. We hope to gain from this study a more accurate picture of how certain factors influence our judgments and attitudes about the things we see, ourselves, or other people.

**PROCEDURES:** You will read two letters to the editor of a major newspaper regarding an issue that is important to both authors. When you have finished reading each letter, you will be asked to give your impressions of the letter and the author’s involvement with the issue. You will also be asked to indicate your own opinions regarding several topics of social interest.

**TIME INVOLVED:** We anticipate this study to take approximately 30 to 40 minutes to complete.

**RISKS:** We do not anticipate any risk of serious physical or psychological harm to you as a result of your participation in this study.

**BENEFITS:** By participating in this study, you will have contributed to advancing our knowledge of some of the factors that affect human judgment and the attitudes we hold. In addition, all participants in the study will receive a debriefing, and overall results of the experiment will be made available to participants upon request. Your own knowledge of the factors affecting human judgment and the attitudes we hold may consequently also be increased.

**CONFIDENTIALITY:** The identity of the participants will be known only to the researchers involved in the study. You will be specifically requested not to enter your name or any other identifying marks on your materials. Because this consent form will be returned separately from your materials, your name and your responses will never be linked. Your name and your responses will be held in the strictest confidence to the full extent of the law. However, absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed, since research documents are subject to subpoena.

**RIGHT TO REFUSE OR WITHDRAW:** Your participation in this study is voluntary. You may refuse to participate at this point or change your mind about participating in this study at any point along the way. You will not be penalized in any way for your decision to withdraw from the study.

**QUESTIONS:** If you have any questions about this study, please ask the experimenter. If you have additional questions later, or if you want to receive a summary of the results of the study, you may contact Dr. Jane Austen, 657 Mossman Hall, Southwestern College, Winfield, KS 67156-2499, 620-555-5555 or at Jane.Austen@mymail.com. This information will also be made available to you following the study.

**Your signature below will indicate that you have decided to volunteer as a research participant and that you have read and understood the information provided above.**

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(Printed Name of Participant)

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(Signature of Participant) (Date)