Dear Parent:

As part of the educational experience here at the University of South Alabama, we invite students enrolled in Introduction to Psychology (PSY 120) to participate in Psychology research studies being conducted during the semester. If your son or daughter is under 19 years of age, your permission is required before they can participate in these studies.

Students can see a list of ongoing Psychology studies by visiting our Subject Pool website at http://usapsychology.sona-systems.com. By visiting this website, students can learn the details of studies being conducted and sign up for available appointment times to participate. Students earn course credit in exchange for their participation. However, participation is completely voluntary, and there is no penalty if students do not want to participate in studies (students can also earn course credit by writing summary papers as described in the course syllabus). Furthermore, if a student agrees to participate in a study, he or she may discontinue participation at any time without penalty. All studies on this website have been pre-approved by the University of South Alabama’s Institutional Review Board and are monitored carefully. In addition, the University of South Alabama requires that student responses in all of these studies remain confidential. With your approval, your son or daughter will be invited to participate in the following kinds of studies:

- Surveys and interviews.
- Studies that use direct sensors (e.g., a blood pressure device) or remote sensors (e.g., a video-camera) to measure physiological and psychological reactions.
- Studies that use questionnaires or other verbal or behavioral measures.
- Studies in which information about the hypothesis and the experimental situation is revealed to the student after participation is completed.

In this way, we seek to enhance students’ learning experience by providing detailed information about Psychology as a social science. Your son or daughter will NOT be invited to participate in the following kinds of studies:

- Procedures that entail a risk of physical harm.
- Procedures that involve hypnosis or unusual degrees of mental stress.
- Procedures that involve explicit or implicit deception about any aspect of the research that is likely to be significant to the student.
- Procedures that elicit information about activities that may be illegal or that are likely to offend prevailing standards of morality.

Please sign below to indicate your permission for your son or daughter to participate in Psychology Department studies.

__________________________ MAY participate as described above.
(Printed Name of Son or Daughter)

__________________________ Date _____________
(Printed Name of Parent of Legal Guardian)

Any questions of complaints about research participation should be directed to:

Institutional Review Board
Ph. 251-460-6308

Students: Please put the original of this form in a safe location. Bring a copy of it with you to every study you attend.