

DECEMBER 12, 2024

**LETTER OF INFORMATION / CONSENT FORM
FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE GAME IN ACTION STUDY**

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Sponsors: Fonds de recherche du Québec: Société et culture

Purpose of the Study:

We are investigating the effects of video game exposure, specifically watching video game streams in a group setting.

Description of the Research:

Once you arrive, we will ask you some background questions using a tablet. You will be brought into the LIVELab, which is a theatre with the ability to test up to 100 other people at the same time. You will view a **video game stream**. You will be asked to make various judgements or provide responses about the **video game stream**. **The video game stream** will be recorded using **Video Cameras** within the theatre that will be used for later analysis.

The entire process will take around **90 minutes**. If at any time during the process you need assistance, please raise your hand and a research assistant will come to help you.

Potential Harms: The risks of participating are minimal. You may choose to not answer questions on the questionnaires if they make you feel uncomfortable. If you are in a theatre with many other participants, other participants will know that you participated. Possible games to be shown during the study include action-adventure (e.g., Legend of Zelda), role-play (e.g., Baldur's Gate 3), platformer (e.g., Super Mario), shooter (e.g., Fortnite, Call of Duty), or strategy (e.g., League of Legend), some of which may be considered violent or graphic.

Potential Benefits: The results will not benefit you directly, but will increase our understanding of how people interact, using music and performance as a model, which is important for understanding human behaviour and building healthy societies.

Compensation: If you are a McMaster student recruited through SONA, you will be given one and a half (1.5) course credits.

Confidentiality: As you are in a theatre with many other people, other participants will see that you are also a participant. However, your responses will be identifiable only by a participant code and the researcher will not know who corresponds to what participant code. All potentially identifying data will be kept confidential and securely stored in the LIVELab and may be used for future research. Data may be uploaded to an online repository and made publically available; however all raw survey data will go through a process of determining potential identifiability and an anonymous dataset created prior to sharing.

Confidentiality will be respected and no information that discloses your identity will be released or published without your consent, unless required by law (for example, laws pertaining to the protection of vulnerable individuals including children). You can find more information about data security at <https://projectredcap.org/software/mobile-app/privacypolicy/> . All data and recordings will remain in Dr. Trainor's lab at McMaster and Dr. Ferrari's lab at McGill, stored in de-identified form for possible future analysis, until such time as they are destroyed.

Participation and Withdrawal: Participation in research is voluntary. If you choose to participate, you can skip any question you prefer not to answer and are free to withdraw from the study at any time, without any negative consequences, even after signing this form. In the case of withdrawal, all response data will be destroyed. If you wish to withdraw while in the LIVELab, please **raise your hand**, and a research assistant will help you disconnect from the recording system and leave the main theatre. If you decide after the event you wish to withdraw your data you may do so, up until **February 28, 2025**, when we expect to have all data de-identified for analyses. If you decide to withdraw, there will be no consequences to you. To withdraw after the event, please send an e-mail to: **Ian Raugh** ian.raugh.comtl@ssss.gouv.qc.ca

Information about the Study Results: Any results from this study that are published in the future can be accessed via <https://livelab.mcmaster.ca/>. You can also indicate in the consent section if you wish to receive newsletters summarizing the results of this and other studies conducted in the LIVELab.

Ethics Review: This study has been reviewed by the McMaster University Research Ethics Board and received ethics clearance (**MREB#7202**). If you have concerns or questions about your rights as a participant or about the way the study is conducted, please contact:

McMaster Research Ethics Board
Telephone: (905) 525-9140 ext. 23142
E-mail: ethicsoffice@mcmaster.ca

Contact: If you have any questions about this study, you may contact the lab via email livelab@mcmaster.ca, or by telephone: 905-525-9140 ext 25483 Or, you can contact any of the investigators involved in this study via their email addresses listed at the top of this document.

CONSENT

- I have read the information presented in the information letter about a study being conducted by Dr. **Laurel Trainor**, of McMaster University and Drs. Manuela Ferrari and Ian Raugh of McGill University
- I have had the opportunity to ask questions about my involvement in this study and to receive additional details I requested.
- I understand that if I agree to participate in this study, I may withdraw from the study at any time or up until **February 28, 2025**
- I understand that my de-identified data may be used for future research or uploaded to an online repository and made publically available.
- I have been given a copy of this form.
- I agree to participate in the study.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Participant (Printed) _____

I consent to being [**videorecorded** | **audiorecorded** | **photographed**] for the following purposes:

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|---|----------|
| (i) to be viewed by researchers involved in the project for scientific purposes | (yes/no) |
| (ii) to be presented at scientific conferences or in scientific journals | (yes/no) |
| (iii) to be used for teaching purposes | (yes/no) |
| (iv) to be used for news or publicity purposes | (yes/no) |
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If you would be interested in receiving a newsletter summarizing the results of this and other studies conducted in the LIVELab, as well as new study opportunities, please fill in your email address in the space below.

I wish to receive emails from the LIVELab (**yes** / **no**)

Use this email address to send me updates about LIVELab: _____