

Attachment A – Application for University IRB Review

I. Principal Investigator / Project Director

Name: Sally Student

Applicant Status: Undergraduate Student

Person/Student ID Number: 987654321 **Email:** sstudent47@uwlax.edu

Department or Office: Psychology

Date Form Completed: 3/3/2022

II. Form Notes

- **Mentorship:** All mentors, Co-PIs/Co-PDs, and personnel must be listed. Additionally:
 - All student projects must have at least one faculty/staff mentor.
 - Graduate students completing a protocol for their thesis must list all of their thesis committee members.
- **Non-Affiliated Persons:** Non-UWL affiliated PIs/PDs and thesis committee members must include their phone number and institutional affiliation. This includes the name, email, phone number, and institutional affiliation of each applicable individual.
- **CITI Human Subjects Research Training:** The primary faculty/staff mentor and/or thesis committee member must have applicable CITI training. All Co-PIs/Co-PDs and personnel who will be interacting with human subjects, obtaining consent, or handling identifiable data must have the applicable CITI training, regardless of institutional affiliation.
- **Title IX Training:** All postsecondary employees conducting research to gather information about sex discrimination must complete the additional, annual Confidential Employee Status Training from the Title IX office.
- **Submission Requirements:** Combine all applicable documents into one PDF for submission to irb@uwlax.edu (e.g., applicable Attachments, Narrative, consent form(s), applicable trainings, marketing materials). Copy all faculty advisors, thesis committee members, and Co-PIs/Co-PDs on the email in which you submit your IRB protocol.

III. Project Information

1. Project Title (250 character maximum):

Perceptions of Selfies in Natural Areas

2. Start Date: 3/15/2022 **End Date:** 5/31/2023

3. Is this project federally funded or related to a federal grant that has been/will be submitted? ☒ No ☐ Yes

If **No**, skip to “Review Category”. (Most PIs/PDs will be selecting “No”.)

If **Yes**, answer the next two questions and also complete **Attachment B**.

- To which federal agency has it been, or will it be submitted? [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)
- Grant Compliance ID #: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

IV. Review Category

If researchers believe that their project may be reviewed under expedited procedures or falls within an exemptible category, please check and complete the appropriate boxes:

☐ Expedited Indicate the category number(s) from p. 15-17 [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

☒ Exempt Indicate the category number(s) from p. 10-12 [2](#)

V. Faculty Advisor(s) / Thesis Committee Members [check here for thesis project](#) ☐

***all faculty advisors / thesis committee members must be listed on this form

Name: Katy Kortenkamp Department/Office: Psychology

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) Department/Office: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) Department/Office: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) Department/Office: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) Department/Office: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

VI. Co-PIs / Co-PDs List name and ID or UWL Department/Office.

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) ID or Dept/Office : [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) ID or Dept/Office : [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

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Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) ID or Dept/Office : [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Other Co-PIs / Co-PDs List name and Student ID or UWL Department or UWL Office.

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

VII. Personnel List name and ID or UWL Department/Office.

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) ID or Dept/Office : [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) ID or Dept/Office : [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) ID or Dept/Office : [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) ID or Dept/Office : [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Name: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#) ID or Dept/Office : [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Other Co-PIs / Co-PDs List name and Student ID or UWL Department or UWL Office.

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

VII. SIGNATURE

By typing my name below, I agree to comply with any decisions made by the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse IRB in regard to the above-named research project and the standards of professional ethics in my field of study.

Name: Sally Student Date: 3/2/2022

BEGIN YOUR NARRATIVE STATEMENT ON NEXT PAGE.

NARRATIVE

1. This project will examine young adults' perceptions of dangerous selfies in natural areas. Injuries and deaths occurring in natural areas due to taking dangerous selfies has recently been documented as a problem, but little research has examined causes or ways to prevent these accidents. Participants will complete an online Qualtrics survey that includes photographs of people taking selfies in hazardous locations (in close proximity to: wild animals like bison and bear, and edges of cliffs). Upon viewing these pictures, participants will respond to rating scales and open-ended questions about their beliefs about the dangers, whether they would take selfies in these situations, what the pictured individuals' motivations might be, whether they think the benefits outweigh the risks, what they think the likelihood of getting hurt is in these situations, and what they would do differently to avoid possible negative consequences. Some participants will receive information about the dangers involved with taking selfies in these types of situations before they view and respond to the images to examine the effectiveness of such information. See Appendix B for survey materials. Data collection will begin in late March 2022, after IRB approval is obtained, and continue for up to 12 months.
2. Participants will be UWL undergraduate students. A random sample of emails will be obtained from Institutional Research. About 100-200 participants will be sampled. Only students who have recent experience in outdoor settings will be included in the sample. This requirement will be noted in the recruitment email (See Appendix D), and the first question on the survey will also screen participants out if they haven't met this requirement. This sample is being used because of the focus on selfies taken in natural areas. Also, research shows selfie accidents are most common among those under age 25.
3. NA
4. As an online survey, I will not obtain written, signed informed consent from participants. I am requesting that signed informed consent be waived for this research. Informed consent information (see Appendix A) will be presented at the beginning of the online survey and students who choose not to participate have the option of discontinuing the survey then or at any time. Completing the survey will mean participants are giving their consent.
5. Identifying information will not be collected from participants within the survey itself. At the end of the Qualtrics survey, participants will be redirected to a second survey to enter in their name and UWL email so they can be sent an electronic gift card as an incentive. Researchers will not attempt to match participants' emails/names from this survey to their previous survey responses. The data will be stored on password protected computers and the UWL secure network.
 - a. No generative AI tools will have access to the data.
 - b. Deidentified raw data may be shared with an academic journal or open science data repository if that is a requirement for manuscript publication.
6. The experiment should take no more than 30 minutes and presents no more risks to participants beyond what they encounter in everyday life.
7. NA
8. Participants will learn about the dangers of taking selfies in certain situations. A debriefing form will be given to all participants with information about selfie dangers and safety (see Appendix C). The research will increase general understanding about why people might be motivated to take dangerous selfies and what information could help to decrease this behavior.
9. Participants will be incentivized to participate by receiving a \$5 Kwik Trip gift card at the end of the study. This gift card will be emailed to them within one week of completing the study.
10. NA

APPENDIX A: Informed Consent to Participate in Research University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

Student Investigator: Sally Student, Psychology (sstudent47@uwlax.edu)

Faculty Mentor/Emergency Contact: Katy Kortenkamp, Professor of Psychology
(kkortenkamp@uwlax.edu, 608-785-8445)

Purpose & Procedure: The purpose of this study is to examine young adults' perceptions of the behavior of taking selfies in natural areas. Participation will involve viewing pictures of people taking selfies in natural areas, answering questions about your beliefs and behavior regarding taking selfies in natural areas, and answering questions about yourself (e.g., age, gender, experience in outdoor settings). The survey should take no more than 30 minutes. The results of this study may be published in scientific literature or presented at professional meetings using grouped data only.

Potential Risks: There are no risks to you of participating in this study beyond what would be encountered in everyday life.

Your Rights: Participation in this study is voluntary. You can refuse to participate, withdraw from the study at any time, or refuse to answer any questions without penalty or loss of benefits.

Confidentiality: All data will be kept confidential to the extent legally allowable. Although no data can be 100% securely stored, several precautions will be taken to maintain data confidentiality and protect your privacy. Data will be stored on the researchers' password protected devices and the UWL secure network. Your name/email will be collected for the purpose of providing you with an electronic gift card incentive, but this identifying information will be stored separately from the rest of your study data.

Data Sharing: Deidentified study data may be provided to research journals and/or data sharing sites. Deidentified data has personally identifying information permanently removed from the data file.

Potential Benefits: You may learn about some of the negative consequences of certain selfie taking behavior while participating in this study. Nature park managers may gain a better understanding of the motivations behind selfie taking and ways to deter dangerous selfie taking.

Incentives: At the end of the study, you will be directed to a second survey to enter in your name and email so that an electronic \$5 Kwik Trip gift card can be sent to you. You will receive this gift card within one week of completing the study. If you don't finish the study, you will not receive the gift card.

Questions: If you have questions about this study, you may contact Sally Student or the faculty mentor, Katy Kortenkamp (see contact details above)). If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, you should contact the UW-La Crosse Institutional Review Board (irb@uwlax.edu).

If you are at least 18 years of age and agree to participate in this study, click on the arrow below to continue. Completing this survey means you are giving your informed consent.

APPENDIX B: Survey Materials

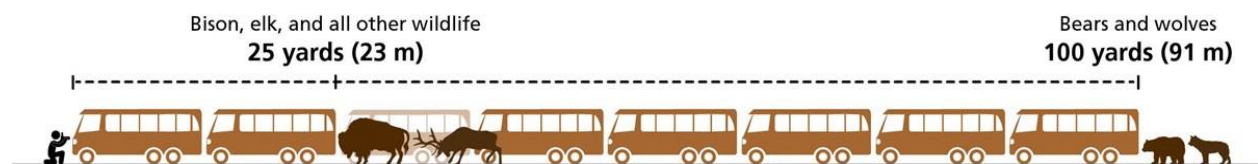
Screening Question

Have you gone hiking in a natural area (e.g., forest, marsh) within the last 12 months? (Walking to/from a hunting, fishing, or climbing site would count as hiking if it was in a natural area.) (yes/no) (If answer NO, they will not be allowed to continue with the study)

This study is about exciting nature selfies, such as selfies taken close to a cliff edge or near wild animals.

Half of participants will see this warning information before taking the rest of the survey:

In the past 10 years, about 40 people each year have died while taking selfies in dangerous situations, with the most common setting being a natural environment close to a cliff edge, water, or near wild animals. The number of deaths and injuries due to selfies in these situations is increasing. The National Park Service recommends staying a safe distance from wildlife while taking pictures



Participants will see 15 selfie pictures, this is an example of them.

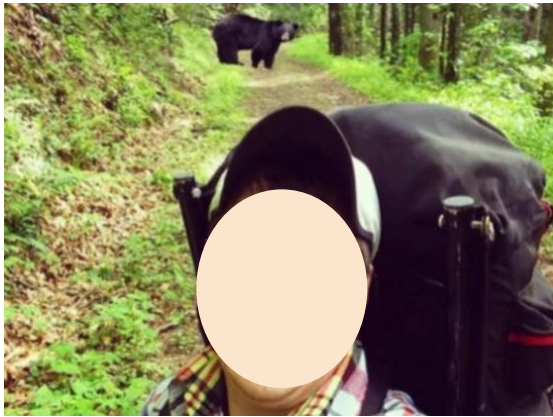
Instructions: You will see several pictures of park visitors taking selfies in various situations, for example in front of animals or atop cliffs. For each picture, you will be asked four questions about your views on the situation. Please consider each situation carefully and answer with your honest opinions. There are no right or wrong answers.



1. How risky do you think it is to take a selfie like this? (1 = not at all, to 7 = extremely)
2. How likely do you think it is that the person taking this selfie will get injured by falling? (1 = not at all likely, 7 = very likely)
3. How likely would you be to take a selfie like this? (1 = not at all likely to 7 = very likely)
4. Even if there are risks involved in taking this selfie, the resulting photo would be worth it (1 = strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree scale)



5. How risky do you think it is to take a selfie like this? (1 = not at all, to 7 = extremely)
6. How likely do you think it is that the person taking this selfie will get injured by an animal attack? (1 = not at all likely, 7 = very likely)
7. How likely would you be to take a selfie like this? (1 = not at all likely to 7 = very likely)
8. Even if there are risks involved in taking this selfie, the resulting photo would be worth it (1 = strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree scale)



9. How risky do you think it is to take a selfie like this? (1 = not at all, to 7 = extremely)
10. How likely do you think it is that the person taking this selfie will get injured by an animal attack? (1 = not at all likely, 7 = very likely)
11. How likely would you be to take a selfie like this? (1 = not at all likely to 7 = very likely)
12. Even if there are risks involved in taking this selfie, the resulting photo would be worth it (1 = strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree scale)

Now you will read some general questions about taking exciting nature selfies. Again, please carefully read each question or statement and answer with your honest opinions.

1. How close do you think you would get to a bear while taking a selfie?

0

5 yards (length of a small car)

10 yards (length of two small cars)

25 yards (length of swimming pool)

50 yards (length of half a football field)

100 yards (length of football field from endzone to endzone)

2. How close do you think you would get to a bison while taking a selfie?

0

5 yards (length of a small car)

10 yards (length of two small cars)
25 yards (length of swimming pool)
50 yards (length of half a football field)
100 yards (length of football field from endzone to endzone)

3. How close do you think you would get to a cliff edge while taking a selfie?

0

5 yards (length of a small car)
10 yards (length of two small cars)
25 yards (length of swimming pool)
50 yards (length of half a football field)
100 yards (length of football field from endzone to endzone)

4. How close do you think you should get to a bear to keep yourself safe while taking a selfie?

0

5 yards (length of a small car)
10 yards (length of two small cars)
25 yards (length of swimming pool)
50 yards (length of half a football field)
100 yards (length of football field from endzone to endzone)

5. How close do you think you should get to a bison to keep yourself safe while taking a selfie?

0

5 yards (length of a small car)
10 yards (length of two small cars)
25 yards (length of swimming pool)
50 yards (length of half a football field)
100 yards (length of football field from endzone to endzone)

6. How close do you think you should get to a cliff edge to keep yourself safe while taking a selfie?

0

5 yards (length of a small car)
10 yards (length of two small cars)
25 yards (length of swimming pool)
50 yards (length of half a football field)
100 yards (length of football field from endzone to endzone)

7. Is it more or less dangerous to take a selfie near a cliff edge or wild animal than another type of picture? (1 = much less dangerous to take a selfie, 4 = equally dangerous, 7 = much more dangerous to take a selfie)

Why?

1. I would be more likely to engage in a risky behavior (i.e., getting close to a while animal or cliff edge) if it meant I would get a really cool nature selfie. (1= strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree)
2. I would want to engage in risky behavior to get a nature selfie because of the thrill it would give me (1= strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree)

3. I would be willing to take an exciting nature selfie if it would get me lots of attention on social media (1= strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree)
4. Can a photo of an animal or the landscape only achieve the same effect as a photo with you or other people in it? (yes/no)

1. How many of your friends post exciting nature selfies (e.g., selfies taken close to a cliff edge or wild animal) on their social media? (1 = nobody to 7 = everybody)
2. How many college students do you think post exciting nature selfies on their social media? (<10%, 11-25%, 26-50%, 51-75%, 76-90%, 91-100%)
3. How many of your friends approve of posting exciting nature selfies on social media? (1 = nobody to 7 = everybody)
4. How much positive social media attention do you think you would get from others by posting an exciting nature selfie? (1= none, 7= a lot)
5. Would you be more or less likely to take an exciting nature selfie if you saw other people doing it? (1 = much less likely, 7 = much more likely)
6. How much do you approve of posting exciting nature selfies on social media? (1 = not at all, 7 = completely)

1. How would you describe the type of person who would take an exciting nature selfie when out hiking? Check all that apply

cool
popular
interesting
attractive
adventurous
fun
ambitious
stupid
naive
thoughtless
short-sighted
self-centered
attention-seeking
careless
average
other:___

Respond to the following statements indicating how much you agree or disagree (1 = strongly disagree, 7 = strongly agree)

1. Hikers taking exciting nature selfies would only get hurt if they weren't paying attention or were careless.
2. Many people probably take exciting nature selfies and do not get hurt.
3. Even if I take exciting nature selfies, I can prevent getting hurt if I'm careful and pay attention.
4. I have to die of something, so why not have fun and take exciting nature selfies.
5. Any sign warning about the risk of taking exciting nature selfies would be exaggerating.
6. Taking exciting nature selfies is no more dangerous than lots of other things people do.
7. I am the sort of person who could take exciting nature selfies and stay safe.
8. I would rather take some risks and enjoy life than always be careful and miss out on adventure.
9. I would have to be really careless while taking an exciting selfie to put myself at risk of getting hurt.
10. Lots of people take exciting nature selfies, so it can't be that dangerous.

There are five paired statements below, for each choose which one is closest to your feelings.

- A. I don't mind blending into the crowd when I go out in public
B. I get upset when people don't notice how I look when I go out in public
- A. I really like to be the center of attention
B. It makes me uncomfortable to be the center of attention
- A. I try not to be a show off.
B. I will usually show off if I get the chance
- A. I want to amount to something in the eyes of the world
B. I just want to be reasonably happy.
- A. I prefer to blend in with the crowd.
B. I like to be the center of attention

Respond to the following statements indicating how much you agree or disagree (1 = strongly disagree, 7 = strongly agree)

1. I would like to explore strange places.
2. I get restless when I spend too much time at home.
3. I like to do frightening things.
4. I like wild parties.
5. I would like to take off on a trip with no pre-planned routes or timetables.
6. I prefer friends who are excitingly unpredictable.
7. I would like to try bungee jumping.
8. I would love to have new and exciting experiences, even if they are illegal.

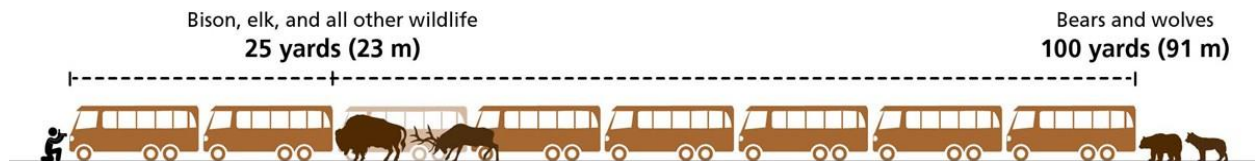
Other Questions:

1. How much time do you spend on social media (e.g., Snapchat, Instagram, Tik Tok, Pinterest, etc.) each weekday? (0-10+hours) Each weekend day? (0-10+ hours)
2. How much experience do you have taking exciting nature selfies? (1 = none to 7 = a lot)

3. When was the last time you posted a selfie to social media? (1 = within the past day, 2 = within the past 2-3 days, 3 = within the past week, 4 = within the past 2-3 weeks, 5 = within the past month, 6 = within the past couple of months, 7 = within the past year, 8 = never)
1. Please give us any comments you think would be helpful to this research:
2. What is your gender, age, race/ethnicity?
3. Overall, how much outdoor experience in natural settings have you had? (1= not much, 7 = a lot)

APPENDIX C: Debriefing form

Thank you for taking part in this research study! In the past 10 years, researchers have started investigating the growing problem of dangerous selfies. Hundreds of people have gotten injured or died while taking selfies in dangerous situations, often in natural areas. Most of these people are under the age of 25. Selfie takers turn their backs on hazards like animals and cliff edges and are therefore more likely to get injured. When visiting a natural area, the National Park Service recommends keeping the following distance from wildlife for your safety and theirs:



If you have any questions about this research, you may contact Sally Student (ssstudent47@uwlax.edu) or my faculty mentor, Katy Kortenkamp (kkortenkamp@uwlax.edu). If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, you should contact the UW-La Crosse Institutional Review Board (irb@uwlax.edu).

Thank you again for participating and stay safe when taking your selfies!

APPENDIX D: Recruitment Email

Subject line: Participants needed for online survey

Hello!

I'm Sally Student, a Psychology Major, and I'm conducting a research study about taking selfies in natural settings as a capstone project. You are eligible to participate in this study if you are at least 18 years old and have gone hiking in an outdoor area in the past year. Participation involves completing an online survey that will take no more than 30 minutes. You will receive a \$5 Kwik Trip gift card within one week of finishing the survey. If eligible and interested, click on the link below to read the consent form and complete the survey.

<link>

Thanks for your time!

Sally



Completion Date 29-Oct-2021
Expiration Date 28-Oct-2026
Record ID 45821295

This is to certify that:

Sally Student

Has completed the following CITI Program course:

Social & Behavioral Research - Basic/Refresher

(Curriculum Group)

Social & Behavioral Research

(Course Learner Group)

1 - Basic Course

(Stage)

Not valid for renewal of certification
through CME.

Under requirements set by:

University of Wisconsin-La Crosse



Verify at www.citiprogram.org/verify/?wdd98c9be-773d-478c-9d27-87df87276adf-45821295



Completion Date 14-Feb-2020
Expiration Date 12-Feb-2025
Record ID 29206671

This is to certify that:

Katy Kortenkamp

Has completed the following CITI Program course:

Social & Behavioral Research - Basic/Refresher (Curriculum Group)

Social & Behavioral Research (Course Learner Group)

1 - Basic Course (Stage)

Under requirements set by:

University of Wisconsin-La Crosse



Verify at www.citiprogram.org/verify/?wa8036ade-f938-408d-bbce-0042a0b4acca-29206671