**Item Transformation: IRB Revision Request**

**Thank you for reviewing my IRB request for the study entitled, Item Transformation. Please see my responses in bold below each requested revision.**

The IRB has reviewed your application for **"Item Transformation "** and is requesting the following revisions:

- Please include more components on the assent form.

**As stated in the consent form, we can only test children if they agree to play ‘the game’ with us.** **The research assistant or I will ask in front of the teacher so as not to have the child feel coerced to say yes. We tell the child we have a fun game to play and would they like to play. If the child says no, starts to cry or hides from us (or any other behavior besides a verbal ‘yes’), we move to the next child on our list. If there is any specific component of the assent process that I can expand upon, please let me know.**

**I’ve updated the assent form with this information.**

- When available, please provide school permissions.

**Absolutely. I’m attaching the form that the school director/principal will sign agree to allow the Children Learning Lab on its property to conduct our studies. The document is labeled ‘School Agreement with CLL’.**

**At this point, I hope to be in the Galloway Township schools, Stockton University’s Free to Be Early Learning Center and Atlantic County Head Start schools.**

- Please provide the SONA description.

SONA description:

**This is a simple categorization task. You will be told about 16 different items undergoing 3 different transformations (e.g., being crushed). You will be asked if the item is still the same or different after each transformation. The entire experiment should last approximately 30 minutes.**

- Is Informed Consent coercive with gifts? Could it be reworded?

**I’m concerned that by leaving out what we offer to children for their assent to participate in the study may be deceptive to parents. This is in case parents (or schools) do not want their children to receive any compensation for their assent to participate, which they can make known to me either by email, phone call or written on the consent form. I mention it twice in the consent form: in the opening paragraph on the page parents sign and then on the more detailed information about the research on the 2nd page. This is in case parents only read the first page and not the second one.**

**Given the difficulty in recruiting child participants, offering stickers or other small appropriate gifts (pencils for elementary school participants) is standard in child development labs to make the experience a pleasant one and for child participants’ effort in answering the questions. In a sense, it is similar to the research credit awarded to college students for participation.**

**In addition, as part of a grant writing process, I’ve spoken to a program officer, Dr. Layla Esposito, at the National Institute for Child and Health Development about offering cash payments to parents, gifts to child participants and educational supplies to schools for participation. Since this is used as an incentive for participation and the amounts were appropriate for the effort put forth by each of the parties, Dr. Esposito approved it as part of the funding request. Therefore, the NICHD approves the use of gifts (or incentives) for participation in developmental research (at least in this instance).**

**However, if there is another term, such as ‘reward’, that IRB recommends using, I’d be happy to change ‘gift’ to the recommended term.**

- Please provide a parental consent form for the parent completing the food survey.

**My consideration of the food survey for the parents was that they provide implicit consent when they fill it out, since it is low risk/time commitment and confidential. However, I realize there is no reference to it and parents may think it is mandatory to fill out. I’ve added a sentence explaining it is voluntary to fill out the attached survey on their child’s food preferences at the end of the 2nd paragraph on the first page of the consent form.**

**Please note there is an attached short survey about your child’s food preferences that is voluntary to complete.**

- According to the website, SONA starts at one point of extra credit, so please update Informed Consent accordingly.

**I have changed the research credit from ½ to 1 on the adult consent form.**