**INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD  
APPLICATION FOR REVIEW OF HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH**(Pursuant to Title 45-Code of Federal Regulations-Part 46)

**Date:**  09/12/2017

**Title of Project:** Relationships And Sexuality - Part 2 **Principal Investigator(s):** Alicia Limke-McLean  
  
**Name of Primary Investigator (PI):** Alicia Limke-McLean **Title:**   
**Department:** Psychology  
**College:** Education and Professional Studies  
**Campus Box:** 85  
**Campus Phone:** 5454   
**PI Status:**   
**Email (UCO Required)** **:** alimke@uco.edu  
**Mailing Address:** 100 N. University Dr., Edmond, OK 73034  
**Daytime Phone** **:** 405-203-8998  
  
**Name of Co-PI:**       **Title:**   
**Department** **:**        
**College** **:**        
**Campus Box:**   
**Campus Phone:**         
**PI Status:**   
**Email (UCO Required):**        
**Mailing Address** **:**        
**Daytime Phone:**

**Specify Type and Source of Funding:**

1. **Describe the purpose/hypothesis of the project or the research problem in enough detail that we can ascertain what the project is about. Describe why it is being done and the importance of the knowledge expected to result. Explain how the project/study fits with and extends current knowledge.**The current project builds upon previous research (Balzarini, Dobson, Chin, & Campbell, 2016) investigating the link between exposure to erotica and attraction/love for romantic partners among men which failed to replicate original research on the topic (cf. Kenrick, Gutierres, & Goldberg, 1989). The current study extends the previous literature two important ways. First, it includes a 30-minute clip from a full-length pornographic movie (approximately 10 minutes worth of actual pornographic content) instead of still image centerfold pictures as exposure to erotica because of the change in the way pornography is consumed by the public as technology has evolved. Second, it includes measures of relationship satisfaction, relationship certainty, and sexual identity to measures of partner attractiveness and partner loving/liking. It is expected that results will support the experimental findings of Balzarini et al. (2016) regarding the link between exposure to erotica and perceptions about partners; however, it is also expected that exposure to erotica will negatively affect perceptions about relationship satisfaction and certainty and increase favorable attitudes towards sexual exploration.
2. **Describe the subjects needed for this project and, at a minimum, provide the following information:**
   1. **The type of individuals needed as subjects:**

Any UCO Student  
  Students in investigator(s) class  
  Other (describe below)

Participants will be recruited via Facebook. The investigator will post a "status update" that may be shared by to invite participants to view the informed consent form. The soliciting message will read as follows:

"Hello everyone! We are working on a study regarding film, relationships, and sexual experiences that has been approved by the University of Central Oklahoma Institutional Review Board. We need individuals to watch a portion of a randomly assigned film (rated either PG, PG-13, or X) and then complete a variety of questionnaires found at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ALMPornStudy. Participants completing the entire study will have the chance to submit their e-mail addresses for a chance to win a $25 Amazon gift card. Participants MUST be 18 years or older and currently in a romantic relationship to participate. Participation in the study is completely anonymous, but please note that it is possible that participants will be exposed to pornographic content and that some of the questions asked are very sexual in nature. Feel free to share the link as well. Thanks for participating!"

After clicking on the link (provided above), participants will read an informed consent form detailing the nature of the study. By continuing, they will indicate their consent to participate in the research project.

It is expected that potential participants will vary in age between 18 and 85 (with a median age of approximately 35) with a variety of racial/ethnic and socioeconomic background. It should be noted that although it is possible that UCO students may participate in the study (based on general solicition through Facebook), current UCO students comprise approximately 40 of the PI's over 900 "friends" on Facebook; therefore, the percentage of students potentially affected through this type of recruitment is fairly minimal.

* 1. **The procedures used to recruit subjects:**

Advertisement (flyer)  
 Email blast  
 Direct/targeted email  
 Online posting  
 In-class announcement  
 Other (describe below)

Participants will be recruited via Facebook. The investigator will post a "status update" that may be shared by to invite participants to view the informed consent form. The soliciting message will read as follows:

"Hello everyone! We are working on a study regarding film, relationships, and sexual experiences that has been approved by the University of Central Oklahoma Institutional Review Board. We need individuals to watch a portion of a randomly assigned film (rated either PG, PG-13, or X) and then complete a variety of questionnaires found at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ALMPornStudy. Participants completing the entire study will have the chance to submit their e-mail addresses for a chance to win a $25 Amazon gift card. Participants MUST be 18 years or older and currently in a romantic relationship to participate. Participation in the study is completely anonymous, but please note that it is possible that participants will be exposed to pornographic content and that some of the questions asked are very sexual in nature. Feel free to share the link as well. Thanks for participating!"

After clicking on the link (provided above), participants will read an informed consent form detailing the nature of the study. By continuing, they will indicate their consent to participate in the research project.

* 1. **Where will the recruitment of subjects occur?**

**Participants will be recruited on the Internet through Facebook.**

* 1. **Do you plan to recruit subjects from outside businesses or other organizations?   
        
      Yes**  **No**

*If "yes," attach a copy of the required written permission (email or*

*letter) from the appropriate person authorized to grant such permission.*

* 1. **Do you plan to recruit from specific classes?  
     Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, attach a copy of the required written permission (email or letter) from the course instructor.***If recruitment occurs in the classroom, describe measures to minimize undue influence or coercion during recruitment:**  
     Not applicable
  2. **Do you plan to recruit subjects via email or conduct any of your research via the internet?   
       
      Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, indicate which of the following you will use:*  SONA  
       Survey Monkey  
       Survey Share  
       Qualtrics  
       Other  
       None

*Please enter an explanation if “Other” is chosen.*

Participants will be recruited on the Internet through Facebook.com.

*You must give a copy of your IRB application to the UCO Office of Information Technology for authorization. This may be done simultaneous to ORC submission.*

* 1. **Do you intend to use an oral or written script or any materials (flyer, letter, email, advertisement, announcements) as part of the recruitment of research subjects?  
       
      Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, attach a copy of these scripts/documents.*
  2. **What is the maximum number of subjects you expect to participate?**  
       
     It is expected that the MAXIMUM number of subjects participating will be approximately 400; however, given the nature of the study it is expected that approximately 150 (50 per film condition) will participate in the study.  
       
     **Provide an explanation for that number.**  
       
     It is expected that no more than 400 subjects will participate in this research. This number is based on estimates of the potential variability among the subjects and the high likelihood that participants will choose to participate in an online study for which they do not need to schedule an appointment. Moreover, research utilizing a multiple regression design follows a general rule for determining sample size: A sample of 50 is necessary to examine how one predictor explains variability in one outcome. For each variable added (in which an interaction is examined), the sample size needed doubles. In lieu of a sample of 400, a sample of 150 (50 per film condition) is appropriate to examine simple differences between groups in a group comparison design without testing interactions.
  3. **Will you be specifically including or targeting any of the following groups for research subjects? (Select all that apply)**  
      Minors (<18 years old)   
      Cognitively Impaired  
      Pregnant Women  
      Prisoners  
      Native Americans  
      Seniors (65 or older)   
      None of the above  
       
     **If any were selected, please explain the additional safeguards used to protect the welfare of these vulnerable groups.**  
       
     Not applicable
  4. **Describe the methods to be used in the study, including study design, measurements or observations of subjects, and what subjects will experience. Provide the estimated total time to complete surveys/questionnaires, etc.)**  
       
     Participants (who indicate they are currently involved in a romantic relationship and at least 18 years of age or older) will click on a link to a questionnaire available on SurveyMonkey.com. After clicking the link, participants will read an informed consent form (see Appendix). By continuing, they will indicate their consent to participate in the research project. After answering basic relationship questions via SurveyMonkey, they will be randomly assigned (by SurveyMonkey) to view one of three 30-minute pirate-themed movie clips: Pirates (a pornographic picture released in 2005; from 1:32:57 through 2:01:32), Pirates of the Caribbean (a box office picture released in 2003; from 1:43:02 through 2:13:34), and The Pirates! Band of Misfits (a “Claymation” picture released in 2012; from TBD through TBD). Following the movie, participants will complete measures of liking/loving, partner attractiveness, relationship satisfaction, and relationship certainty via SurveyMonkey (see Appendix): 1) Sexual Scripts Overlap Scale (SSOS; Stulhofer, Landripet, Momclcilovic, Matko, Kladaric, & Busko, 2007), 2) Measure of Sexual Identity Exploration and Commitment (MSIEC; Worthington, Navarro, Savoy, & Hampton, 2008), 3) Hurlbert Index of Sexual Fantasy (HISF; Hurlbert & Apt, 1993), 4) Hurlbert Index of Sexual Desire (HISD; Apt & Hurlbert, 1992), 5) Sexual Attitudes Scale (SAS; Hendrick, Hendrick, & Reich), 7) Rubin's (1979) Loving and Liking Scales ), and 8) Relationship Assessment Scale (Hendrick, 1988), 9) Relationhip Uncertainty Scales (Knobloch & Solomon, 1999), 10) Experiences in Close Relationships - Revised (Fraley, Waller, & Brennan, 2000), 11) the Implicit Theories of Relationships scale, and 12) additional demographic and relationship information, including three items in which participants rate their partners' attractiveness.
  5. Will you be using questionnaires, surveys, tests, or other written instruments?  
     **Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, attach a copy of these scripts/documents.*
  6. **Where will data actually be collected (i.e. room number, place)?**Participants will receive a link to a questionnaire available on SurveyMonkey (see www.surveymonkey.com). After clicking on the link, participants will read an informed consent form. By continuing, they will indicate their consent to participate in the research project.
  7. **Will you be using existing data?**   
       
      **Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, are data de-identified?***Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, is database available to the public?***Yes**  **No**
  8. **Will tissue or blood samples be collected for data?  
       
     Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, explain the procedures for disposal.*

* 1. **Projected start date :** Upon IRB Approval

Other (specify)

* 1. **Projected end date:** **one year from approval**

1. **Will medical clearance be necessary for subjects to participate because of tissue or blood sampling, or administration of food or drugs, or physical exercise conditioning?  
     
   Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, explain how the medical clearance will be obtained.*

1. **Does the research involve any of the following? (select all that apply)** Physical stress including exercise or exertion  
    Psychological or social stress  
    Exposure to radiation  
    Legal risk  
    Economic risk  
    Exposure to infectious disease  
    Personal or sensitive information about subject or family  
    Offensive, threatening, or degrading materials  
    Use of confidential records (medical or educational)   
    None of the above  
    Other (explain below)

       
  
**For each type of risk selected fill out a-c below:**

* 1. **Describe the amount of risk or harm anticipated.****Although recent research indicates that previous results suggesting there are negative effects associated with exposure to erotica may be unfounded, it is possible that exposure to pornographic content may contribute to potential relationship problems (e.g., by comparing a partner to an actor in the clip), self-concept issues (e.g., by comparing the self to an actor in the clip), and/or sexual difficulties (e.g., by causing arousal without providing opportunity for satisfaction). In addition, the information requested as part of the study is sensitive in nature (e.g., sexually detailed) and may make some participants uncomfortable thinking about or answering the items. Finally, it is also possible that individuals with histories of sexual offenses may violate the terms of their probation/parole by watching the pornographic clip (if randomly assigned to that condition).**
  2. **Justify why the risk is necessary.**The risk in this study is necessary to fully answer the question of the poential harm associated with exposure to erotica. Previous studies have used only printed pictures (which is not how consumers partake in pornography in 2017) or have used film with clips of 8 minutes or less (but without the outcome measures included here). That is, the proposed design in the ONLY one in which cause-and-effect conclusions may be drawn about the link between exposure to pornography and subsequent changes in sexual attitudes, perceptions of partners, and perceptions of relationships.
  3. **Explain how the risk will be minimized.**First, the solicitation for participation will occur via Facebook and will not target young adults specifically. Next, the informed consent form clearly states the nature of the study again, as well as the potential risks stated above. Moreover, participants will have the right stop the film and/or to refuse to answer any question and may withdrawl from the study at any time if they choose not to continue. Furthermore, the data collected is completely anonymous - that is, nothing identifying the individual will be collected. In addition, participants will be provided with contact information for the UCO Center for Counseling and Well-Being (for any student participants) and the Crisis Call Center free hotline (for all others) in case any negative feelings arise from the experience.

1. **Will the subjects be deceived or misled in any way?  
      
   Yes**  **No**
2. **Describe the deception or omission, justify the necessity, and explain how and when subjects will be debriefed (attach debriefing script).**
3. **Will any inducements be offered to the subjects for their participation?   
     
   Yes**  **No** 
   1. **If “yes”, please describe the inducements.** Course Credit (complete b. below)  
       Extra Credit (complete b. below)  
       Money (specify amount)   
       Other (specify below)Participants who choose to pariticpate in a drawing for a $25 Amazon gift card will e-mail the PI with a special code (provided at the end of the study). The PI will use a random number generator (see www.random.org) to determine winners at the conclusion of data collection (with a maximum of $200 in gift cards distributed). Participants' chances of winning will be no worse than 1/25. The winning participants will be sent an e-mail (using the reply funcion) that states "Congratulations! Your e-mail address has been randomly selected to win a $25 Amazon gift card for your participation in the research study entitled "A Night at the Movies: Films and Relationships." Please watch your e-mail closely for an electronic link for this reward that will be delivered directly from Amazon. Thanks for your participation!"
   2. **If course credit or extra credit is offered, what alternative means of obtaining additional credit are available to those students who do not wish to participate in research project?**Not applicable
   3. **How will consent be obtained?  
        
      Select all that apply:**

Subject will sign consent form  
 Subject will be given online consent\*  
 Subject will be given an information sheet\*  
 Subject will give verbal consent\*  
 Other or no consent (explain below how voluntary participation will be secured)     

*\*****Submit a Waiver of Documentation (available at our website) with your application if there is no signed consent form.***  
*Attach a copy of the consent form or information sheet (see Informed Consent Form guidelines at* [*http://www.uco.edu/academic-affairs/research-compliance/*](http://www.uco.edu/academic-affairs/research-compliance/)*).*

* 1. **Who will be consented? (select all that apply)** Participant  
      Child (<18)   
      Parent/Legal Guardian
  2. **Specify where consenting will occur:**

Participants will be provided a link to a questionnaire available on SurveyMonkey (see www.surveymonkey.com). After clicking on the link, participants will read an informed consent form. By continuing, they will indicate their consent to participate in the research project.

* 1. **Is a Waiver of Consent requested? (If approved, informed consent will not be obtained.)  
       
     Yes**  **No**
  2. **Do you have or will you obtain a Certificate of Confidentiality?  
       
     Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, please provide a copy once obtained.*
  3. **Will any aspect of the data be made a part of a record that can be identified with the subject?  
       
     Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, describe and justify the necessity. Explain when the data will be de-identified.*

* 1. **Will a master code sheet be kept for purposes of identity security?  
       
     Yes**  **No** *If “yes”, explain where the code sheet will be stored and when it will be destroyed.*
  2. **Does this study involve?**

Audio taping of the subjects  
 Video taping of the subjects  
 Taking photographs of the subjects  
 Digital imaging of the subjects  
 None of the above*If “yes”, explain necessity and attach a copy of release or permission form. Describe the storage, disposition, and security provisions taken to protect recordings/photos.*

* 1. **Will subjects be identifiable in these recordings?  
       
     Yes**  **No** If “yes”, explain why this is necessary.

1. **Please describe the steps you will take to ensure the privacy and confidentiality of the data you collect by answering the following questions:**
   1. **How will the data be reported or disseminated?**

Group/aggregate  
 Single subject/case study  
 Other (describe below)  
     

* 1. **Where (specify office #) and how will the data be securely stored?**

Electronic data will be password protected. No paper copies of data will be collected or stored.

* 1. **Who will have access to the data and/or password?**

PI  
 Co-PI  
 Both  
 Other (describe below)  
     

* 1. **Who will be responsible for secure storage?**

PI  
 Co-PI  
 Both  
 Other (describe below)

* 1. **What will the length of time each of the following will be kept?**Paper data documents: Not applicable  
     Electronic data documents: Five years  
     Signed Informed Consent Forms (Federal regulations require a minimum of 3 years): Not applicable
  2. **Who will be responsible for destruction of the data?**The PI will be responsible for destroying the electronic data.
  3. **When and how will the data be destroyed? Be sure to specify for electronic data, paper data, and code sheets (as relevant).**

The electronic files will be destroyed (in accordance with the policies of the American Psychological Association) five years following publication of the results from the data. Electronic files will be deleted.

1. **Will the fact that a subject did or did not participate in a specific experiment or study be made a part of any record available to supervisor, teacher, or employer?   
     
   Yes**  **No** If “yes”, describe and justify the necessity.

     

1. **Describe the benefits of participation for subjects (if any). [If there in none, say so].**Participants may gain insight into their own psychological state by answering the items. In addition, they will be exposed to the research process by participating in the study.
2. **Describe the benefits of your study to society.**Society will benefit by clarifying the causal link (or lack thereof) between exposure to pornography, sexual attitudes, perceptions of partners, and perceptions of relationships.

**REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES**

**SIGNATURE/AFFIRMATION/REPRESENTATION OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S):**

*(Primary PI must read and initial by hand at each of the below.)*

1. This application represents an accurate and complete description of my proposed research project.
2. I agree to provide the proper surveillance of this project to ensure that the rights and welfare of the human subjects are properly protected.
3. I agree to comply fully with any requirements made by the UCO IRB.
4. The human contact portion of my (our) research will not begin until the UCO IRB has given its written approval.
5. Any additions or changes after the project has been approved will be submitted to the IRB for approval prior to implementation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 09/12/2017 |
| Signature of Primary Principal Investigator |  | Date   09/12/2017 |
| Signature of Co-Primary Principal Investigator |  | Date |
|  |  |  |

If additional Co-PIs are associated with this project, please attach an additional sheet with name, signature, and date.

I have reviewed this Application for Review of Human Subjects Research, and, subject to approval by the UCO Institutional Board, authorize the Principal Investigator(s) to conduct this research. My signature acknowledges that I am aware of this project.

**Name of Department Chair :** Dr. Tom Hancock

**Department :** Psychology

      09/12/2017

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Signature of Department Chair |  | Date |

**Name of College Dean :**Dr. James Machell

**College :** Education and Professional Studies

     

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| Signature of College Dean |  | Date |

**UCO Office of Information Technology (for all e-based research)**

**Name of UCO IT Representative**:

     

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Signature of UCO IT Representative |  | Date |

**CHECKLIST FOR IRB APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

Please mark which documents you have attached to your IRB Application:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Attached | Not Applicable |
| Research Proposal (i.e. thesis proposal, RCSA application, grant  proposal) |  |  |
| Recruitment Script/documents |  |  |
| Informed Consent Form (or Waiver) |  |  |
| Measurement instrument(s) (questionnaires, surveys, etc.) |  |  |
| Written authorization--professors, organizations, etc. |  |  |
| Protecting Human Research Participants (PHRP) Training Certificate(s) |  |  |
| Have you submitted your application to the Office of Information  Technology for approval? | Yes |  |

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:**

Ms. Jamie Peno

Manager, Office of Research Compliance, Academic Affairs

405-974-5497

irb@uco.edu

Submit one hard copy of your application, with all required signatures to:

UCO-IRB Office

NUC 341, Campus Box 132

Edmond, OK 73034

405-974-5497

405-974-3818 (fax)

**AND**

Submit one electronic file without signatures to irb@uco.edu.

Please note your application will not be processed until the original application with all required signatures is received.

**Appendix A**

List all study personnel and indicate how they are involved

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Research Staff**  **(Last, First)** | **Highest Degree Earned**  **(i.e. Ph.D, M.A., BA., etc.)** | **Affiliation (UCO or other)** | **Role in this research**  **(PI,**  **Co-PI,Data Collection, Data Entry, Interviews, etc.)** | **PHRP\* Certificate Date** | **UCO Email Address** |
| Limke-McLean, Alicia | Ph.D. | UCO | PI | 3/8/17 | alimke@uco.edu |
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\*Protecting Human Research Participants (PHRP) is a National Institutes of Health on-line training course required by the Department of Health and Human Services regulations. Visit

http://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php. Copies of Certificates of Completion should be attached to the application. Recertification is required every two years and CITI certification can be substituted.

PHRP certification is required of all study personnel.

Study personnel who are not a PI or Co-PI must complete, sign, and submit an IRB Personnel Agreement Form.

**Appendix B**

**Required for Student Investigators**

**Purpose of this project:**      

**Student qualification to conduct research: (select all that apply)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Currently in or completed research methods course |  |
| Current or prior experience as an independent or supervised Research Assistant |  |
| None (If None, Faculty Mentor assumes additional responsibility of training) |  |

**Faculty Oversight Agreement**

*I have reviewed and approved this application and I agree to ensure that all UCO IRB regulations will be complied with.*

Name of Faculty Member:

     

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Signature of Faculty Member: |  | Date: |

\*See Student Research Guidelines on our website: www.uco.edu/academic-affairs/researchcompliance.

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

This is a template including all of the necessary elements of an Informed Consent Form. It is not necessary to use this form. In some cases, you may need another format, i.e. an online survey, a participant letter, etc. See Informed Consent Guidelines on our website for more information.

**Research Project Title:**

**Researcher (s):**

1. **Purpose of this research:**
2. **Procedures/treatments involved**
3. **Expected length of participation:**
4. **Potential benefits:**
5. **Potential risks or discomforts:**
6. **Medical/mental health contact information (if required):**
7. **Contact information for researchers:**
8. **Contact information for UCO IRB:**
9. **Explanation of confidentiality and privacy:**
10. **Assurance of voluntary participation:**

**AFFIRMATION BY RESEARCH SUBJECT**

I hereby voluntarily agree to participate in the above listed research project and further understand the above listed explanations and descriptions of the research project. I also understand that there is no penalty for refusal to participate, and that I am free to withdraw my consent and participation in this project at any time without penalty. I acknowledge that I am at least 18 years old. I have read and fully understand this Informed Consent Form. I sign it freely and voluntarily. I acknowledge that a copy of this

Informed Consent Form has been given to me to keep.

**Research Subject's Name:**      

**Signature:**

**Date:**