## Guidance template for a written signed debriefing script for studies involving deception or incomplete disclosure.

***How to use this template/guidance document:***

*In the sections below, you may replace any red/italicized directions/guidance, (or any other necessary language), with the appropriate information about your study.* *For online or verbal debriefing, where signed informed consent is waived, investigators may use a version of the script most suited to the medium being used. In those cases, investigators should make sure that the essential elements identified below, are addressed in the debriefing process.*

**Project Title:** *Provide the title of the study*

**Principal Investigator:** *Name Department Contact Information*

Thank you for participating in this study. In order to get the information we were looking for, we withheld some information/or provided you with incorrect information about some aspects of this study. Now that the experiment is over, *I/we* will describe the *deception* to you, answer any of your questions, and provide you with the opportunity to make a decision on whether you would like to have your data included in this study.

# What the study really is about

*Provide a clear, concise explanation in lay language of the actual purpose of the research.*

*Include how and why the participant was deceived, and which parts of the study were real and which parts were false. Explain the benefits of this study, if there are any and why deception was necessary (and why no other alternatives could have been used). If you expect that revealing this information could potentially cause harm to the participant (including stress, trauma, strong emotional reaction), please contact the IRB staff for guidance on how to proceed with the debriefing. Also, please explain to the participant how their data will be used if they give permission to include it in the study.*

# Taking part is voluntary

Although you have already completed the *survey/interview/etc.,* your involvement is still voluntary, and you may choose to withdraw the data you provided prior to debriefing, without penalty or *loss of compensation offered to you*. Withdrawing your submission will not adversely affect your relationship with Linfield University, or the researchers.

# Confidentiality

If you agree to allow us to use your data, here is how we will maintain confidentiality of the information *(if this is reasonable). Briefly explain again how you will protect their confidentiality.*

The main researcher conducting this study is *[principal investigator’s name]*, a *[professor, undergraduate student, staff member, etc.]* at Linfield University.

*(If this is an option)* If you have questions later, or would like to know about the results of the study, you may contact *[principal investigator’s name]* at *[email address]* or at *[phone number]*. Or their faculty advisor *name and contact information if PI is a student*.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights as a subject in this study, you may contact the chair of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Human Participants at irb@linfield.edu or access their website at [www.linfield.edu/irb](http://www.linfield.edu/irb).

Please sign below *(or in the case of phone, online or other media where signed debriefing is waived, use another method to get participant preference)* if you do, or do not, give permission to have your data included in the study:

I have been debriefed by the Research team, and I understand the true intent of and the purpose of my participation in the study title *“TITLE”.* I have had an opportunity to have any questions I may have about the study or use of deception answered. I agree that the data collected during the study may be included for the purpose of the study.

I have been debriefed by the Research team, and I understand the true intent of and the purpose of my participation in the study title *“TITLE”.* I have had an opportunity to have any questions I may have about the study or use of deception answered. I DO NOT give permission for the data collected during the study to be included for the purposes of the study.

You will be given a copy of this form for your records. *If this is written*