Debriefing Statement

Thank you so much for participating in this research study. Your participation was very valuable to the study.

My researcher staff and I know you are very busy and we very much appreciate the time you devoted to participating in this study.

There was some information about the study that we were not able to discuss with you prior to the study because doing so probably would have influenced your actions and thus skewed the study results. I would like to explain these things to you now.

In this study, we were interested in understanding ___________________________. Based on prior research, we expect to find that ______________________________.

You were told that _______________________________; however, in reality, _______________________________ were created for the purpose of this experiment and they are/were not real. This deception was necessary because ___________.

OR

You were led to believe that the purpose of the study was _______; however, in reality, the purpose was ________. This deception was necessary because ____________.

OR

During this study, information about __________ was withheld so that ____________.

We hope this clarifies the purpose of the research, and the reason why deception was used (or we could not tell you all of the details about the study prior to your participation). If you would like more information about _____________.

It is very important that you do not discuss this study with anyone else until the study has been completed. Our efforts will be greatly compromised, if participants come into this study knowing what it is about and how the ideas are being tested.

If you have any questions or concerns about the research study contact me at (803) xxx-yyyy or email me at ....

Questions about your rights as a research subject are to be directed to, Lisa Marie Johnson, IRB Manager, Office of Research Compliance, University of South Carolina, 1600 Hampton Street, Suite 414D, Columbia, SC 29208, phone: (803) 777-7095 or email: LisaJ@mailbox.sc.edu. The Office of Research Compliance is an administrative office that supports the University of South Carolina Institutional Review Board (USC IRB). The Institutional Review Board consists of representatives from a variety of scientific disciplines, non-scientists, and community members for the primary purpose of protecting the rights and welfare of human subjects enrolled in research studies.

Thank you again for your participation!