



Participant information sheet

I would like to invite you to take part in my research study. Before you decide I would like you to understand the nature of what is being done and what it would involve for you. Please ask if anything is not clear.

Section A: The Research Project

1. **Title of project: Exploring links between depersonalisation symptoms, memory and the sense of self.**
2. **Purpose of study**
The aim of this study is to learn about depersonalising experiences (the experience of feeling detached from your self/body) and their effects on memory and other aspects of the self.
3. **Who is the researcher?**
My name is Eva Perry and this research is part of my Postgraduate degree at Anglia Ruskin University. My supervisor is Dr Jane Aspell (jane.aspell@aru.ac.uk).
4. **Why have I been asked to participate?**
You have been invited to take part in this research because you meet the inclusion criteria for this study, being aged 18 years or over and English speaking.
5. **How many people will be asked to participate?**
I am planning to recruit approximately 100 participants.
6. **Do I have to take part?**
You can refuse to take part without giving a reason.
7. **Has the study got ethical approval?**
The study has got ethical approval from the School Research Ethics Panel (SREP) at Anglia Ruskin University.
8. **Source of funding for the research, if applicable**
This research is not funded.
9. **What will happen to the results of the study?**
My research will be written up for my postgraduate dissertation and there is always the possibility for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.
10. **Contact for further information**
You can email me at emp146@student.aru.ac.uk.



Section B: Your Participation in the Research Project

1. What will I be asked to do?

If you choose to take part, you will first be asked to complete some demographic questions including your age and gender. After this, you will need to fill out four brief questionnaires focusing on depersonalising experiences, memory, your perspective on the future, and your sense of self. These are set out as Likert scales, meaning you will be asked to rate your experience on a scale, for example, from 0 “completely disagree” to 5 “completely agree”. Once you have completed these questions, you will be provided with a debrief sheet which further explains the aims of the study and provides contact information for myself and any support services that may be helpful to you. In total, this survey is expected to take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

2. In relation to this specific research project, we need to make you aware of the following:

We are responsible for the personal data you give to us as a:

Data Controller: Anglia Ruskin University is in sole control over the research.

3. I will be asking you for the following information:

Special Category Data					
Personal Data				Sensitive Personal data	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gender	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Age	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DPD diagnosis status	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Experiences	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Student status	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	



4. **What will happen to my data?**

Our general privacy notice explaining our use of your personal data for research purposes is available here:

<https://www.aru.ac.uk/privacy-and-cookies/research-participants>

Please visit this link for information about how long we keep your data, how we keep your data secure, how you can exercise your rights over your data, and make a complaint over our use of your data.

Data will be collected through Online Surveys and stored according to the site's Privacy Policy:

<https://www.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/privacy-policy/>

<https://www.jisc.ac.uk/website/privacy-notice>

All the information that we collect during the study itself will be anonymous upon collection and kept strictly confidential. You will not be able to be identified in any ensuing reports or publications. Your answers cannot and will not be linked to any personally identifiable details. Your name and email address, if you choose to provide it for future communication, will not be linked to the research data collected from you. Only anonymous data will be shared with other researchers, directly involved in this study.

- Your personal data will be processed in compliance with UK law. Where participants are in European Economic Area (EEA) countries, this will be viewed as equivalent law to their own. The EEA includes EU member states and also Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.
- The lawful basis that would be used to process your personal data will be the performance of a task in the public interest. Your personal data will be stored securely and confidentially, as long as it is required for the research project. We will endeavour to minimise the processing of personal data wherever possible.
- Data will be securely held.

5. **Will I be reimbursed travel expenses?**

No travel expenses will be reimbursed.

6. **Will I receive any payment to take part in the research?**

Psychology students at Anglia Ruskin University will be offered 0.5 course credits to take part in the research. For all other participants, I am unable to offer a reward as this is an unfunded student study so I am dependent on the generosity of volunteers for participant recruitment.

7. **Are there any possible disadvantages or risks to taking part?**

Some people may find the subject of depersonalisation upsetting. We advise you not to participate if you think you will be affected by the topic material.



8. **What are the likely benefits of taking part?**
The study will not have any direct benefits to participants. The main benefit is to be educational.
9. **Can I withdraw from the study at any time, and how do I do this?**
If you decide to take part in this study and wish to withdraw, you are free to do so without prejudice, by closing the browser.

You do not have to answer any questionnaire or interview questions that you do not wish to.
10. **Can I withdraw my data from the study?**
The information I collected from you was anonymous. This means that I won't be able to remove your data, because I won't know which belongs to you.
11. **Are any special precautions I must take before, during or after taking part in the study?**
No, there are no special precautions required.
12. **Summary of research findings**
You will be provided with a debriefing note at the end of the study.
13. **Contact details for complaints**
If you have any complaints about the study, please contact the Chair of the Faculty Research Ethics Panel (FREP), by email at fse-ethics@anglia.ac.uk .
Otherwise, according to Anglia Ruskin University's complaints procedure, you can email: complaints@aru.ac.uk
Postal address: Office of the Secretary and Clerk, Anglia Ruskin University, Bishop Hall Lane, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1SQ.

You can download a copy of this Information Sheet by clicking 'print' on your browser.

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