

## **Informed Consent for Participants**

**Title of Project:** BearHug Video Chat Session

**Investigators:** Emily Cheng, Sarah Sterman, M.J Ma (for questions or concerns, please contact M.J Ma at [mjumping@stanford.edu](mailto:mjumping@stanford.edu))

### **I. Purpose of this Research/Project**

The purpose of the study is to observe how users, especially couples who usually videochat with each other, interact with the add-on bear gestures while videochatting. The study involves a 5-10 minute videochat session followed by a survey form. The results will directly lead to further development and study of the BearHug prototype.

### **II. Procedures**

Participants will be asked to conduct a videochat session with each other and then fill out a survey form on their videochatting experience. Participants' keyboard and mouse click activities within the BearHug app may be recorded and follow-up questions may be asked.

### **III. Extent of Anonymity and Confidentiality**

The researchers will not collect personal information beyond name and basic demographics.

Subjects are free not to answer any questions or respond to experimental situations that they choose without penalty.

Videochatting session, including both audio and video data, will NOT be recorded and participants' conversations will be completely private, beyond the self-reported content on the survey form.

No keystrokes or mouse movement outside of the BearHug app will be recorded. If at any time a participant wishes to have keyboard or mouseclick data collected from BearHug deleted, contact M.J. Ma at [mjumping@stanford.edu](mailto:mjumping@stanford.edu) and it will be immediately removed.

Collected information will be stored and maintained by the researchers listed above. The information will not be distributed to anyone who is not involved in the research.

Anonymized quotes may be used in presenting the project in class. Should the researchers decide to release the information more publicly, the information will be anonymized and consent will be obtained from the participant.

#### **IV. Compensation**

Participants will be rewarded with the researchers' infinite gratitude, and potentially an increased feeling of intimacy with their conversational partner.

#### **V. Subject's Permission**

I have read the Consent Form and conditions of this project. I have had all my questions answered. I hereby acknowledge the above and give my voluntary consent:

Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name\_\_\_\_\_