Information Sheet. **Evaluating agent-based social skills training system**

You are being invited to participate in an experiment titled: “Evaluating agent-based social skills training system.” The experiment will take place between April and June on the Technical University of Delft.

The purpose of this experiment is to gather the opinions of participants on a training system, which simulates a chat conversation with a virtual child. It will consist of a 30-40 minute session in which you engage with a text-only simulation of a virtual child that was bullied at school and is contacting a children helpline. Though the simulation of the child is not based upon a real story it is rooted in reality. The topics that can come up might be disturbing for some people, and we advice anyone who is sensitive to the topics of bullying, violence, and emotional distress to not participate in the experiment.

You will be asked to provide your age, gender and experience with chatbots, which will be categorized into groups for the data analysis. We will ask your opinion on the interactions with the agent, and observe how far where you able to apply the 5-phase model.
The Experiment structure will be the following:

1. Answer demographics questionnaire
2. Look at past conversation transcripts
3. Interact with the chatbot
4. Filling questionnaires about your opinion on Noticeability & Believability
5. Answering interview questions about your opinion of the Believability & Feedback

We will look at the chatlog to analyse the data regarding the experience. Any personal or private info will be anonymized. Both the questionnaires and the data we extrapolate from them will be shared for scientific purposes.

In general, data can be leaked. We will minimize any risks by getting your participation without registering identifying information. The private data will be stored privately and only accessible by the researchers. The anonymised questionnaires will be stored after the research has been concluded, it can be published in a public repository (e.g., 4TU.ResearchData).

Your participation in this experiment is entirely voluntary **and you can withdraw at any time during the experiment session**. The anonymised questionnaires, once posted, cannot be removed.

For more information please contact:
Researchers:
- Ashma Zaheer
- Nikola Ntasi
- Vlad Makarov
Supervisor:
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If you agree and consent to this Opening Statement, you can now fill in the consent form below

*1. I have read and understood the study information dated 21/05/2023, or it has been read to me. I have been able to ask questions about the study and my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

- Yes
- No

*2. I consent voluntarily to be a participant in this study and understand that I can refuse to answer questions and I can withdraw from the study at any time, without having to give a reason.

- Yes
- No

*3. I understand that taking part in the study involves:
• Interacting with a virtual child through text.
• Filling questionnaires regarding your experience with the agent.
• Interview questions regarding your experience with the agent.

- Yes
- No

*4. I understand that the study will end after interacting with the virtual child script, possibly more than once, filling the forms and participating in interviews (takes less than 40 minutes)

- Yes
- No

*5. I understand that taking part in the study involves a risk of possible data leakage. The researcher does everything to mitigate this risk by storing the collected data safely, and publish the anonymised data in a public repository.

- Yes
- No

*6. I understand that after the research study the de-identified information I provide will possibly be used for scientific outlets (e.g., paper)

- Yes
- No

*7. I agree that my responses, views or other input can be quoted anonymously in research outputs

- Yes
- No

*8. I understand that my age and gender will be collected as part of the experiment and that it will it be part of the anonymised questionnaires.

- Yes
- No

*9. I give permission to the researcher to publish the collected data in an anonymised form so that it can be used in the future

- Yes
- No

*10. I understand that the anonymised data can be publicly accessible for everybody and for all purposes. This includes, for example, educational, research and commercial use.

- Yes
- No

*11. Name of Participant

*12. Current Date

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*Input by researcher. Participant Number

*Q1. Gender

- Male
- Female
- Other

*Q2. Age

- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+

*Q3. Experience With Chatbots

- Never
- Rarely (once a month or less)
- Sometimes (2-10 times a month)
- Often (more than 10 times per month)

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