

Date: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 2:47:03 PM

Print Close

**ID:** Pro00012714**Status:** Approved

## 1.1 Study Identification

All questions preceded by a **red asterisk \*** are required fields. Other fields may be required by the REB in order to evaluate your application. Please answer all presented questions that will reasonably help to describe your study or proposed research.

- 1.0 **\* Short Study Title** (restricted to 250 characters):  
Sonority and Shape Preferences for English Nicknames
- 2.0 **\* Long Study Title** (can be exactly the same as short title):  
Sonority and Shape Preferences for English Nicknames
- 3.0 **\* Select the appropriate Research Ethics Board:**  
ASL REB
- 4.0 **\* Which office requires notification of ethics approval to release funds or finalize the study contract?** (It is the PI's responsibility to provide ethics approval notification to any office other than the ones listed below)  
Not applicable
- 5.0 **\* Name of Principal Investigator** (at the University of Alberta, Covenant Health, or Alberta Health Services):  
[Anne-Michelle Tessier](#)
- 6.0 **Investigator's Supervisor** (Required for graduate students and trainees NOT applying to the Health Research Ethics Board (HREB). The HREBs do not accept graduate students or trainees as Principal Investigators in an ethics application. Please enter your supervisor as the PI and yourself as a co-investigator in your application for HREB.
- 7.0 **\* Type of research/study:**  
Faculty/Staff Research
- 8.0 **Study Coordinators/Assistants** (will have access to and can edit this application and will receive all notifications for this study):  
Name Employer  
There are no items to display
- 9.0 **Co-Investigators (Authorized List):** The following people can act as co-authors to this application: they will have access to, and can edit, this ethics application online. Co-investigators do not receive HERO notifications about the progress of the applications unless they are added to the study email list.  
Name Employer  
There are no items to display
- 10.0 **Study Team** (co-investigators, supervising team, other study team members who do not require access to this application or to receive notifications):  
Last Name First Name Organization Role Phone Email  
There are no items to display

## 1.3 Study Funding Information

- 1.0 **\* Type of Funding:**  
Unfunded

If OTHER, provide details:

**2.0 Funding Source**

**2.1 Select all sources of funding from the list below:**

There are no items to display

**2.2 If not available in the list above, write the Sponsor/Agency name(s) in full (you may add multiple funding sources):**

There are no items to display

**3.0 Location of funding source (required if study is funded):**

There are no items to display

**4.0 RSO University-Managed Funding**

**4.1 If your funds are managed by the Research Service Office (RSO), select the project ID and title from the lists below to facilitate release of your study funds. (Not available yet)**

**4.2 If not available above, provide all identifying information about the study funding:**

Project ID	Project Title	Speed Code	Other Information
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There are no items to display

**1.4 Conflict of Interest**

**1.0 \* Are any of the investigators or their immediate family receiving any personal remuneration (including investigator payments and recruitment incentives but excluding trainee remuneration or graduate student stipends) from the funding of this study that is not accounted for in the study budget?**

Yes  No

If YES, explain:

**2.0 \* Do any of investigators or their immediate family have any proprietary interests in the product under study or the outcome of the research including patents, trademarks, copyrights, and licensing agreements?**

Yes  No

**3.0 Is there any compensation for this study that is affected by the study outcome?**

Yes  No

**4.0 Do any of the investigators or their immediate family have equity interest in the sponsoring company? (This does not include Mutual Funds)**

Yes  No

**5.0 Do any of the investigators or their immediate family receive payments of other sorts, from this sponsor (i.e. grants, compensation in the form of equipment or supplies, retainers for ongoing consultation and honoraria)?**

Yes  No

**6.0 Are any of the investigators or their immediate family, members of the sponsor's Board of Directors, Scientific Advisory Panel or comparable body?**

Yes  No

**7.0 Do you have any other relationship, financial or non-financial, that, if not disclosed, could be construed as a conflict of interest?**

Yes  No

If YES, explain:

## Important

If you answered YES to any of the questions above, you may be contacted by the REB for more information or asked to submit a Conflict of Interest Declaration.

## 1.5 Study Locations and Sites

- 1.0 **\* Specify research locations: Enter all locations where the research will be conducted under this Research Ethics Approval** (eg. university site, hospital, community centre, school, classroom, participant's home, in the field, clinician's private office, internet website, etc. - provide details):  
On campus -- Assiniboia Hall room 4-11
- 2.0 **\* Please check if your study will utilize or access facilities, programmes, resources, staff, students, specimens, patients or their records, at any of the sites affiliated with the following** (select all that apply):  
Not applicable
- Details must be provided if Alberta Health Services and/or Covenant Health and/or Capital Care selected:**
- 3.0 **If the study involves researchers in other institution(s), will ethics approval be sought from other institutions/organizations** (eg. another university, Alberta Cancer Board, school district board, etc)?  
Not Applicable
- If YES, provide a list:**  
Name  
There are no items to display

## 2.1 Study Objectives and Design

- 1.0 **Proposed Start Date:**  
3/8/2010
- 2.0 **Proposed start date for working with human participation** (can be the same as item 1.0):  
3/8/2010
- 3.0 **Proposed end date for working with human participation:**  
3/29/2010
- 4.0 **\* Provide an abstract or lay summary of your proposed research** (restricted to approx. 300 words):  
This study is an investigation of English speakers' preferences for short forms for familiar men's and women's names, such as Peter --> 'Pete', Terrance --> 'Terry', Suzanne --> 'Sue', 'Suzie'. In particular, the study aims to determine whether and how linguistic properties of the speech sounds in these full names influence how likely they are to undergo one or more of these short form processes (e.g Sue vs. Suzie, Terry vs ??Ter) and in addition these preferences are gender-specific (that is, whether the linguistic wellformedness of a shortform is different for men and women's names.) The particular two properties being varied here are (a) syllable structure, and (b) segmental sonority, which is a phonological concept that proves useful in describing many attested speech sound patterns in languages.
- 5.0 **\* Provide a description of your proposed research** (study objectives, background, scope, methods, procedures, etc) (restricted to approx. 1,000 words):  
Previous work of English nicknames and name truncations have revealed some speech sound preferences in coining names. For one, many English dialect s do not allow one-syllable truncations that end in [r] -- so, while Abraham --> Abe and Robert --> Rob, Eric --> \*Er (not attested) and Terrance --> \*Ter. This particular study is being run because preliminary corpus work, which measured the number of names with attested one-syllable short forms, suggests

that this prohibition on final [r] is part of a broad tendency about what kinds of segments sound good to native speakers at the end of names -- and in particular, that this pressure is especially prevalent in "men's" nicknames, and either less prevalent or in fact absent in women's name formation. A related question is the wellformedness of one-syllable versions (e.g. Sue) compared to the two-syllable versions created by adding -y (e.g. Suzy) -- the intuition is that two syllable versions of men's names are considered somehow childish or pejorative, except when their one syllable counterpart is blocked (compare Peter --> 'Petey' to Terrance --> 'Terry'.)

To study these issues, a written questionnaire will be administered. Before filling out the questionnaire, the participants will be asked to fill out a consent form, and also to provide their age, gender, place of birth and their hometown (to help determine basic English dialect groups among the participants.) On each question of the questionnaire, participants will read a full name such as 'Robert' followed by a possible shortform: 'Rob', and asked to rate it on a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 means 'doesn't sound at all like a good shortform for this name' and 7 means 'sounds like a great shortform for this name'. Items will include familiar and unfamiliar names, indicating for each whether they are intended for women or men. The questionnaire will comprise 80 names in total, and take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

- 6.0 Describe procedures, treatment, or activities that are above or in addition to standard practices in this study area** (eg. extra medical or health-related procedures, curriculum enhancements, extra follow-up, etc):
- 7.0 If this research proposal has received independent scientific or methodological review, provide information** (eg. names of committees or individuals involved in the review, whether review is in process or completed, etc):
- 8.0 If this application is related to or builds upon a previously approved application at the University of Alberta, please provide the study title and ethics file/approval number or any other reference if available:**

### 3.1 Risk Assessment

- 1.0 \* After reviewing the Minimal Risk Criteria provided in User Help, provide your assessment of the risk classification for this study:**  
Minimal Risk
- 2.0 \* In a scale of 0 to 10 where 0 = No Likelihood, 5 = Moderate Likelihood and 10 = Extreme Likelihood, put a numerical rating in response to each of the following:**
- | Rate | Description of Potential Risks and Discomforts                                                                                                   |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0    | Psychological or emotional manipulations will cause participants to feel demeaned, embarrassed, worried or upset                                 |
| 1    | Participants will feel fatigued or stressed                                                                                                      |
| 0    | Questions will be upsetting to the respondents                                                                                                   |
| 0    | Participants will be harmed in any way                                                                                                           |
| 0    | There will be cultural or social risk – for example, possible loss of status, privacy, and/or reputation                                         |
| 0    | There will be physical risk or physiological manipulations, including injury, infection, and possible intervention side-effects or complications |
| 0    | The risks will be greater than those encountered by the participants in everyday life                                                            |
- 3.0 \* Provide details of short- and long-term risks and discomforts:**  
Participants could get bored.
- 4.0 \* Describe how you will manage and minimize risks and discomforts, as well as mitigate harm:**  
Participants will be able to withdraw from the study at any time, simply by leaving the questionnaire room.

- 5.0 **\* If your study has the potential to identify individuals that are upset, distressed, or disturbed, or individuals warranting medical attention, describe the arrangements made to try to assist these individuals. Explain if no arrangements have been made:**  
Not applicable.

### **3.2 Benefits Analysis**

- 1.0 **Describe any benefits of the proposed research to the participants:**  
This study has no benefits for participants.
- 2.0 **\* Describe the scientific and/or scholarly benefits of the proposed research:**  
This research aims to get better insight into what unconscious linguistic knowledge is internalized by speakers of a language and how they can use it, by searching for its effects in the performance of online tasks like coining new name shortforms.
- 3.0 **Describe any benefits of the proposed research to society:**  
This kind of research ultimately improves our models of online speech processing -- how people's generalizations about kinds of speech sounds influence their language use. Longterm, this improved understanding also improves our ability to model human speech processing with technology -- in this case, for example, perhaps giving names to products that better reflect their inherent properties -- but also in diagnosing and recognizing language impairments of all sorts, including those of children at young ages.
- 4.0 **Benefits/Risks Analysis - describe the relationship of benefits to risk of participation in the research:**  
This study's almost zero risk is substantially outweighed by its potential research benefits to basic science.

### **4.1 Participant Information**

1.0 **Describe and justify the inclusion criteria for participants (eg. age range, health status, gender, etc):**  
Participants will be native speakers of any English dialect, currently enrolled in a LING100 or 101 course at the University of Alberta. No age, gender or other restrictions will be made.

2.0 **Describe and justify the exclusion criteria for participants:**  
To be included in the study, participants will need to be native speakers of English. It is well known from previous work that language background will influence people's judgments of word wellformedness -- that is, the study's research questions can only be answered for one language community at a time.

3.0 **Are there any direct recruitment activities for this study?**

Yes  No

4.0 **Participants**

**Total number of participants you expect to enroll (including controls, if applicable):**

50

**Of these how many are controls, if applicable (Possible answer: Half, Random, Unknown, or an estimate in numbers, etc).**  
not applicable

**If this is a multi-site study, how many participants (including controls, if applicable) do you anticipate will be enrolled in the entire study?**

50

5.0 **Justification for sample size:**

This will be sufficient participants to get a good sense of the generalizations at hand -- the results will probably involve a fair amount of inter-speaker variation, so a big enough sample is necessary to identify general trends.

6.0 **If possible, provide expected start and end date of the recruitment/enrollment period:**

**Expected Start Date: 3/1/2010**

**Expected End Date: 3/29/2010**

## 4.2 Recruit Potential Participants

1.0 **Recruitment**

1.1 **Will potential participants be recruited through pre-existing relationships with researchers (eg. employees, students, or patients of research team, acquaintances, own children or family members, etc)?**

Yes  No

1.2 **If YES, identify the relationship between the researchers and participants that could compromise the freedom to decline (eg. professor-student). How will you ensure that there is no undue pressure on the potential participants to agree to the study?**

2.0 **Outline any other means by which participants could be identified (eg. response to advertising such as flyers, posters, ads in newspapers, websites, email, listservs; pre-existing records or existing registries; physician or community organization referrals; longitudinal study, etc):**

Participants will become aware of the study availability from the SONA online experiment management website, in which they are enrolled as part of their LING100 or 101 course.

## 4.3 Recruitment Contact Methods

1.0 **How will initial contact be made? Select all that apply:**

Potential participants will contact researchers

2.0 **If contact will be made through an intermediary (including snowball sampling), select one of the following:**

- 3.0 **If contact will be made through an intermediary, explain why the intermediary is appropriate and describe what steps will be taken to ensure participation is voluntary:**
- 4.0 **Provide the locations where participants will be recruited, (i.e. educational institutions, facilities in Alberta Health Services or Covenant Health, etc):**  
On the SONA experimental sign-up database for LING100 and 101 students.

#### 4.4 Informed Consent Determination

- 1.0 **\* Describe who will provide informed consent for this study:**  
All participants will be competent to give informed consent
- 2.0 **How is consent to be indicated and documented?**  
Signed consent form
- 3.0 **What assistance will be provided to participants, or those consenting on their behalf, who have special needs (eg non-English speakers, visually impaired, etc):**  
All participants will be native English speakers.
- 4.0 **If at any time a participant wishes to withdraw or not participate in certain aspects of the research, describe the procedures and the last point at which it can be done:**  
As will be indicated on the consent form, the participant is welcome to leave the study at any time before completion, simply by abandoning the questionnaire. They are also welcome to request at the end of the study that their results not be used in the research.
- 5.0 **Describe the circumstances and limitations of data withdrawal from the study, including the last point at which it can be done:**  
Any questionnaire answers collected from a participant who indicates at the end of their time in the lab or when leaving the experimental website that they wish to withdraw their results from the study will immediately be destroyed.
- 6.0 **Will this study involve an entire group where non-participants are present?**  
 Yes  No
- 7.0 **Describe the incentives and/or reimbursements, if any, to participants and provide justification:**  
Participants will receive study credit in LING101 and 100 for participating in the study, as detailed in the Linguistics Department ethics approval for our experimental research participation program.

#### 4.8 Study Population Categories

- 1.0 **\* This study is designed to TARGET or specifically include the following (does not apply to co-incident or random inclusion). Select all that apply:**  
Women  
Men

#### 5.1 Research Methods and Procedures

- 1.0 **\* This study will involve the following (select all that apply)**  
*The list only includes categories that trigger additional page(s) for an online application. For any other methods or procedures, please indicate and describe in your research proposal in the Study Summary, or provide in an attachment:*  
Surveys and Questionnaires (including internet surveys)
- 2.0 **Does this study involve a Clinical trial (includes any research study that prospectively assigns human participants or groups of humans to one or more health-related intervention(s) to evaluate the effects on health outcomes; does not include randomized controlled trials – RCT – outside of clinical settings)?**  
 Yes  No

3.0 For registered clinical trial(s), provide registry and registration number, if available:

4.0 Internet-based research

4.1 Will you be doing any internet-based research that involves interaction with participants?

Yes  No

4.2 If YES, will these interactions occur in private spaces (eg. members only chat rooms, social networking sites, email discussions, etc)?

Yes  No

4.3 Will these interactions occur in public space(s) where you will post questions initiating and/or maintaining interaction with participants?

Yes  No

5.0 If you are using any tests in this study diagnostically, indicate the member(s) of the study team who will administer the measures/instruments:

Test Name	Test Administrator	Organization	Administrator's Qualification
There are no items to display			

6.0 If any test results could be interpreted diagnostically, how will these be reported back to the participants?

Not applicable

## 5.7 Interviews, Focus Groups, Surveys and Questionnaires

1.0 Are any of the questions potentially of a sensitive nature?

Yes  No

If YES, provide details:

2.0 If any data were released, could it reasonably place participants at risk of criminal or civil law suits?

Yes  No

If YES, provide the justification for including such information in the study:

3.0 Will you be using audio/video recording equipment and/or other capture of sound or images for the study?

Yes  No

If YES, provide details:

## 6.1 Data Collection

1.0 \* Will the study team know the participants' identity at any stage of the study?

Yes  No

2.0 Primary/raw data collected will be (check all that apply):

Confidential

All personal identifying information removed

3.0 If identifying information will be removed at some point, when and how will this be done?

4.0 If this study involves secondary use of data, list all sources:

5.0 In research where total anonymity and confidentiality is sought but cannot be guaranteed (eg. where participants talk in a group) how will confidentiality be achieved?

## 6.2 Data Identifiers

- 1.0 **\* Personal Identifiers:** will you be collecting any of the following (*check all that apply*):  
 Year of Birth  
 Other
- If OTHER, please describe:**  
 Participants' data will be associated with their gender, place of birth and hometown (to indicate roughly their dialect of English).
- 2.0 **Will you be collecting any of the following** (*check all that apply*):  
 There are no items to display
- If OTHER, please describe:**
- 3.0 **If you are collecting any of the above, provide a comprehensive rationale to explain why it is necessary to collect this information:**
- 4.0 **Specify information that will be RETAINED once data collection is complete, and explain why retention is necessary. Include the retention of master lists that link participant identifiers with de-identified data:**  
 Participants will be given an identifying random code, cross-listed with their collected demographic information. This information will be crucial in the analysis of data, but will not be associated at any time with any other participant information besides their questionnaire responses.
- 5.0 **If applicable, describe your plans to link the data in this study with data belonging to another organization:**

## 6.3 Data Confidentiality and Privacy

- 1.0 **\* How will confidentiality of the data be maintained? Explain the steps you propose to maintain data confidentiality and privacy.** (*For example, study documents must be kept in a locked filing cabinet and computer files encrypted, etc.*)  
 All questionnaires will be kept in the PI's research lab in a locked filing cabinet; all data analyses will be completed on the PI's lab computers which are password protected.
- 2.0 **What privacy education/training do members of the team have prior to their access to data?**
- 3.0 **If you involve colleagues, assistants, transcribers, interpreters and/or other personnel to carryout specific research tasks in your study, how will you ensure that they properly understand and adhere to the University of Alberta standards of data privacy and confidentiality?**
- 4.0 **Data Access**
- \* 4.1 Will the researcher make raw data that identify individuals available to persons or agencies outside of the research team?**
- Yes  No
- 4.2 If YES, describe in detail what identifiable information will be released, to whom, why they need access, and what safeguards will be used to protect the identity of subjects and the privacy of their data.**  
 In the case of potential future research collaboration, the raw data will be shared with other researchers -- that is, ratings combined with demographic information, but no identifying information about participants. NO identifiable information will released.
- 4.3 Provide details if identifiable data will be leaving the institution, province, or country** (*eg. member of research team is located in another institution or country, etc.*)

## 6.4 Data Storage, Retention, and Disposal

- 1.0 **Where will the research data be stored? Specify the physical location and how it will be secured to protect confidentiality.**  
All questionnaires will be kept in the PI's research lab (Assiniboia Hall room 4-11) in a locked filing cabinet. All data analyses will be completed on the PI's lab computers which are password protected.
- 2.0 **Describe what will happen to the data once the study is completed. Indicate your plans for the destruction of the identifiers at the earliest opportunity consistent with the conduct of the research and/or clinical needs:**  
All questionnaires will be maintained in the PI's research lab (Assiniboia Hall room 4-11) along with the unidentifiable demographic info described above. There are no plans to destroy this data in the long-term, as it does not possess any confidentiality threat and might be useful in some subsequent analyses.
- 3.0 **You must keep your data for a minimum of 5 years according to GFC Policy 96.2. How will you provide for data security during this time?**  
The PI's research lab (Assiniboia Hall room 4-11) is a permanent lab space, in which data can be stored safely and indefinitely.

## 7.1 Documentation

Add documents in this section according to the headers. Use Item 12.0 "Other Documents" for any material not specifically mentioned below.


Sample templates are available in the HERO Home Page in the [Forms and Templates](#), or by clicking [HERE](#).

*Important: Please do not use .docx files as attachments. It is recommended you convert these files first to .doc (standard Word document files) before attaching.*

- 1.0 **Recruitment Materials:**

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
There are no items to display			
- 2.0 **Letter of Initial Contact:**

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
There are no items to display			
- 3.0 **Informed Consent / Information Document(s):**
  - 3.1 What is the reading level of the Informed Consent Form(s):
  - 3.2 Informed Consent Form(s)/Information Document(s):

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
<a href="#">Nicknames_ConsentForm.doc</a> 	0.01	2/11/2010 1:46 PM	
- 4.0 **Assent Forms:**

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
There are no items to display			
- 5.0 **Questionnaires, Cover Letters, Surveys, Tests, Interview Scripts, etc.:**

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
There are no items to display			
- 6.0 **Protocol:**

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
There are no items to display			
- 7.0 **Investigator Brochures/Product Monographs (Clinical Applications only):**

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
There are no items to display			
- 8.0 **Health Canada No Objection Letter (NOL):**

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
There are no items to display			
- 9.0 **Confidentiality Agreement:**


Document Name	Version	Date	Description
There are no items to display			

**10.0 Conflict of Interest:**

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
There are no items to display			

**11.0 Other Documents:**

*For example, Study Budget, Course Outline, or other documents not mentioned above*

Document Name	Version	Date	Description
<a href="#">Nicknames_Debriefing.doc</a> 	0.01	2/11/2010 1:53 PM	

**Final Page**

You have completed your ethics application! Please select "Exit" to go to your study workspace.

**This action will NOT SUBMIT the application for review.**

**Only the Study Investigator** can submit an application to the REB by selecting the "SUBMIT STUDY" button in My Activities for this Study ID:Pro00012714.

You may track the ongoing status of this application via the study workspace.

Please contact the REB Administrator with any questions or concerns.