

APPENDIX I: SAMPLE CHILD ASSENT FORM

The following is an assent form template for research studies conducted with minors (as defined by the jurisdiction of your study), along with instructions regarding what information must be included.

Instructions: Fill out all blue areas that are applicable to your study. Delete all instructional text from your final draft, including this area above the line. This form cannot be abbreviated, sections in black cannot be altered or deleted, and each subsection must be addressed. In addition to parental informed consent for minors, the assent of the child should be obtained. Child assent forms must use simple and age appropriate language (sample below). Each research project is unique and the informed consent form should be customized to your study. Fill out all blue sections. Delete all instructional text.

CHILD ASSENT FORM

PURPOSE: (Give a brief description about the purpose of your study. There should be enough information so the potential participant can decide whether they are interested in participating or not. Please do not copy and paste the Purpose from the parent consent. The language needs to be appropriate for their age. Example: We are doing a study to learn about people who tell the truth and people who lie. We are asking you to help because we don't know very much about whether kids your age expect people to lie or tell the truth.)

DESCRIPTION: (Give a brief explanation about what you will ask the child to do and/or the topic/type of questions you will ask. Example: If you agree to be in our study, we are going to ask you some questions about types of people. We want to know if you think they usually tell the truth or if they usually lie. For example, we will ask you if a teacher, parent, or other people usually lie or usually tell the truth.) This study will include a survey/interview/other that will last XX minutes and this will happen X time. (If this is happening in a school, also add: You will/will not miss classroom instruction time. If you miss instruction time, then you will be able to catch up by (add how they will catch up. Also, you need to check with district and teacher union policies; some do not permit pull-outs of kids for studies!).

PARTICIPATION: If you want to do this study, you can. If you do not want to, you do not need to and that is okay. You can ask questions about this study at any time. If you decide at any time you do not want to finish the study, you can ask me to stop. I will try to protect your answers, so your name will not appear on the same page as your answers. The questions I will ask are only about what you think. There are no right or wrong answers, because this is not a test.

If you sign this paper, it means that you have read this (or had it read to you) and that you want

to be in the study. If you don't want to be in the study, don't sign this paper. Being in the study is up to you, and no one will be upset if you don't sign this paper or if you change your mind Later. Your parent or guardian also needs to agree for you to be in this study.

Signature of person obtaining assent: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of person obtaining assent: _____

Your Signature: _____ Date: _____

Your Printed Name: _____