

January 1, 2018

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian,

My name is Bradley McAuliff and I am a Professor of Psychology at California State University, Northridge (CSUN). I am writing to invite you and your child to participate in a study to better understand factors that affect the accuracy of children's memory. Children's accuracy is especially important in legal settings, where they may be interviewed about potential maltreatment. Attorneys often help prepare children for testimony in court by showing them video recordings of their prior interviews. This procedure is known as "refreshing recollections." This study will examine the effects of refreshing recollections on children's stress, accuracy, and perceived credibility.

If you and your child agree to be in this study, you will be asked to report to Dr. McAuliff's research laboratory at CSUN. Your child will participate in a memory event consisting of a series of health-related activities that include measuring your child's height/weight, pulse, blood pressure, breathing rate, temperature, and muscle reflexes. Your child will participate in two interviews about the memory event, each two weeks apart. Before the second interview, the researcher will randomly determine whether your child will view a video of his/her first interview. Each session will take approximately 45 minutes and you will receive up to \$140 in Visa gift cards in exchange for your child's participation (\$40 Memory Event, \$40 Interview 1, \$60 Interview 2).

Any information derived from this research project that personally identifies your child will not be voluntarily released or disclosed without your separate consent, except as specifically required by law. You have the right to withdraw your permission to participate at any time, and your decision about participating will not affect payment or your relationship with the university in any way.

If you and your child are interested in participating in the ongoing study or have any questions that I can answer, please call me at 818-677-2810 or email me at bradley.mcauliff@csun.edu. We would very much appreciate your assistance with this important research.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Bradley D. McAuliff, JD, PhD
Professor of Psychology