

RESEARCHER: do not read this line or any lines enclosed in brackets to the potential respondent.

[when the respondent is done taking the survey, make a show of putting it away without looking at it]

[have extra pens or pencils available] [modify this to suit your needs, with one exception:]

[YOU MUST MAKE THE STARRED ANONYMITY STATEMENT ! ! !]

Hi. My name is [say your name]. I'm doing a class project with Professor Post in Sociology 2830, a research methods class. As a class, we have created a short survey, very general in nature, somewhat like the General Social Survey funded by the National Science Foundation. Questions cover a variety of topics (since the whole class contributed) of interest to WMU students, and we think you might find it pretty interesting too. It will only take about 5 or 10 minutes of your time, and it would really help me out, since its required work.

***** THE INFORMATION YOU GIVE US IS COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS ... AND**

***** NO ONE WILL EVER BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY YOU AS A PARTICIPANT IN THIS PROJECT.**

If there are any questions you feel uncomfortable with you may skip them.

Do you think you could help me out?

[try to hand them a survey , while saying something about being around , in the area , to answer any questions they may have and get the survey back]

[when you get the survey back, thank them for their participation, and again, make a show of putting it away without looking at it]

Here is a possible modification:

Hi, my name is _____ and I'm conducting a survey as part of a project for SOC2830. It will only take about 5 or 10 minutes of your time and the information you provide will be **completely anonymous. No one will ever be able to identify you as a participant in this project.**