Urban Safety Survey: Participate and Contribute to Safer Cities

Thank you for your interest in taking part in our urban safety survey!

Background & Objective:

Understanding how urbanites perceive complex and dynamic urban environments is a long-standing challenge for fields of Geography, Urban Science, GIScience and cognitive science. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 explicitly promotes to make cities and human settlements safe. Perceptions of safety in urban environments have a significant impact on daily activities, travel behavior, social interactions, and mental well-being. Therefore, this project aims to investigate how we look at and how we perceive the urban environments and their roles in the perceived safety.

Tasks:

In this online survey, your task is quite simple: vote the urban environment that you perceive as safer with a click of the mouse. Specifically, there are two contexts for perceived safety, *crime-related safety* (that is fear of criminal activity such as theft, assault, vandalism, robbery, and burglary. For example, 'In that situation, how great is your fear that crimes, such as theft or assault, might happen to you') or *traffic-related safety* (that is fear of being involved in a traffic accident as a pedestrian. For example, 'I am afraid of being hit by cars and/or bicycles'). You can contribute to one of the contexts or both at your own wish. Each time, a pair of two street view images will be displayed on the screen. Please look at them carefully and make your choice.

Stimuli:

All urban street view images come from various online platforms, such as Google Street view, YouTube city walk videos, or were recorded by us. Therefore, all rights belong to their respective owners. We have only used them for scientific research purposes in accordance with YouTube's and Google Street View's terms of service. If you have any comments or conflict of interest, please contact us directly.

Compensation:

As a "thank you", anyone who has (carefully) voted more than 60 pairs of images has the chance to take part in the prize draw. We have prepared ten 30-euro vouchers for the lucky participants, which will be contacted after June 15.

Further contribution:

If you are really interested in our project and would like to contribute more, we invite you to participate our lab experiment: **urban safety perception using Eye tracking and EEG** (details on how to participate: <u>https://forms.gle/J6vcS5HM2zr5nibE8</u>).

Ethics:

This study is in line with the "General Ethical Protocol for Scientific Research at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences of Ghent University".

Contact Information:

If you have any questions, feel free to connect with us: Tong Qin, Ph.D. Student (tong.qin@ugent.be) Prof. Haosheng Huang (<u>haosheng.huang@ugent.be</u>)