

**Voluntariness and Coercion Scale
(Fessinger & Kovera, 2022)**

The following questions are used to better understand how you actually felt about the plea decision-making process. Please answer them honestly using the scale provided.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Strongly disagree	Disagree	Slightly disagree	Neutral	Slightly agree	Agree	Strongly agree

1. My defense attorney made the plea decision.^R
2. My defense attorney was the reason for my plea decision.^R
3. I knew the consequences of pleading guilty.^F
4. I felt that I could not say no to taking the plea.^R
5. I did not feel pressured by the attorney.
6. My defense attorney had the most control over the plea decision.^R
7. My defense attorney made it seem like I had no other option but to take the plea.^R
8. I knew the charges and sentences I would face if I pled guilty.^F
9. I liked my defense attorney.^F
10. I thought the evidence against me was damaging.^F
11. My plea decision was voluntary.
12. My defense attorney was interested in justice.^F
13. My defense attorney forced me to plead guilty.^R
14. It was my idea how to plead.
15. It was entirely my choice on how to plead.
16. My defense attorney was only interested in ending the case as quickly as possible.^F
17. I was worried that I would be found guilty at a jury trial.^F
18. I felt that I had no choice but to plead guilty.^R
19. I did not make my plea decision freely.^R
20. My defense attorney did not pressure me to take the plea.
21. I pled guilty to get my case ended as quickly as possible.^F
22. My defense attorney did not influence my plea decision.
23. I chose how to plead.
24. I felt informed of my options.^F
25. I felt like I was talked into my plea decision.^R
26. I had a lot of control over my plea decision.
27. My defense attorney was worried that I would be found guilty at a jury trial.^F
28. I had more influence than anyone else on how to plead.
29. I took the plea deal even though I did not want to.^R

^F Filler item

^R Reverse-scored item