Overall Research Goal(s):  
*What do you ultimately hope to show with your research? This section can involve some jargon, but try to relate these goals to your broad impact section. Start with the larger goal(s) and narrow the scope towards your specific study (and specific goals, below).*

Social norms provide a robust mean to regulate interactions between participants in a human society. Not answering a phone call during a meeting, or not talking loudly in a public library are typically expected behavior that are in accordance to social norms. However, under certain circumstances, we deviate from the expected behavior and act not in accordance to the social norms of the society. The ability to deviate from norms is important- it is what makes us autonomous. We may sanction each other based on how we are interacting. In particular, negative sanctions in response to deviations are a means for establishing norms- or even serve as the key basis for having a norm in the first place. When we do deviate, we often offer explanations for why we deviated. Such explanations soften the burden of a deviation; not only do they help us avert negative sanctions but, more significantly, help characterize the underlying norms from which we might be deviating.

We claim personal agents that share explanations, and among other contextual and social factors, reason about explanations, can provide a better social experience to its users. Overall goal of the research is to demonstrate the claim through a simulation seeded by data about real users.

Broad Impact:  
*Why is your research important? This section should avoid any technical jargon and should be meaningful to the general public. Try to keep this down to five sentences. This should be hierarchical: the broad impact decomposed into more specific impacts that connect your overall research goals to your more specific goals.*

This work will help in understanding the social and contextual factors necessary to develop socially intelligent personal agents that can learn and reason about contextually relevant norms, and help its users protect their own and other’s privacy.

Specific Research Goals:  
*Lay out the steps you are going to take to achieve your overall research goal. You can get technical here.*

Our goal is to demonstrate that (1) personal agents can better learn contextually relevant forms if they share explanations and reason explanations, and (2) personal agents that act
according to contextually relevant norms provide a better social experience than agents that do not reason explanations.

**Proposed Data Collection (if applicable):**

*What data will you collect to answer your research goals? How will you collect it? Will it be an observational study, randomized comparative experiment, or simulation study? Include potential biases and be prepared to explain how the data will achieve your specific research goals.*

We will conduct a survey on Amazon Mechanical Turk to understand informational sharing policies and users’ attitudes to each other's arguments, and use the survey data to seed a simulation.

**Success Criteria:**

*How will you determine whether you satisfied your specific and overall research goals?*

Simulation study shows that agents that can offer and reason explanations provide better social experience than the agents that act according to predefined norms, or learn only through sanctions.

**Anticipated Difficulties, Limitations, and Criticisms:**

*What will make the above specific research goals difficult to achieve? How do you plan on dealing with these difficulties if they arise?*

Capturing realism in a survey is difficult. To overcome this limitation, we will prepare immersive scenarios with narratives in which survey participants assume different roles from the narrative.