

Research Methods in Psychology

Research Ethics



What We Will Cover in This Section

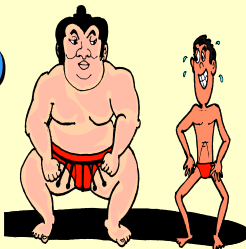
- Overview.
- Research with human participants.
- Publication.
- Malpractice.



Overriding Principle

DO NO

HARM



1. Responsibility

- *It is the researcher's responsibility to evaluate his/her research in light of the APA Ethical Principles.*
 - The researcher is responsible for the study.
 - The researcher is responsible for the ethical behavior of all collaborators.

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2. Minimize Risk

- *It is the researcher's responsibility to determine the degree of risk associated with a study.*
 - To what degree are the participants at risk?
 - Is the potential knowledge to be gained worth the risk?
 - How can the risk be minimized.

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3. Deception

Deception occurs when the research design requires the researcher to give misleading information to the study participants.

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4. Freedom From Coercion

- A. Voluntary participation.
- B. Dual relationships.
Dual relationships exist when the researcher has more than one relationship with a potential participant.
- C. Freedom to decline.

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5. Protection From Harm

Participants' rights include protection from harm and the removal of harmful consequences.

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6. Informed Consent

Participants should be informed of the possibility of physical and mental discomfort, harm, and danger

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7. Debriefing

A. DEHOAXING.

Informing participants about any experimental deception and making sure that they understand the true nature of the study.

B. DESENSITIZING

Making sure that participants are comfortable with the nature of their performance and have no residual discomfort.

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8. Removal of Negative Consequences

The researcher is responsible for the removal of any negative consequences that result from participation in a study.

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9. Confidentiality

The extent to which others have access to the research results and performance.

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Confidentiality Elements

PRIVACY

The right to control the amount of information that participants reveal about themselves.

ANONYMITY

Collecting data in such a way that the researcher cannot associate the data with a specific person.

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Institutional Review Board (IRB)

- Mandated by the Federal Government.
- Reviews all research to evaluate the extent to which it protects the research participants.
- Every institution that does human research has one.

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Ethics in Publication



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Authorship Credit

- Authorship credit is reserved for those who made substantial scientific contributions to the research.
 - Order of authorship.
 - Completeness of authorship.

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Plagiarism

- Taking someone else's ideas and passing them off as your own.

Don't do it!

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Multiple Publication


- Act of publishing the same research in multiple journals.
 - Convention then publication is ok.
 - Technical to non-technical is ok.
 - To ensure broad coverage.

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Research
Malpractice

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Malpractice With Data

1. Data Forging.
Fabricating data.
2. Data Cooking.
Discarding data.
3. Data Trimming.
Changing data.
4. Data Torturing.
Repeatedly analyzing data.

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The End

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