

Ethics in Research

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Ethics in research are very important when you're going to conduct an experiment.

Ethics should be applied on all stages of research, such as planning, conducting and evaluating a research project.

The first thing to do before designing a study is to consider the potential cost and benefits of the research.

Research - Cost and Benefits-Analysis

We evaluate the cost and benefits for most decisions in life, whether we are aware of it or not.

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The first thing to do before designing a study is to consider the potential cost and benefits of the research.

This can be quite a dilemma in some experiments. Stem cell research is one example of an area with difficult ethical considerations.

As a result, stem cell research is restricted in many countries, because of the major and problematic ethical issues.

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Ethical Standards - Researchers Should...

- avoid any risk of considerably harming people, the environment, or property unnecessarily. The Tuskegee Syphilis Study ^[1] is an example of a study which seriously violated these standards.
- not use deception ^[2] on people participating, as was the case with the ethics of the Stanley Milgram Experiment ^[3]
- obtain informed consent ^[4] from all involved in the study.
- preserve privacy and confidentiality ^[5] whenever possible.
- take special precautions when involving populations or animals ^[6] which may not be considered to understand fully the purpose of the study.
- not offer big rewards or enforce binding contracts for the study. This is especially important when people are somehow reliant on the reward.
- not plagiarize ^[7] the work of others
- not skew their conclusions based on funding ^[8].
- not commit science fraud ^[9], falsify research ^[10] or otherwise conduct scientific misconduct ^[11]. A con-study, which devastated the public view of the subject for decades, was the study of selling more coke and popcorn by unconscious ads ^[12]. The researcher said that he had found great effects from subliminal messages, whilst he had, in fact, never conducted the experiment.
- not use the position as a peer reviewer ^[13] to give sham peer reviews ^[14] to punish or damage fellow scientists.

Basically, research must follow all regulations ^[15] given, and also anticipate possible ethical problems in their research.

Competition ^[16] is an important factor in research, and may be both a good thing and a bad thing.

Whistleblowing ^[17] is one mechanism to help discover misconduct in research.

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Links

[1] <https://explorable.com/tuskegee-syphilis-study>

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