



PRACTICING ETHICS IN RESEARCH

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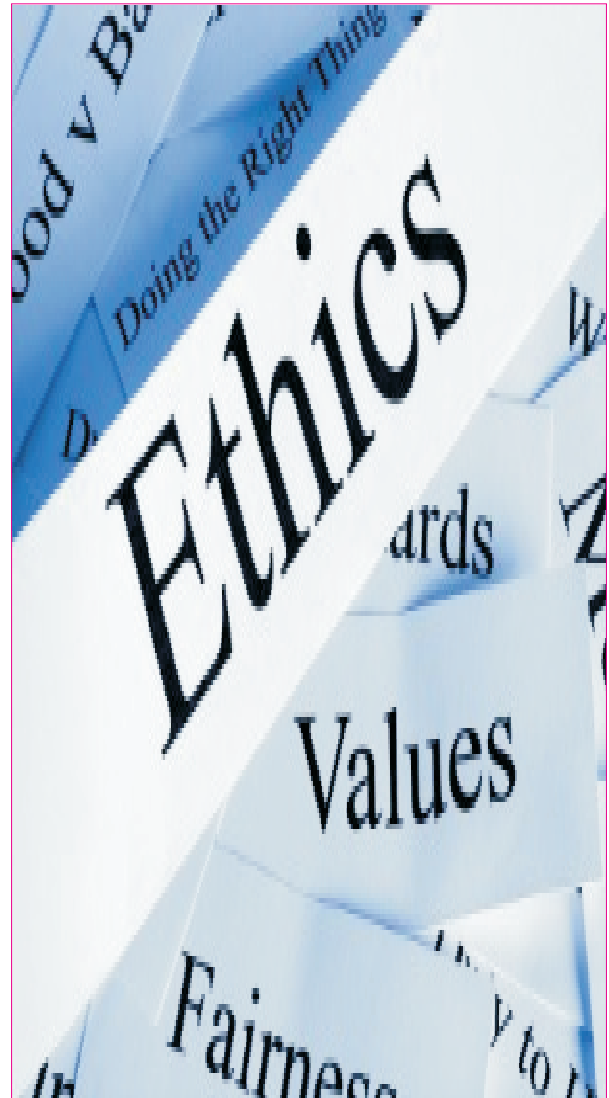
ABSTRACT

The academicians were very caution about the ethical dilemmas faced by the researchers in their academic work, but the environment is changing today. Psychologist in academic are more likely to seek out the views of their peer group regarding the research, but the environment is changing today. The ethical codes framed by various association plays a very important role for any of the profession. The ethics involved in research is very sensitive issues and leads attention of most of the experts now a days. The paper deals with ethics in research. The reasons for ethics in research is also highlighted in the paper. The most commonly used code of ethics are also covered in the paper. The paper also highlights the basic principals of ethics given by American Psychological Association (APA).

KEYWORDS: Ethics, Research, Code of Ethics .

INTRODUCTION :

The ethics is differentiating between right or wrong. A code of professional conduct or the norms for conduct that distinguish between acceptable and



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unacceptable behavior is ethics of profession. Most of the people learn ethics at home, at school, at religious places or in society. Although we can say most of the people acquire their sense their sense of right or wrong at childhood, moral development occurs throughout the life and human beings passes through different stages until their old age. The ethical norms are commonly regarded as simple common sense for people. But there are number of disputes in the society, because ethical norms are common and interpret in different, apply and balance them in different ways in light of their own upbringings, their values and experiences of life. The societies have there own legal set up that also govern the behaviour of people, but the ethical norms are more informal and not so formal as legal set up. The societies generally use laws to enforce the ethical norms. Any action may be unethical and legal, and

any action may be illegal and ethical. We can also use the ethical norms and principals to criticize, evaluate, propose or interpret laws. Basically in the last century, many of social reforms has created a situation of disobeying the law and known as immoral laws. Sometime, peaceful disobedience of law is a very polite and ethical way of protesting laws or expressing political view point.

ETHICS AND RESEARCH:

'Ethics' is a mixture of various disciplines such as theology, psychology, law, sociology, philosophy etc. The ethics is also very much related with the method, procedure or activity, perspective for deciding how to act and analyzing the complex problems and issues. Such as the on the issue of terrorism, it may have psychological, legal, criminal perspective of the problem. Many disciplines and organizations have their different own ethical norms that suits to their vision, mission and goals. The disciplines also help the professionals to coordinate their actions and activities to develop the trust of the public. Ethical norms also govern the laws of the ethics and it is very necessary in the field of research also.

REASONS OF ETHICS IN RESEARCH:

There are number of reasons why ethical norms to be followed in research.

1. To Promote the aim of Research:

If researchers are following the ethics while doing the research, there would be less reason of knowledge, truth and avoidance of error. As it almost reduces the fabricating, falsifying the facts, misrepresenting the data. The ethics in research obviously promotes the truth and minimize the error.

2. People involved in Scientific Research:

The research those are involved in scientific research or involved in creativity or scholarly things, the ethical norms will be more sensitive and pin pointed.

3. Inculcate values that are essential for collaborative work:

Research often involves the coordination and cooperation among members of different disciplines, so ethics actually inculcates the values that are essential for collaborative work such as trust, accountability, mutual respect and fairness. The ethical norms such as guidelines for authorship, copyright and the patenting policies, sharing of data policies and confidentiality rules in peer review system. These all are designed to protect the intellectual property interest while collaborations work. Many of the researchers want to get credit for their research work, but they do not want that their ideas must be stolen or copied somewhere without informing or taking permission from them.

4. Accountability to the Public:

Many of the ethical norms make the research accountable to the public for their own research and ideas. The accountability can be fixed with the help of ethical norms. The researcher who are working in govt. research organizations and funded by public, so should be made accountable to the public also.

5. Builds Public Support for Research:

The ethical norms also held the researcher in getting support from the public, as the funds can be taken from any person or agency, if the integrity is intact and research is reliable.

6. Promotes other important Moral Values:

The ethical norm in the research also helps in promoting a variety of other moral values too. Such as moral responsibility, human rights, animal welfare, compliance with law etc.

MOST COMMON CODE OF ETHICS:

If we talk about various most common code of ethics. The following codes are given as below:

1. Honesty:

The honesty is the very important feature for doing research. It starts from identifying the problem to collecting the data, analyzing it to the getting conclusions. The methods, procedures, publication status everywhere it is involved. The falsification and misrepresentation of data should not be done. The Public, funding agency and the organization should not be kept in dark while doing the research.

2.Objectivity:

The objectivity in the research is the most important thing. It avoids biasness in experimental design, data analysis, data interpretation, peer review, personnel decisions, grant writing and other aspects of the research. Avoid the bias and do not think about financial things or financial problems in mind while doing the research.

3.Integrity:

Keep your promises and agreements intact, act with sincerity and always strive for consistency of thoughts and action. The integrity is very important aspect for research.

4.Carefulness:

The negligence and careless errors creates problem always in research. Carefully and critically examine your own work and the work of your peers. Always keep the good record of the research.

5.Openness:

If, the researcher is not open, than it will be very difficult to know the problems of research. If you are open and ready for criticism, than only you can do improvement in your research. So researchers should share ideas, tools, resources and results.

6.Respect to Intellectual Property:

Patent and copyright issues are enforceable by law also. But these things are more of ethical practices what we follows. Do not use the unpublished data, methods or results without permission. Give the proper acknowledgement and references for all the contributions of the research. The plagiarism should not be done.

7.Confidentiality:

If the participants of the research do not want to disclose any of the information, it should be the duty of researcher to not include the thing in the research. The personal records, grants submitted for publication and patient records must not be given, if users do not want.

8.Responsible Publication:

The responsibility of the researcher is to do advance research. The benefit of research must go up to the lower income group of the society.

9. Responsible Mentoring:

It is also the responsibility o the Researcher to guide the students as a supervisor and also as the teacher who is teaching the class. They should advise the students for the betterment of the research time to time.

10.Respect for Peer Group:

The respect for the persons working with you or peer group is very important. Because research is the team work. Without proper coordination and collaboration better can not be done.

11. Social Responsibility:

The social responsibility of the researcher can not be ignored. Even the benefits of research must go the lower strata of the society, then only the research can use can be maximized.

12.Non-Discrimination:

The discrimination on the basis of caste, creed, sex should not be done by the researcher. The researcher should be fair and would be able to work with all in same way.

13.Legality:

The legal framework of the research and ethical practices related to research must be used for betterment and not to create any kind of confusion.

14.Protection of Animal:

If any of the animal is used for the experimental purpose. Please make sure no harm should be made to the animal and try to avoid more or unnecessary use of animals for the experiments.

15.Protection of Human Subject:

The human beings should be utilized with their prior permission and we should try to minimize the risk and harm and maximize the benefits. Always take precautionary steps with vulnerable population such as women.

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF RESEARCH ETHICS:

The American Psychological Association (APA) has given few principals for Research ethics. These are as follows:

1. Discuss intellectual property frankly
2. Be conscious of multiple roles

3. Follow informed-consent rules
4. Respect confidentiality and privacy
5. Tap into ethics resources

1. Discuss intellectual property frankly:

It should be very clear from the beginning, if there are two or three researcher working, they should know their status in publication since beginning, there should not be any kind of confusion and no problem should occur later that what was my position in the publication.

The issues related with publication must be clear in everybody's mind since beginning of the collaborative research.

2. Be conscious of multiple roles:

The researcher some time is supervisor of the student, or sometime he/she is head of the project at the same time he/she is also teaching the students in the class. In this situation, the multiple role of researcher is their, but he/she should justice with all the roles of the whether the supervisor, head or teacher.

3. Follow informed-consent rules:

The consent of all the researcher for conducting the research is very important, all the persons involved in research must know the risk involved in the same and the benefits to be derived from the research. It should be clear that they are voluntarily involved in the research.

4. Respect confidentiality and privacy:

Maintaining confidentiality is very important aspect of the research. The participant involved in research must know what of their information is used, without their permission the information should not be used. The researcher should know the limits of the confidentiality. The data to be used. What to be done with photos, video recording etc. the same should be used with the consent only.

5. Tap into ethics resources:

The researcher should be very clear about what the resources are available with them. And the ethical dilemmas should be clear in the minds of the researcher. The ethical obligations should always be clear.

ETHICAL CONDUCT IN RESEARCH:

According to "stressful" or "imperfect" theory, misconduct occurs because various institution pressure, incentives and constraints encourage people to commit misconduct, such as pressure to publish or obtain grants or contact, career ambitions, the pursuit of profit of fame, poor supervision of students and trainees and poor insight of researchers (see Shamoo and Resnik 2015) . Misconduct generally occurs with environmental and individual causes, means the people who are morally weak, insensitive and weak they generally involved in such kind of practices. Education of research ethics can help people in getting more meaningful work and it makes their behavior proper.

CONCLUSION:

Education in research should be able to help researchers and sort out the dilemmas they are likely to encounter by introducing them to various concepts, tools, principals that can be helpful in resolving these kinds of dilemmas. In science & Technology the researcher are dealing with number of questions as cloning, stem cell research, genetic engineering research involving human and animal, which require ethical deliberations and reflections.

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