

ETHICS

- integral part of psychological research because it involves human beings and animals.

→ Ethical considerations in conducting the study:

- Informed consent
 - participation should be voluntary and should understand the nature of the study - aims, tasks, data usage etc.
 - researchers should provide maximum information.
 - if the participant is a minor, consent should be obtained from parents/ guardians.

• Protection from harm

- participants should be protected from physical and mental harm.

• Anonymity and Confidentiality

- participation in a research study is confidential if the researcher who can connect the study to the identity of the participant, but agreements do not allow the sharing of information with anyone.

- Participant provides personal data but it stays confidential.

- participation in a study is anonymous if no one can trace the results to the participant because no personal details were provided.

• Deception

- In many cases, the aim of the study cannot be revealed to the participants as it may change their behaviour.

- Researchers should be careful so that the deception can be kept to the necessary minimum.
- Debriefing
 - After the study, the participants should be informed completely about the nature, aim, data usage and data storage.
 - they can withdraw data if they want to.
 - If deception was used, it must be revealed.
 - no long term harm (physical or psychological) should be done to the participants.
- Right to withdraw
 - Ethical considerations in reporting the results:
- Data fabrication
 - If an error is found in already published results, reasonable methods should be used to correct it.
- Plagiarism
 - Unethical to present parts of another's work or data as one's own.
- Publication credit
 - Authorship on a publication should accurately reflect the relative contributions of authors.
- sharing research data for verification
 - Researchers should not withhold the data used to derive conclusions present in the publication.
- Handling of sensitive personal information.
 - refers to how the results of the study are conveyed to individual participants.

- Handling of information obtained in genetic research.
- research related to genetic influences on human behaviour can sometimes lead to revealing of private information about the family members.
- the information should be handled with care and sensitivity.
- psychological counselling can be offered.

- Handling of information related to mental disorders.
- this knowledge may have a lot of consequences such as - change in the self-esteem or change in family perceptions.

- Social implications of reporting scientific results.
- Researchers must keep in mind potential effects of the way research conclusions are formulated on the scientific community and society in general.

ETHICS

STUDY

- Informed consent
- Protection from harm
- Anonymity & confidentiality
- Deception
- Debriefing

REPORTING DATA

- Data fabrication
- Plagiarism
- Publication credit
- data for verification
- handling of sensitive personal information
- social implications