

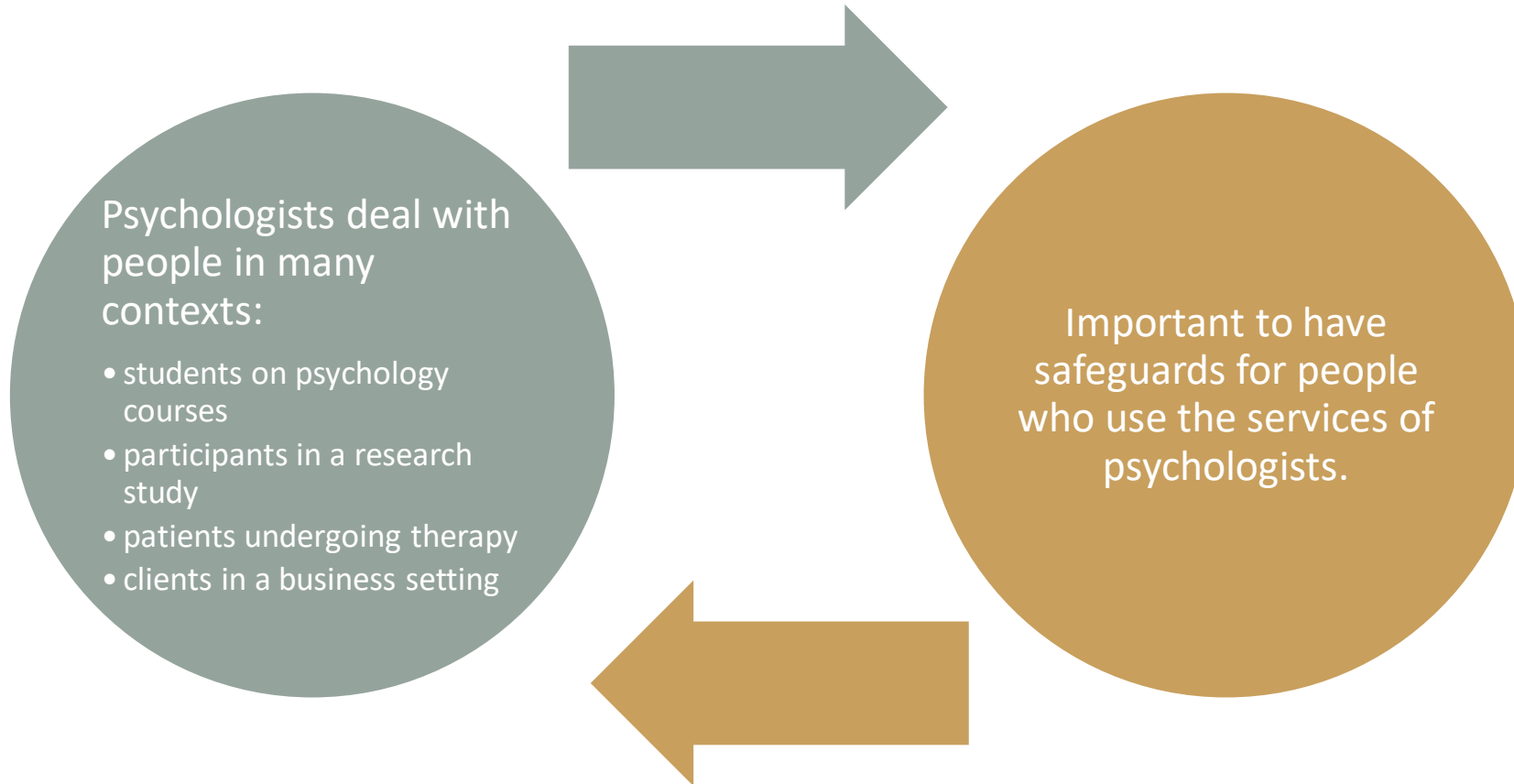
ETHICS RESEARCH CONSIDERATIONS IN PRACTICE.

Ethics - Ethical issues

An ethical consideration is a consideration of what is acceptable to do in a study. Researchers always have to balance between what they want to find out and the rights of participants.



Ethics



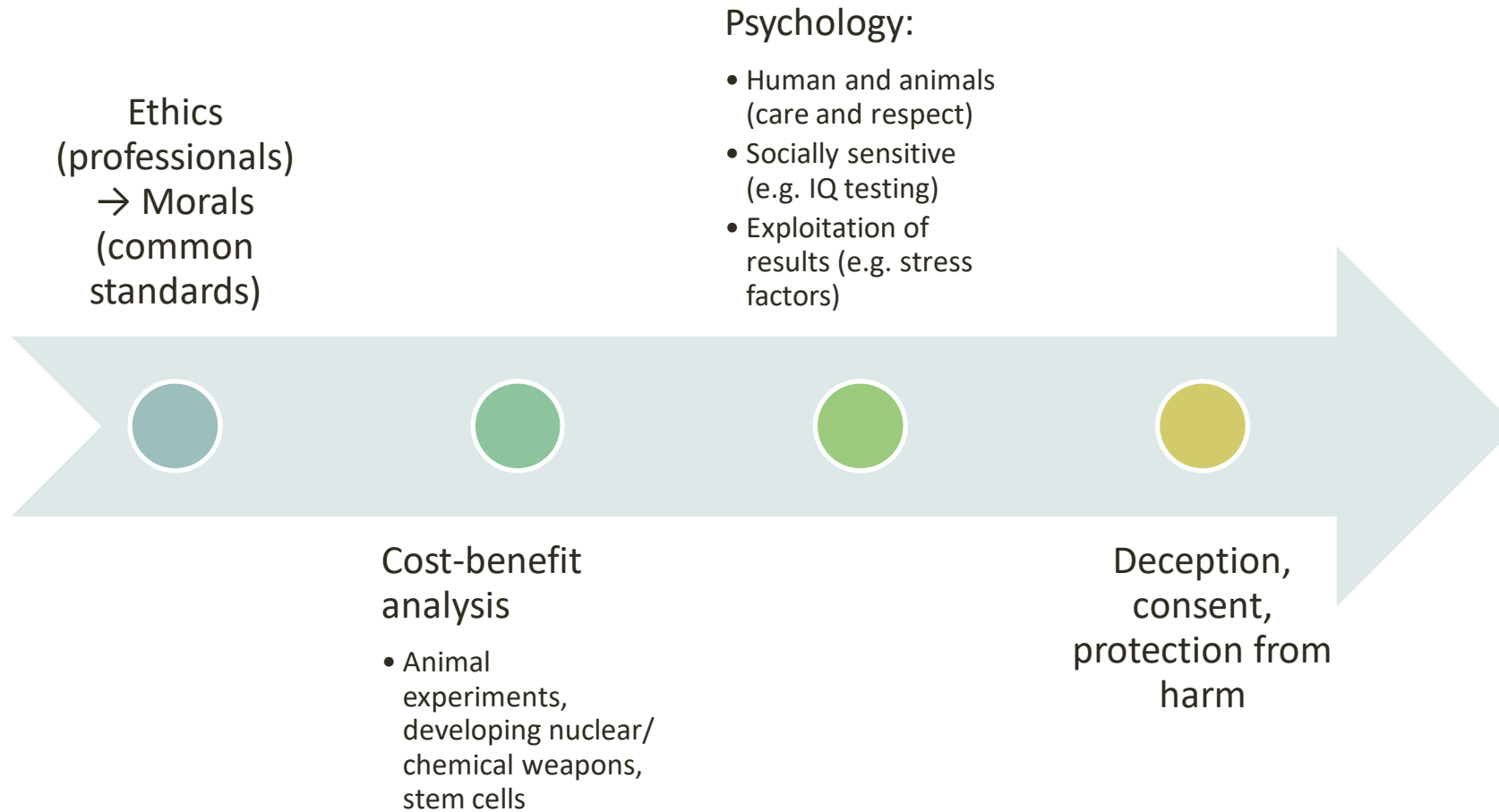
Human beings and animals are sentient living things(i.e. they can experience pain, fear, etc.)

Human beings are thinking creatures, capable of feeling guilt, embarrassment etc.



ETHICS:
WHY DO WE NEED THEM ?

Ethics and Morals - *Issues*



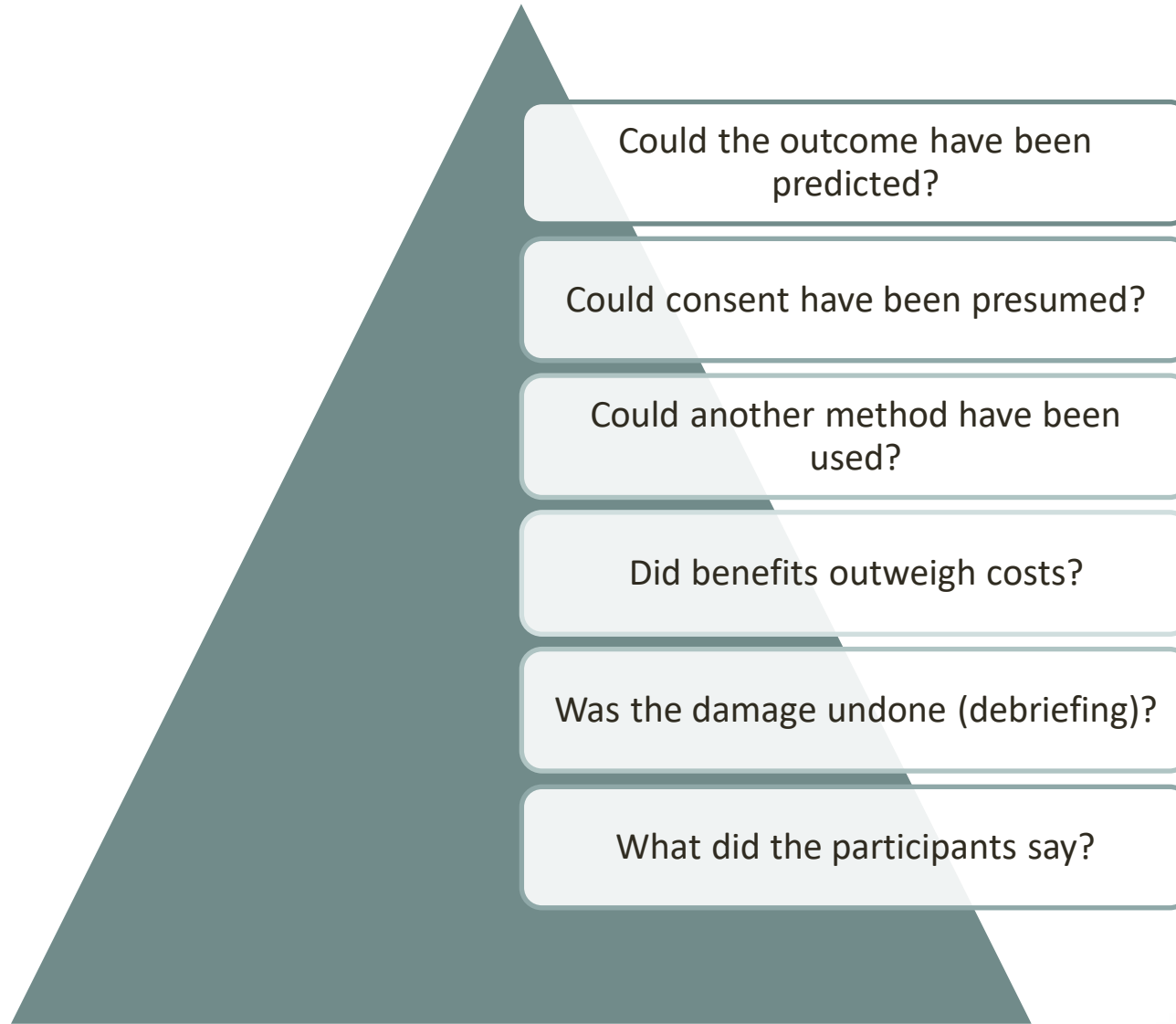
- Asch (1951)
 - Deception, damage to self-image
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NyDDyT1lDhA>
- Zimbardo (1973)
 - Psychological damage (stress, self image)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GePFFf5gRko>
- Hofling et al (1966)
 - Damage to self image
 - <http://lca-psychology.weebly.com/hoflings-study-of-nurses.html>
- Milgram (1963)
 - All the above
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yr5cjoyokVUs>

Ethical issues not always been high on list of Psychologist's concerns



Influential and informative research, but concern over treatment of participants in these studies

Discussing Ethical Issues



Ethical guidelines



The British
Psychological Society
Promoting excellence in psychology

- Today all aspects of research and professional practice in Psychology are covered by codes of ethics.
- In the United Kingdom, the British Psychological Society has a detailed Code of Conduct and Ethics
- Can be accessed on the BPS website
 - <http://www.bps.org.uk/documents/Code.pdf>

Respect

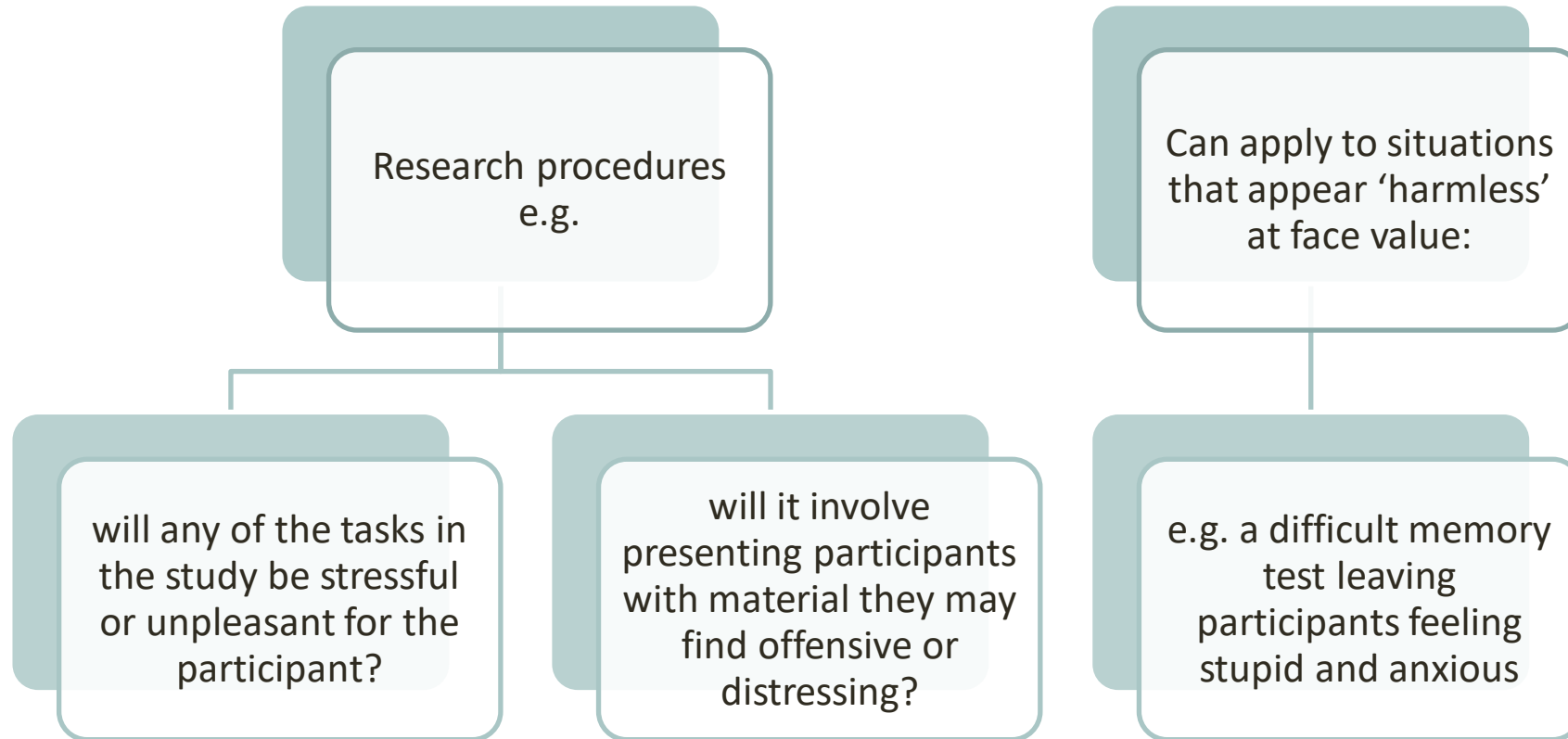
Competence

Responsibility

Integrity

Four ethical principles

BPS Code of Ethics



BPS ETHICAL GUIDELINES THE NINE MAJOR PRINCIPLES



Informed Consent



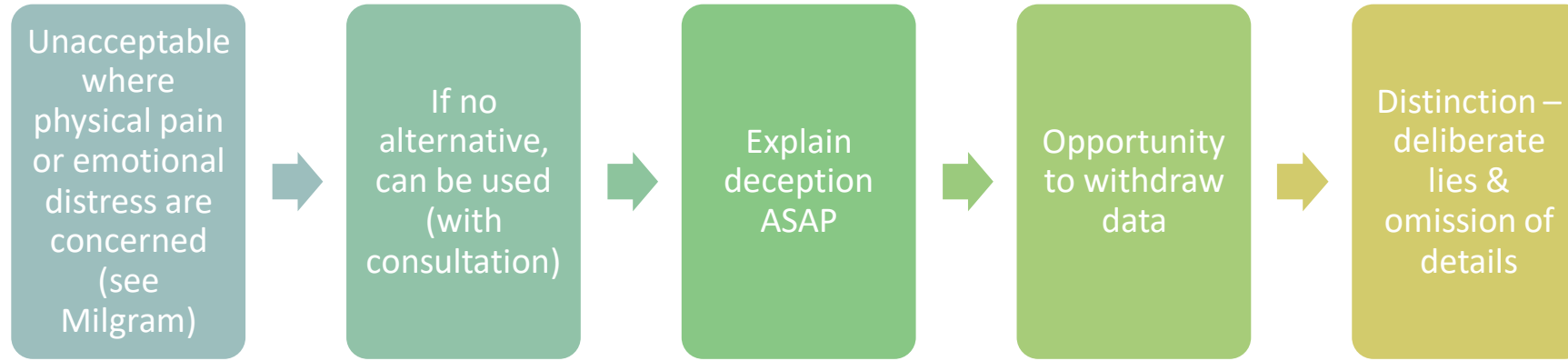
Informed on:

- What will be required
- Purpose of research
- Your rights (confidentiality, withdrawal, etc.)

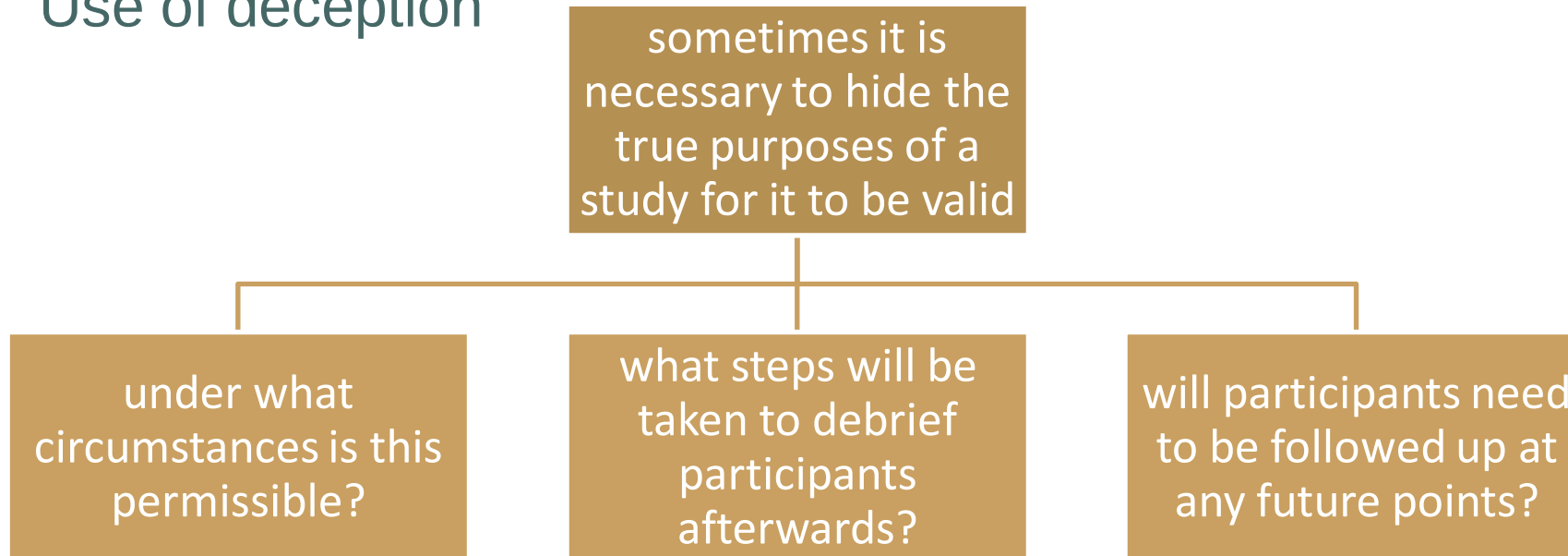
Problems

- Children and learning impaired
- Retrospective; in public domain (e.g. Kitty Genovese bystanders)
- Presumptive consent (from similar sample)
- Prior general consent
- Withhold data (damage done)
- Participants (subjects)

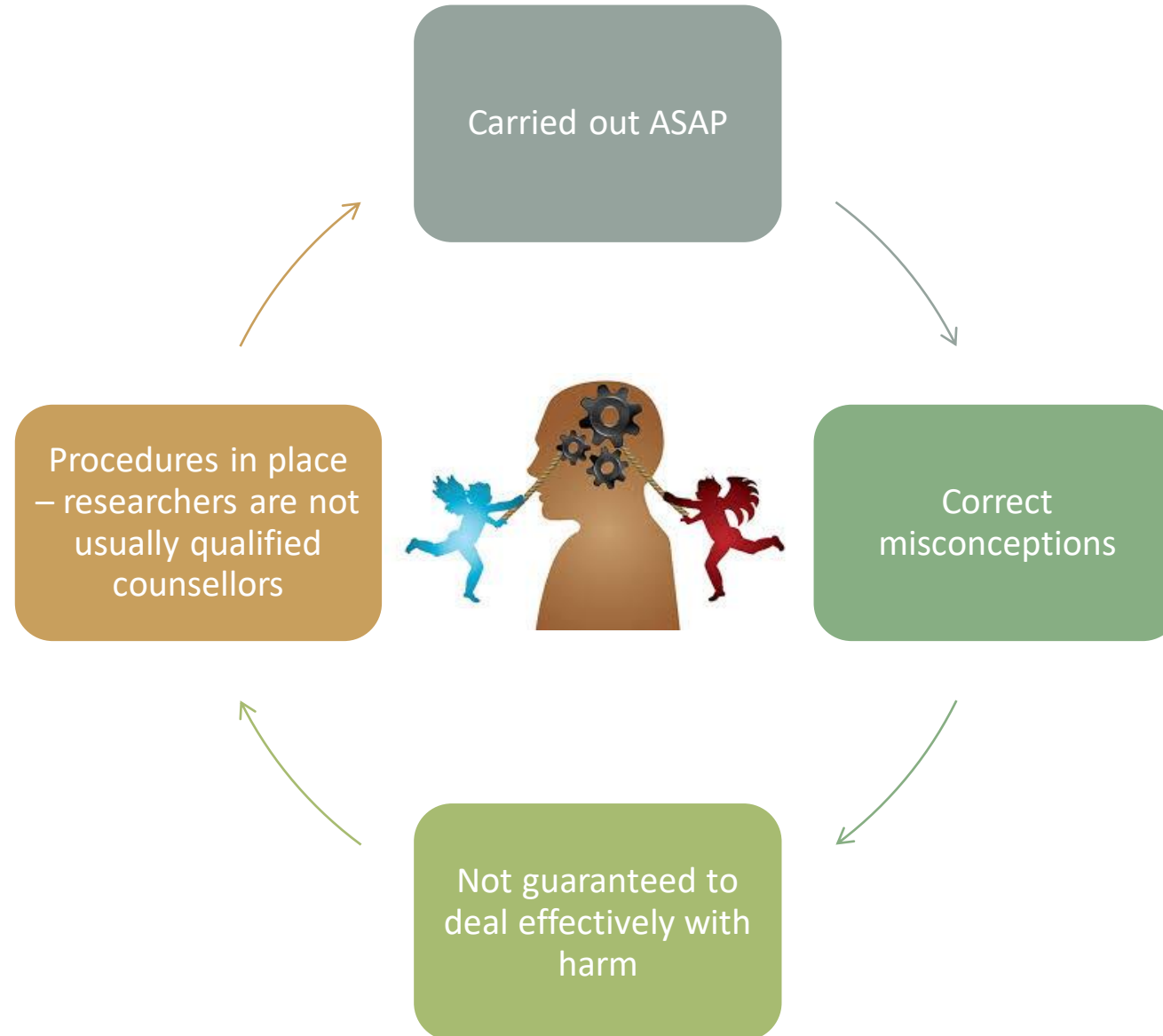
Research Ethics: deception



Use of deception



Research Ethics: debriefing



Protection from Harm



Physical Harm:

- e.g. anxiety (seizures, sweating, etc.)

Psychological Harm:

- Psychological safety (of pp)
- Confidentiality
- Privacy (observing in public or private places)

Right to withdraw

Withdraw



Participants have the right to withdraw at any time during the study

Participants may feel they should not withdraw because it will spoil the study

Data protection and Privacy



Researchers should not record the real names of any participants, they should use numbers or false names

Do not observe anyone without their informed consent unless in a public space

Not always
acceptable to
observe in a
public space, e.g.
lovers on a park
bench

Research Ethics: animals

Not usual for undergraduate students

Laws and regulations: acquisition, care, use, disposal/retirement

Supervision: comfort, health, humane treatment

Minimise adverse aspects of animal research: e.g. pain, comfort, freedom from infection and illnesses

Stress/pain etc. – only if can be justified on the basis of ‘scientific, educational, or applied value’

Anaesthesia before and after surgery

If termination is necessary – as painlessly and quickly as possible

Ethics for students



Complete the Ethics task on Moodle – For next weeks session

Also.

Read the ethics chapter on moodle (Sanders, 2010)

