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Research ethics

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Trawsnewid Addysg; Trawsnewid Bywydau
Transforming Education; Transforming Lives



www.uwtsd.ac.uk

Session outline

Unfair practice- what it is and why it matters

Use of personal data – informed consent

Potential risks and bias

The insider researcher

Good practice

Ground rules

- Content warning - trauma and personal data
- Confidentiality
- How it applies to you and your workplace
- Your role as student and researcher

What is plagiarism?

- Activity: in pairs, come up with a short definition

Plagiarism

“Plagiarism is passing off, or attempting to pass off, another’s work as your own.”
(UWTSD 2014)

- Discussion: Who does it harm?

Unfair Practice



Appendix GA6

Notes for guidance in completion of this form

It is unfair practice to commit any act, intentional or otherwise, whereby a person may obtain for himself/herself or for another, an unpermitted advantage, which may or may not lead to a higher mark or grade than his/her abilities would otherwise secure.

Examples:

Copying text word for word without quotation marks

Paraphrasing a source without a correct citation

Misrepresenting a cited source

Misleading the reader about originality

Reusing an image without crediting the source



Using personal data

UWTSD holds information about students:

- Demographics (age, gender, ethnicity)
- Sexual orientation
- Disabilities and health
- Family situation and address
- Academic performance

Acceptable use?

- Sending all an email about the course
- Sending all an email about another course
- Sending some an email about an event for women 35+
- Sending some an email about an event for gay men
- Writing a press release about the number of care leavers on a course

Acceptable use?

- Using quotes from your assignment in an academic article (with credit)
- Writing an article comparing this year's scores for a course to last year's
- Reporting potential benefit fraud
- Selecting participants in a research project to suit the desired age spread

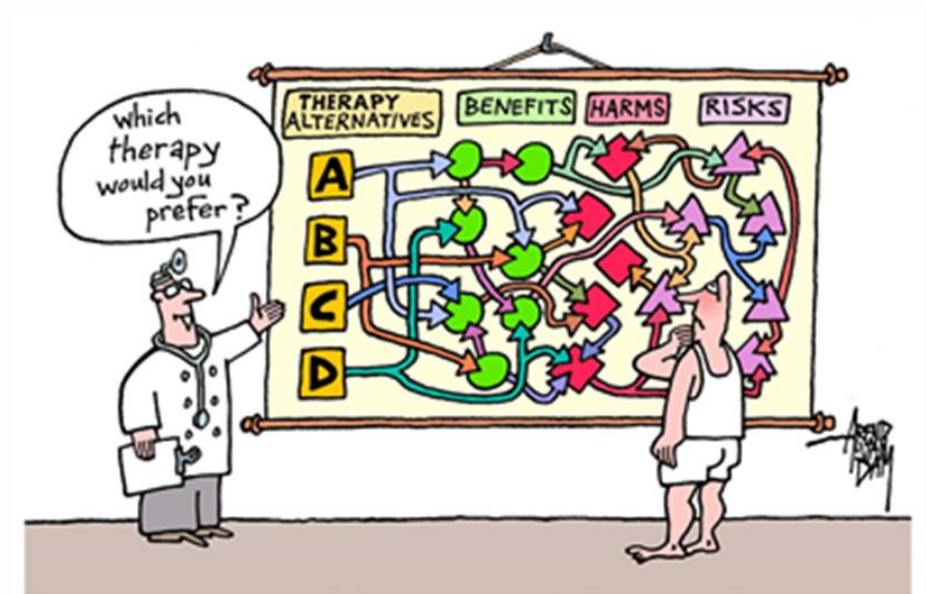
Informed consent

CONSENT



Freely Given
Reversible
Informed
Enthusiastic
Specific

 Planned Parenthood®



informed consent

Cagle.com

Complexities

- Is deception allowed?
- Vulnerable adults
- Authority and power
- Retrospective consent
- Consent for what?
- Right to approve/censor



<https://www.channel4.com/news/benefits-street-birmingham-channel-4-twitter-row>

Potential risks

Research project “Interviewing relatives of Titanic passengers”

- Risks to participants
- Risks to researcher
- In pairs, identify what risks there might be

Potential risks

Research project “Interviewing relatives of Titanic passengers”

- **Risks to participants**
- Trauma, publicity, financial, waste of time
- **Risks to researcher**
- Lone worker, trauma, legal (Data Protection)

Potential biases

Selection/sampling bias

Unconscious bias

Publication bias

Interviewer bias

Design bias

Affect validity of the conclusions

The insider researcher

- Privileged access
- Knows the organisation
- Knows the people
- Knows the work

The insider researcher

- Disadvantages and problems?

The insider researcher

- Disadvantages and problems?
- Personal bias
- Lack of objectivity
- Confidentiality
- Anonymity
- Limited perspective

Confidentiality and anonymity

Confidentiality

- Information you have access to but do not have the right to share

Anonymity

- Testimony from an individual who takes part on the understanding that no one will be able to identify them

Good practice in research



Research Ethics & Integrity Code of Practice

2015-18

- Research design
- Ethical approval
- Practice
- Record keeping
- Reporting
- Data management

The 'Five Rs' of Research Ethics

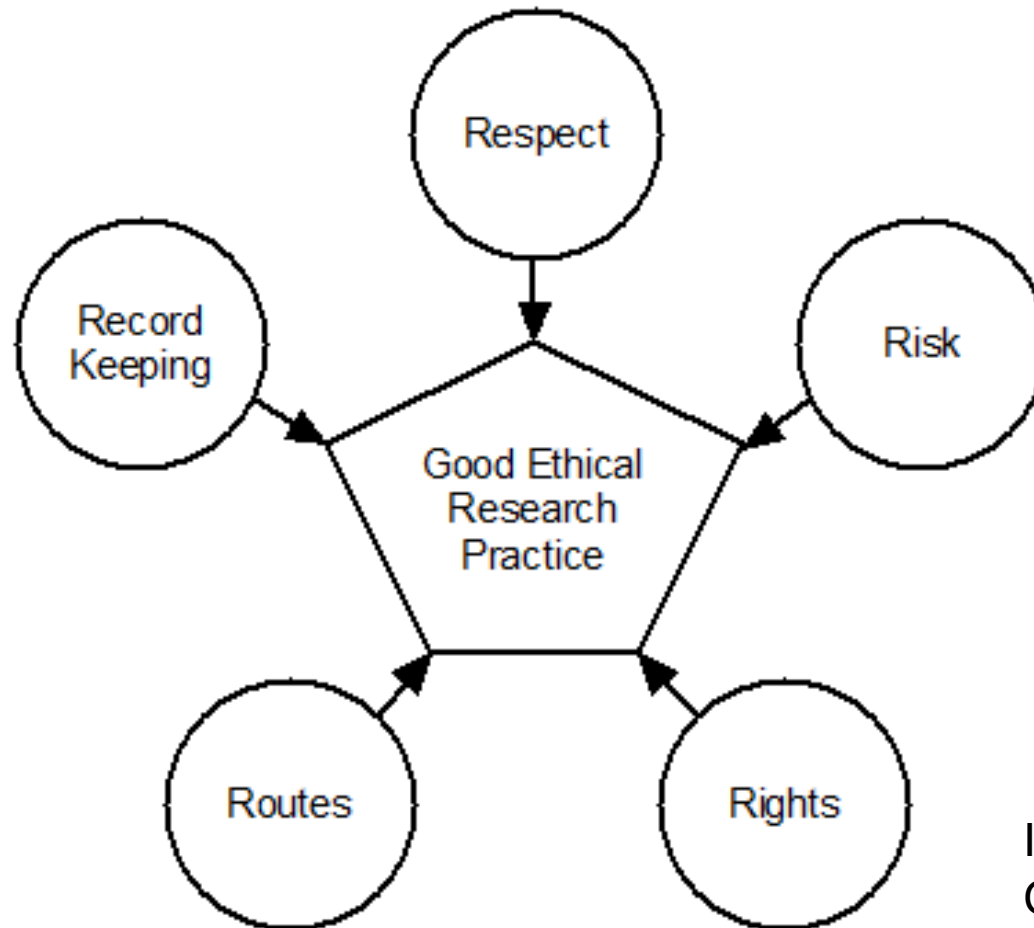


Image source:
Coventry University

Data Protection and Management

- The act of collecting data on individuals makes you responsible for that data's management and protection
- As researchers, we have a responsibility to our research participants to protect their information, especially information that could compromise their anonymity and/or confidential information
- <http://www.uwtسد.ac.uk/library/research-data-management/>

Review Ethics and Insider Research

- Cohen, L., Manion, L. and Morrison, K. (2011) *Research Methods in Education*. Abingdon: Routledge.
 - Chapter 5, p. 75-104
- Costley, C., Elliott, G., and Paul Gibbs (2012) *Doing Work Based Research, Approaches to Enquiry for Insider-Researchers*. London: Sage.
 - Chapter 1, p. 1-7
 - Chapters 3-6, p. 25-79
- Gill, J and Phil Johnson, (2012) *Research Methods for Managers*. (4th ed) London: Sage.
 - Chapter 8, p. 187-213
- Blaxter, L., Hughes, C. and Tight, M. (2010) *How to Research*. (4th ed) Maidenhead: Open University Press.
 - p. 156-169
- Easterby-Smith, M., Thorpe, R., and Jackson, P., (2012) *Management Research*. (4th ed) London: Sage.
 - Chapter 6, p. 113-140
- Gray, D. E. (2004). *Doing Research in the Real World*. London: Sage.
 - Chapter 4, p.67-96
- Saunders, M., Lewis, P. and Thornhill, A. (2009) *Research Methods for Business Students*. (5th ed) London: Pearson Education Ltd.
 - Chapter 6, p. 168-209
- Walliman, N. (2001) *Your Research Project: A step-by-step guide for the first-time researcher*. London: Sage
 - Chapter 6, p. 239-274
- Bell, J. (2005) *Doing your Research Project*. (4th ed) Buckingham: Open University Press.
 - Chapter 3, p. 43-60

Conclusion

- Doing the right thing in the right way
- Due acknowledgement
- Risks and biases
- Insider research
- Data management