

ECSO5003

Session 4

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General Guidelines

Ethics



A word cloud of terms related to digital ethics and privacy. The words are arranged in a cluster, with some in larger, bolder fonts than others. The colors of the words range from dark brown to light tan. The terms include: Confidentiality, Consent, Identity, Anonymity, Traceability, Data, Privacy, Obscurity, Illicit activity, Social networks, Flickr, Blog, Dataverse, Facebook, and Technology.

Social media

We are asking you to contribute to a discussion that outlines your key ethical considerations you have outlined on your ethics form and to justify your decisions.

General Guidelines

See additional guidelines provided.



The discussions should help inform and finalise your ethics form which will be submitted after your discussions.

You will need to submit your ethics form and a copy of your discussions to turn in for marking.

Research Ethics

As a small group, work together to outline what you think are key ethical considerations in research and why....



Research Ethics

- “Avoidance of harm, fully informed consent, and the need for privacy and confidentiality ...”(Punch, 2005: 89)

Ethics

Research ethics are an integral part of any research project

Why research ethics?

Can be viewed in two ways

- Guidelines and the law
- Personal standpoint and values

Research Ethics

Research Ethics is normally concerned with:

- overall harms and benefits of research,
- the rights of participants to information, privacy, anonymity, respect...
- the responsibilities of researchers to act with integrity,
- The positioning of people / researcher in the research process “whose voice” ?
- See video : https://youtu.be/hV_ccr5p2XU

How do we achieve this?

Ethical Issues in Research : Example

Always risks in research, we however need to reduce and minimise the risks....

Review video the Sandford Experiment and Situational Ethics:

- https://youtu.be/McBME84w_4k

Discuss :

- Was this study justifiable?
- Did the benefits out-way the risks?

Your Research

Consider a research issue which interests you.

Write down 2-3 ethical issues that you feel you may need to consider.



Your Research

- Research guidelines,
- Statutory obligations,
- Organisational guidelines,
- Professional: codes of practice,
- Personal:
 - Values of honesty frankness and personal integrity,
 - Responsibilities to those you are working alongside.

Work in small groups to discuss:

How does the knowledge and experience you have discussed relate to the following:

Use internet if you wish to explore:

Yr Athrofa Guidelines

SEE Power Point

Useful to have this open or have a copy to hand when filling in in your form.

You will find on moodle

- A PowerPoint with guidelines on how to fill in your ethics form

Yr Athrofa Guidelines

<https://www.ewc.wales/site/index.php/en/policy-hub/practitioner-research/research-ethics.html>

Provides some good practical example to consider: its situated within an educational context but issues could be transferred.

Additional Guidelines produced by Yr Athrofa found at :

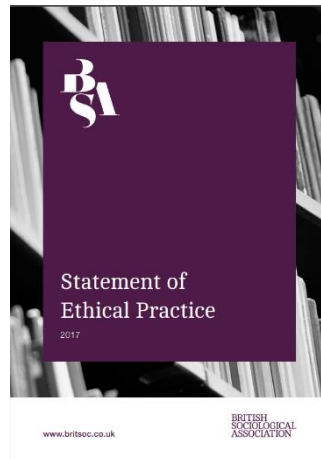
Research Ethics

- We must consider the following when carrying out research in our own practice and when engaging in research for an academic qualification:
 - Research guidelines
 - Statutory obligations
 - Organisational guidelines
 - Professional : codes of practice
 - Personal

Research Guidelines

British Sociological Association (BSA) Ethical Guidelines:

- <https://www.britsoc.co.uk/ethics>
- https://www.britsoc.co.uk/media/24310/bsa_statement_of_ethical_practice.pdf



- British Educational Research Association (BERA) guidelines (PDF Available on Moodle):
<https://www.bera.ac.uk/researchers-resources/publications/ethical-guidelines-for-educational-research-2018>



Research Guidelines: BSA/BERA

BERA (2018) BSA (2017) Educational Research Guidelines

- Voluntary Informed Consent is central.
- Openness and Disclosure
- Right to Withdraw
- Children, Vulnerable Young People and Vulnerable Adults

Research Guidelines

Community Based Participatory Research (2012) : A Guide to Ethical principles and practices:
University of Durham (PDF Available on Moodle).

British Sociological Association : <https://www.britsoc.co.uk/ethics>

Ethics at Different Stages

Discuss as a group what ethical issues you may need to consider throughout the research process:

- Planning
- Project proposal
- Reading
- Collecting primary / empirical data
- Data analysis
- Writing
- Reporting / Dissemination.

Ethics: Key Issue

Research ethics are an integral part of any research project:

- You will have to be able to argue that you have taken reasonable, best possible measures to conform to high standards of research ethics, as well as explored the ethical dilemmas experienced:
 - This will need to be evident in your research ethics approval forms
 - And also when writing up your thesis.

Ethics: Guidelines

Research guideline:

- E.g. BERA guidelines, BPA, BSA etc
- Organisational Guidelines:
 - Research contract/protocol where carrying out research
 - Institution you doing the research in the name of
- TSD Ethics Committee:
 - Fill in ethics form BEFORE starting your studies, discuss this with you Supervisor, ensure that it is signed by yourself and your supervisor and finally return to Dr Caroline Lohmann-Hancock.
- Law:
 - Data Protection (e.g. how long you can store things, informed consent for taking photographs).
 - Child protection DBS checks and enhanced DBS

Ethics: Personal Standpoint and Values

Your own perspective will influence the type of research and research ethics you will adopt

- Ask yourself how do I want to be in relation to those I am studying?
- Do I want to see them as objects or agents in the research process?
- In other words do I want to do research on people or in collaboration with people?

Ethics: Personal Standpoint and Values

How my values influenced the research

I had a collaborative design and wanted to work alongside those involved in the research I did not see them as participants

I believe in respecting individuals, and wanted to build relationships with them that were reciprocal, trusting and authentic.

Ethics: Personal Standpoint and Values

Key issues in ethics I adopted were:

- 'Avoidance of harm, fully informed consent, and the need for privacy and confidentiality' (Punch, 1994: 89).

Ethics: Qualitative Research

Essential to this position on ethics is that you are open and honest with those you are working alongside.

Guba and Lincoln (1989: 122) illustrate:

- 'Deception is worse than useless to a non-conventional evaluator; it is destructive of the effort's ultimate intent'.

Issues

What do you think are the issues with the following ethical guideline premises:

- Voluntary Informed Consent ?
- Openness and Disclosure?
- Right to Withdraw?
- Confidentiality?

Organisational Protocols

You will need to consider your organisation's protocols and regulations, as well as get permission to carry out the research.

As well as comply with the Universities Ethical Approval (See forms provided and available on Moodle)

Statutory Considerations?

What are the statutory requirements of collecting, storing, dissemination of research data?

GDPR

The [EU General Data Protection Regulation](#) (GDPR) and new Data Protection Act come into force on 25 May 2018

- <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted>
- Data Protection Guide:
 - <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-data-protection/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr/>
- will govern the processing (holding or using) of personal data in the UK.

What counts as 'personal data'?

- is data about living people from which they can be identified. As well as data containing obvious 'identifiers' – such as name and date of birth

GDPR

Having watched the video what are the implications for research practice.

<https://youtu.be/8A0wo4QYyJQ>

GDPR

The new law demands that data processing is lawful, fair and transparent.

- Refer and familiarise your self to UWTSD Data management:
<https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/library/research-data-management/>
- E.g obtaining Research Ethics Committee approval,
- only processing personal data that's necessary (data minimisation)
- and anonymising or pseudonymising where possible.
- respecting rights and ensuring that personal data is used in line with expectations....

Ethics: Law

Law

- The Data Protection Act 1998 came into force 1 March 2000 to bring the UK. into line with a European Community Human Rights Directive
- Data Protection Act 2018 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted>
 - Consent
 - The individual must be made fully aware of the purposes for which the data are to be used
 - Every item of personal data that is held or processed must be accurate and up to date, and held for no longer than necessary
 - Individuals have the right to know what data are held about them

Ethics: Law

Law:

- Child Protection
- Vulnerable Adults
 - DBS checks

Statutory Considerations: Safeguarding

DBS: Disclosures and Barring Service:

- All researchers working with children, and vulnerable adults should be subject to this...
- What are the safeguarding issues from a research perspective?

Professional Codes of Ethics

How could any Professional Codes of Practice inform your research and possibly choice of research methodology? E.g:

- Professional Codes of Practice?
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child?

Ethics: Personal?

What would you view as essential personal ethics when carrying out research?

Ethics: Personal

Research Activities:

- Honesty:
 - What you write will be regarded as your own work unless stated otherwise e.g. use of references.
 - Using the thoughts, ideas and works of others without acknowledging their source, even if you paraphrased into your own words, is unethical.
 - Plagiarism is a serious offence.
 - Refer to referencing guidelines at all times!!!! (Available on Moodle)

Ethics :Personal

- Honesty is essential in the substance of what you write:
 - Accurate descriptions of how and what, why you have done things.
 - Accurate descriptions of information you have obtained, techniques used, analysis carried out, the results (Methodology and Methods).
- E.g. silently rejecting or ignoring evidence which happens to be contrary to one's beliefs constitutes a breach of integrity.

Ethics: Personal

Research Relationships:

- May depend upon the guidelines you adopt and the research methodology you adopt:
 - e.g. BERA or British Psychological Society;
 - a qualitative or quantitative paradigm
- However in all cases the approach has to be un- harmful in anyway, and subject to certain rights
- A Considerate and courteous attitude to people will help their readiness to assist you.
- You are relying on their good will and co-operation to make the research possible!!!

Ethics: Personal

Your own perspective will influence the type of research and research ethics you will adopt.

Ask yourself how do I want to be in relation to those I am studying?

Do I want to see them as objects or agents in the research process?

In other words do I want to do research on people or in collaboration with people?

Ethics: Personal

Looking after yourself!

What could be the issues / risks to you as a researcher?

How could these be managed?

Ethics: Caveats

Sometimes difficult to draw up a contract/protocol, difficult to keep everybody happy!

Issues of confidentiality can you offer complete confidentiality?

Being collaborative/power relations

- Feminist ethical critiques of research question whether the research relationship is irreducibly exploitative (Wolf, 1996).

Ethical Approval Process

Within the lecture open and begin to complete your application for Ethical Approval

- The initial process in the first lecture will be lecturer led
- It is the Applicants responsibility to obtain approval Prior to Engaging in any Research. (This does not include exploratory reading)
- Lecture discussions and explanations will provide the basis for understanding the process of obtaining Ethical Approval.
- Students are required to read widely around this requirement.

Prior to the second lecture send your 'First draft' to your Dissertation Supervisor for initial approval

- This will require you to focus on a specific Question/title and subject area for exploration within your Literature Review

References

BERA, (2018). British Educational Research Association Ethical Guidelines (online) Available from <https://www.bera.ac.uk/researchers-resources/publications/ethical-guidelines-for-educational-research-2018> (accessed October 2018)

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