

Major Research ethics in sociology

- ① Informed consent - participants be fully informed about nature of research, its purpose.
- ② Confidentiality → privacy of participants cannot be
- ③ Anonymity → ensure that participants cannot be identified from data collected, either during or after the study.
- ④ Minimizing Harm → Avoid causing harm
- ⑤ Integrity & Honesty
- ⑥ Respect for persons
- ⑦ Social Responsibility
- ⑧ Ethical Review - ensure compliance with ethical standards

Major Research Misconducts

- ① Fabrication - Act of inventing or falsifying data, results or info. in research.
Eg - creating fictitious survey responses or experiments that never took place.
- ② Falsification
- manipulating research materials, equipment or processes or changing or omitting data to misrepresent research findings.
Eg - selectively reporting data that supports a hypothesis while omitting data that contradicts it.
- ③ Plagiarism
- using another person's work, ideas without proper attribution (acknowledgment) presenting it as one's own.
- ④ Ethical violations

↳

⑤ Ghostwriting → Allowing an individual who is not credited as an author to write parts or all of a research paper, while the credited authors do not contribute substantially.

Eg - A pharmaceutical company hiring writers to create stories that are then published under the names of researchers without acknowledgment of the writers. Like some companies write PhD thesis in lieu of some amount of money.

⑥ Self Plagiarism - Reusing significant portions of one's own previously published work without proper citation or acknowledgment.

⑦ Misrepresentation → Misleadingly presenting research findings, intentions or contexts.

Eg - Claiming results are more generalizable than the study supports or exaggerating the significance of findings.

⑧ Conflicts of Interest
- Failing to disclose personal or financial interests that could influence research outcomes or interpretations.