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**Ethics in Research**

Ethics in research are very important when you're going to conduct an experiment.

Ethics should be applied on all stages of research, such as planning, conducting and evaluating a [research](https://explorable.com/what-is-research) [1] project.

The first thing to do before designing a study is to consider the potential cost and benefits of the research.

**Research - Cost and Benefits-Analysis**

We evaluate the cost and benefits for most decisions in life, whether we are aware of it or not.

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The first thing to do before designing a study is to consider the potential cost and benefits of the research.

This can be quite a dilemma in some experiments. [Stem cell research](https://explorable.com/stem-cell-pros-and-cons) [2] is one example of an area with difficult ethical considerations.

As a result, stem cell research is restricted in many countries, because of the major and problematic ethical issues.

**Ethical Standards - Researchers Should...**

* avoid any risk of considerably harming people, the environment, or property unnecessarily. The [Tuskegee Syphilis Study](https://explorable.com/tuskegee-syphilis-study) [3] is an example of a study which seriously violated these standards.
* not use [deception](https://explorable.com/deception-and-research) [4] on people participating, as was the case with the [ethics of the Stanley Milgram Experiment](https://explorable.com/milgram-experiment-ethics) [5]
* obtain [informed consent](https://explorable.com/informed-consent-policy) [6] from all involved in the study.
* preserve [privacy and confidentiality](https://explorable.com/privacy-in-research) [7] whenever possible.
* take special precautions when involving populations or [animals](https://explorable.com/animals-in-research) [8] which may not be considered to understand fully the purpose of the study.
* not offer big rewards or enforce binding contracts for the study. This is especially important when people are somehow reliant on the reward.
* not [plagiarize](https://explorable.com/academic-plagiarism) [9] the work of others
* not skew their conclusions based on [funding](https://explorable.com/research-grant-funding) [10].
* not commit [science fraud](https://explorable.com/science-fraud) [11], [falsify research](https://explorable.com/scientific-falsification) [12] or otherwise conduct [scientific misconduct](https://explorable.com/scientific-misconduct) [13]. A con-study, which devastated the public view of the subject for decades, was the[study of selling more coke and popcorn by unconscious ads](https://explorable.com/subliminal-messages) [14]. The researcher said that he had found great effects from subliminal messages, whilst he had, in fact, never conducted the experiment.
* not use the position as a [peer reviewer](https://explorable.com/peer-review-process) [15] to give [sham peer reviews](https://explorable.com/sham-peer-review) [16] to punish or damage fellow scientists.

Basically, research must follow all [regulations](https://explorable.com/research-regulations) [17] given, and also anticipate possible ethical problems in their research.

[Competition](https://explorable.com/competition-in-science) [18] is an important factor in research, and may be both a good thing and a bad thing.

[Whistleblowing](https://explorable.com/whistleblowers-in-science) [19] is one mechanism to help discover misconduct in research.

**Source URL:** <https://explorable.com/ethics-in-research>

**Links:**
[1] https://explorable.com/what-is-research, [2] https://explorable.com/stem-cell-pros-and-cons, [3] https://explorable.com/tuskegee-syphilis-study, [4] https://explorable.com/deception-and-research, [5] https://explorable.com/milgram-experiment-ethics, [6] https://explorable.com/informed-consent-policy, [7] https://explorable.com/privacy-in-research, [8] https://explorable.com/animals-in-research, [9] https://explorable.com/academic-plagiarism, [10] https://explorable.com/research-grant-funding, [11] https://explorable.com/science-fraud, [12] https://explorable.com/scientific-falsification, [13] https://explorable.com/scientific-misconduct, [14] https://explorable.com/subliminal-messages, [15] https://explorable.com/peer-review-process, [16] https://explorable.com/sham-peer-review, [17] https://explorable.com/research-regulations, [18] https://explorable.com/competition-in-science, [19] https://explorable.com/whistleblowers-in-science, [20] https://explorable.com/users/admin\_oskar, [21] https://explorable.com/ethics-in-research