

Chapter 3: Ethics

Multiple Choice

1. Examining the ethical issues of a research project can be very difficult - that is why universities and colleges have _____.
*A) Institutional Review Boards (IRB)
B) Policies that prohibit the use of children in research
C) Research Difficulty Assessment Boards (RDAB)
D) Avoided research that involves children
E) C & D
2. Because ethical decisions are rarely black and white, most universities have _____.
A) An ethicist on staff
*B) An institutional review board
C) A board of directors
D) All of the above
E) None of the above
3. The most widely used ethics code for researchers in psychology is published by the _____.
A) ASA
*B) APA
C) AAA
D) AMA
4. In psychology, the most widely used ethics guidelines are those of the _____.
*A) American Psychological Association
B) Tri-council Policy Statement
C) United States Department of Health and Human Services Office for Human Research Protections
D) International Research Ethics Council
E) Law of the Jungle
5. The principles of the American Psychological Association ethics code are _____.
A) Legal standards of conduct
B) Moral obligations for conduct
*C) Suggested guidelines for conduct
D) Based on common sense
E) All of the above
6. The principle of beneficence and nonmaleficence _____.
A) is that psychologists should do no harm
B) is that psychologists strive to benefit those with whom they work
C) is that psychologists should protect the welfare of animal subjects in research
D) A & B

*E) A, B, & C

7. Beneficence is to nonmaleficence as _____ is to _____.

*A) Help; harm

B) Contribution; cost

C) Sick; tired

D) Cause; effect

8. The principle of fidelity and responsibility indicates that psychologists should _____.

A) Uphold professional standards of conduct

B) Assume responsibility for their behavior

C) Contribute some of their professional time for free

D) A & B

*E) A, B, & C

9. "Psychologists establish relationships of trust with those with whom they work." Under which principle does this statement best fall?

A) Beneficence and Nonmaleficence

*B) Fidelity and Responsibility

C) Integrity

D) Justice

E) Respect for People's Rights and Dignity

10. The principle of fidelity and responsibility indicates that psychologists _____.

A) Should not have extramarital affairs

B) May drink socially but not to excess

C) Should have pure thoughts and use responsible judgment

D) All of the above

*E) None of the above

11. The principle of integrity indicates that a psychologist _____.

A) Needs an integrated personality to avoid ethical violations

B) Should include all races in his or her research

*C) Should promote truthfulness in the science of psychology

D) Should be an active participant in his or her community

E) All of the above

12. In accordance with the principle of integrity, in cases when deception is used we _____.

A) Are obliged to financially compensate participants

*B) Are obliged to correct any resulting mistrust

C) Are obliged to provide integrative counseling

D) Must reverse the deception with a double blind procedure

E) All of the above

13. The principle of justice indicates that _____.

- A) All people are equally entitled to the services offered by psychologists
- B) Psychologists take precautions that their biases do not lead to unjust practices
- C) Psychologists take precautions that the limitations of their competence do not lead to unjust practices
- D) Psychologists take precautions that the limitations of their expertise do not lead to unjust practices
- *E) All of the above

14. Which of the following statements most clearly violates the APA principle of justice?

- A) I believe that homosexuality is a sin: so I refer gay and lesbian clients.
- B) I refer clients with eating disorders because I have no experience treating these disorders.
- *C) I have never treated a person with an eating disorder but I can wing it.
- D) I would like to set up an addictions workshop but I need to take some refresher courses first.

15. Which of the following statements most clearly violates the principle of respect for people's rights and dignity?

- *A) I am color blind. I treat all my clients the same, regardless of cultural background.
- B) To guard confidentiality, we do not publicly post student grades.
- C) We need to recognize that old people may have very different views than younger people on the topic of premarital sex.
- D) We need to understand and accept that men from eastern European countries may not be emotionally expressive.

16. Which of the following statements most clearly violates the ethical standard of competence?

- A) I don't have a PhD but I have 7 years experience working in the area.
- *B) I don't read the published literature before I do research because it might bias my approach.
- C) I'm no expert on this area of research but I consult with my supervisor: he is an expert.
- D) In my research I discovered that I didn't have a good understanding of Eastern culture so I attended a workshop on the topic.

17. Which of the following statements is the most accurate?

- *A) Ethical standards are guidelines that, if broken, can result in professional sanctions.
- B) Ethical standards are suggested guidelines but not obligations.
- C) Ethical principles are guidelines that, if broken, can result in professional sanctions.
- D) Ethical principles and ethical standards are the same thing.

18. Of the following statements, which does not violate the ethical standard of competence?

- A) Twenty happy years of marriage make me an effective marriage and family

therapist.

B) I don't need to know much: I'm not counseling people. I'm just doing research.

*C) It's a new area of research: no one is an expert but I have studied everything in the area.

D) I don't have to be an expert in statistics to teach a course in it.

19. Which of the following statements does not violate the ethical standard of unfair discrimination?

A) I let men stay in therapy sessions longer than women because I have found they require more time for equal benefits.

B) We used developmentally delayed children because we determined they were less frustrated by the task than other children.

*C) We limited our research to our target population: Canadian First Nations men.

D) We provided extra help for all the good looking guys.

20. Which of the following would most likely be considered unfair discrimination?

A) You conduct your research on university students and do not collect data off campus.

B) You restrict your research to only topics that affect women.

*C) All the research on the development of moral reasoning has been restricted to white, middle-class, western nations.

D) all of the above

21. Sexual harassment includes ____.

A) Unwelcome or offensive physical advances that are sexual in nature

B) Unwelcome or offensive persistent comments that are sexual in nature

C) A single intense action that would be judged to be abusive by most people

D) A, & B

*E) A, B, & C

22. "I always ask the attractive women to show me their panties. It's just a silly comment, it's not like I'm jumping on them or anything." Which of the following statements best describes this situation?

A) This is not sexual harassment. It is best described as harmless good humor.

B) This is unfair discrimination because he only says it to attractive women.

*C) This is sexual harassment because it is persistent and offensive.

D) This is sexual harassment because it is such a severe act.

23. "You left a mess in the lab that I have to clean up! I guess that's about what I'd expect from a preppie". Which ethical standard best applies to these statements?

*A) Harassment

B) Sexual harassment

C) Unfair discrimination

D) Avoiding harm

24. "Our research involved having college women view slides of violent pornography.

We were shocked when several participants left the session in tears." Although, a follow-up phone call indicated that several women were still upset many weeks later, no further action was taken. Which ethical standard did we neglect?

- A) Protection from harassment
- B) Protection from sexual harassment
- C) Protection from unfair discrimination
- *D) Do no harm

25. "We staged a mock beating to see if bystanders would intervene." Which ethical standard have we violated?

- A) Protection from sexual harassment
- B) Protection from harassment
- C) Protection from unfair discrimination
- *D) Do no harm

26. "He was participating in our study and he asked me out for dinner. Who wouldn't agree? He was gorgeous and I'll never turn down a free meal" Which ethical issue is at the heart of this scenario?

- A) Sexual harassment
- B) Avoiding harm
- *C) Multiple relationships
- D) Harassment

27. "I'm only the lab instructor, not the professor. So what if I'm dating one of the students"? Which ethical issue is at the heart of this scenario?

- *A) Multiple relationships
- B) Sexual harassment
- C) Avoiding harm
- D) Harassment

28. "I have a student who is also a mechanic. I always get my car serviced for free". Which ethical issue is at the heart of this scenario?

- A) Harassment
- *B) Exploitative relationships
- C) Avoiding harm
- D) Informed consent

29. After your mid-term exam your professor invites the class to a bar for a few drinks. This behavior ____.

- A) Is commendable especially if the professor buys the beer
- B) Is acceptable but only if your professor is a woman
- *C) Is unacceptable because it could be considered a multiple relationship
- D) Is acceptable as long as the entire class is invited

30. The purpose of informed consent is ____.

- A) To make explicit the roles of all involved

- B) To make explicit any expectations
- C) To guard against sexual harassment
- *D) A & B
- E) A, B, & C

31. The best way to guarantee confidentiality is to ____.

- *A) Have your participants remain anonymous
- B) Not discuss your research with friends
- C) Use coded numbers on surveys
- D) Have your participants wear masks

32. During the testing of your research participants you discover that a student is considering suicide. What do you do?

- A) Respect confidentiality and say nothing.
- *B) Break confidentiality and inform your supervisor.
- C) Call him/her and ask him/her out for coffee.
- D) Inform your supervisor but withhold the name.

33. Which of the following research approaches may not require informed consent from the participants?

- *A) Naturalistic observation of children in a city park.
- B) Administering paper and pencil personality tests to a class of university students.
- C) Administering a survey in an elementary school.
- D) Administering a math test to residents of a senior citizen's residence.

34. Informed consent forms should be written clearly. The textbook suggests using a writing level at about grade ____.

- A) 10-12
- B) 4
- *C) 6-8
- D) 9

35. Do you need to have participants complete a consent form for a course research project?

- *A) Yes
- B) No, as long as you are careful
- C) No, as long as you are not publishing the report
- D) No, as long as the participants are friends and family

36. Which of the following is not required in the informed consent form?

- A) The purpose of the research
- B) The participant's right to withdraw
- *C) A complete description of your research hypothesis
- D) A contact name for questions regarding the research
- E) All the above must be included

37. Which of the following is not true of the informed consent form?
- *A) You must provide a complete description of the study, including any hypotheses you have
 - B) The consent form is a contract between the researcher and the participant
 - C) If there are incentives for participation they should be described
 - D) The duration of the research
38. Under what conditions can you dispense with informed consent?
- A) When doing naturalistic observation in a public place
 - B) When doing survey research
 - C) When doing animal research
 - *D) A & B
 - E) A, B, & C
39. It is nice to pay participants but when does an inducement become coercive?
- A) \$10
 - B) \$20
 - C) \$50
 - *D) When the inducement is too good to refuse.
40. Which of the following is most unethical?
- A) After careful consideration you determine that you must use deception in your research. Following the study you explain to the participants why deception was necessary and explain that they can withdraw their data if they wish.
 - *B) You are conducting research with inner-city youth and although your experiment only takes an hour, you are concerned that you're not getting enough participants. You decide to pay your participants \$500.
 - C) You are conducting an anonymous survey on campus and you do not include an informed consent form.
 - D) A & B
 - E) A, B, & C
41. When is it permissible to use deception in research?
- A) It is always best to use deception.
 - *B) Only use deception if a non-deceptive procedure is not feasible.
 - C) Deception is never justified in research.
 - D) Deception should be used only when it is clear that you would be unable to recruit volunteers for the study if they knew its true purpose.
42. Following experimental studies, and especially if deception is used, participants should always be ____.
- *A) Debriefed
 - B) Paid
 - C) Given a full report
 - D) Given your phone number
 - E) None of the above

43. What is meant by debriefing?
- A) It refers to removing ones undergarments.
 - B) It is when you withhold information from the participants.
 - *C) It is an explanation of the research given at the end of the session.
 - D) It refers to a press conference to discuss your research.
44. Debriefing should be conducted ____.
- *A) At the end of the research session
 - B) Only when deception is used
 - C) Only between consenting adults
 - D) By all researchers involved in the project
45. Who is responsible for the research animals used in your study?
- A) The supervising psychologists
 - B) All individual working with the animals
 - C) The IMD
 - *D) A & B
 - E) A, B, & C
46. Where can you obtain research animals?
- A) Pet store
 - B) Any breeder
 - *C) Only breeders who are permitted to supply research animals
 - D) All the above
47. Research animals can be subjected to painful procedures if ____.
- A) Those procedures are things to which people might be subjected
 - B) There is no alternative
 - C) The goal is justified by scientific, educational, or applied value
 - *D) B & C
 - E) A & C
48. Which statement is the most accurate?
- *A) If a data error is discovered you have the responsibility to publish a correction.
 - B) Scientists are carefully trained so they never misrepresent their data.
 - C) Researchers fudge data all the time, they just never talk about it.
 - D) A little bit of plagiarism is acceptable.
49. The textbook refers to some special problems with Internet research. What are they?
- A) Informed consent
 - B) Confidentiality
 - C) Debriefing
 - *D) A & C
 - E) A, B, & C

50. The guidelines on bias and intellectual honesty are best summarized as ____.

- A) To be honest we must hide your biases
- *B) To be honest we must be aware of our biases
- C) Science by its very nature is without bias
- D) We are all bias there is nothing that be done about it

True/False

51. Beneficence means minimizing harm.

- A) True
- *B) False

52. It is ethical to do research on a topic that you know nothing about since you're doing it to learn new information.

- A) True
- *B) False

53. If you can have your participants remain anonymous, you do not have to be concerned with confidentiality.

- *A) True
- B) False

54. Disclosure means revealing confidential information to others about a research participant.

- *A) True
- B) False

55. Experimental deception is unethical and should never be used.

- A) True
- *B) False

56. Ethical guidelines for research with animals are more extensive than those for humans.

- *A) True
- B) False

57. Obtaining assent or agreement from a child is sufficient grounds for proceeding with research involving that child.

- A) True
- *B) False

58. Funding agencies do not bias research, they simply provide the money to make the research possible.

- A) True
- *B) False

Short Answer

Type: E

59. List the five general principles that guide psychologists.

*A) Beneficence and Nonmaleficence; Fidelity and responsibility; Integrity
Justice; Respect for people's rights and dignity

Type: E

60. Describe the difference between a general principle and an ethical standard.

*A) General principles are suggested guidelines whereas standards, if violated, could lead to sanctions by the APA.

Type: E

61. List three types of harassment.

*A) Sexual harassment, physical harassment, verbal harassment.

Type: E

62. What is the primary purpose of informed consent?

*A) To make the relationships in a research or clinical situation explicit and clearly understood.

Type: E

63. List three things that should be included in an informed consent form.

*A) Brief description of purpose of study, brief description of what participants will do, information about how participants can learn about the results, brief description of how participants were selected, signature line

Type: E

64. Define the term experimental deception.

*A) Any information or act on the part of the researcher that is intended to mislead the participants about the true purpose of the research

Type: E

65. What is the purpose of a debriefing?

*A) To make clear the true purpose of the study, to allow participants to ask questions, to determine if follow up care is needed

Type: E

66. What is the overriding rule that researchers should follow?

*A) Do no harm.