



Conference on _____

ETHICS IN HUMAN SCIENCE RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION



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Link for registration: bit.ly/3XSlamk

21-23
SEPTEMBER 2023

Organised by:
Jawaharlal Nehru
University (JNU)

For queries, please write to ethicsnationalconference2023@gmail.com



National Conference

ETHICS IN HUMAN SCIENCE RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION

We are always intrigued by the questions:

- What are the ethical principles of conducting research on human participants?
- What is the meaning of ethics in research and how to follow it?
- Is ethics a personal attribute or a learned trait?
- Who determines them and in whose judgement, must they be considered correct?
- Are there any universal principles of ethics to conduct that are applied in research?
- Do norms of ethics change over time, and what happens when the researcher or the professional body conducting the research does not abide by them?
- Are there any ethical principles for research writing?
- What are the publication ethics?
- Is plagiarism an academic crime? If so, what can be done to ensure ethics in research writing and publication?
- What is research integrity and what all falls under academic misconduct?
- What are the tools and instruments to support ethical writing?
- What are the institutional responsibilities to ensure ethical conduct of the Institution?
- What are the guidelines of setting up institutional ethical review board?

Concept Note

The question of ethics has often been a ignored section of the curriculum and research practice. The term “*ethics*” comes from the Greek word, *ethos* meaning ‘character’ and is increasingly used in research across disciplines. The consideration of the ethical dimension in research requires the researcher to ask how the ethical issues influence the research at each stage, starting from deciding the research question to conducting the study and the overarching moral responsibility of the researcher towards their subjects. It also entails the ethical issues/dilemmas the researchers face while writing or publishing the research while keeping in mind the matter of direct benefits and consequences for the participants.

The history and development of the field of ethics in research has not been smooth in social sciences and biomedical research. Dealing with humans, both the disciplines had to face several complex and serious ethical concerns over time. The famous Tuskegee syphilis study, conducted by U.S. Public Health Service between 1932 and 1972, is an example. The study examined the untreated cases of latent syphilis in 400 African American males from Tuskegee Alabama. The subjects were not asked for informed consent to join in the project, and the antibiotic treatment was withheld, leading to the slow progression of the disease and eventually, early death of the subjects. This experiment lasted for more than four decades and until 1972, when it was exposed and the government officials ended the experiment. More than 100 subjects died of advanced syphilis and later, the study was declared 'ethically unjustified' and it was argued that penicillin should have been administered to the infected subjects. Moreover, the subjects were not aware that a study was being conducted on them. They had not volunteered for the study; rather, they were deceived into believing they were getting free treatment from Government doctors for a disease. This incident led to the setting up of a National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioural Research that presented its report, the Belmont Report in 1979. It identified the basic principles of research on human subjects; participatory voluntariness, beneficence and justice. The principle of non-maleficence was also added later. The word 'subjects' is no longer used and as a result of this case, the notion of *informed consent*, i.e., the participant's right to be informed about the nature of the research study, detailing the risks and benefits prior to the research is now compulsory.

This is how ethical principle in research became one of the cornerstones of modern social research and research ethics became an important aspect of any study. The Nuremberg trials atrocities on prisoners of war- mention of fully informed consent also revealed how German physicians conducted medical experiments on the Jewish prisoners in Nazi concentration camps. After the trial, in 1949 the Nuremberg Code came into practice and it formally talked about the rights of the research participants and stipulated that all research participation must be voluntary. Other codes of ethics soon followed, i.e., the Declaration of Helsinki (1964), which mandated that all biomedical research projects involving human participants should carefully assess the risks of participation against the benefits, respect their privacy, and minimize the costs of participation. Gradually review boards were set up to oversee the goals of the research project and official rules were laid which governed the ethical conduct of research. 1970s onwards, clearance from the Institutional Review Board is mandatory in clinical research while behavioural research does not have a strict mandate. IRBs watch over all the research proposals that involve working with human participants and ensure that the consent procedures have been carried out carefully, and no group of individuals is unfairly treated or is left out of the potential outcomes of a given study.

Currently, professional associations for each discipline exist that outline the general ethical guidelines relevant to the disciplines. The last decade has witnessed more concerns of ethical issues in social science research and biomedical research. Over the years, clinical trials have come under scrutiny over the ethical concerns of informed consent and participation,

use of placebo and the randomization/blinding of participants. There are guidelines to be followed at international level put forth by WHO, CIOMS, UNESCO etc. and guidelines of ICMR and other institutions in the Indian context. Even then, ethical considerations become complex as clinical research progresses and raises newer questions. As a result, different disciplines can require different set of norms. In any kind of research involving human participants in any of the human sciences (invasive, clinical or behavioural science), ethics is a human rights issue. The ethical guidelines now cover public health research, social and behavioural science research and ensure a strict code of conduct focusing on specialized areas like informed consent, biological materials, bio banking datasets and vulnerability.

The present conference intends to cover a wide range of topics within the domain of ethics of human research. It is not restricted to a particular discipline, but includes ethical issues concerning humans, thus spanning across various academic disciplines of biology, psychology, sociology, anthropology, economics, political science, humanities, linguistics etc. It would create a dialogue among scholars, academicians, policymakers and researchers to have a platform and help make the field more robust. With the mandate of including ethics in research by University Grants Commission and a compulsory subject to be taught to all the PhD scholars, it is a pertinent and urgent need to organize a national level seminar. According to UGC, the number of cases related to unethical practices including pay-and-publishing have increased significantly in the past 15 years. Now that students can enroll for PhD directly after post-graduation, it is important to give them adequate exposure to research ethics through a focused approach. Thus, it is the need of the hour to come up with a book that can be referred to by anyone undertaking scientific research.

Outcome Of The Conference

Outcome of the conference will be an ebook of abstracts, an edited volume and a ready reference material and text book on research and publication ethics in human sciences for post-graduate students and research scholars and faculty across varied disciplines. We therefore invite papers and posters on themes related to ethics in research, writing and/or publication. 3 Best Papers shall be awarded the Best Presentation Certificates, and 3 Best Posters shall be awarded Best Poster Presentation Certificates. Please note that e-certificates shall be awarded to those who attend all three days of the conference.

Objectives of the Conference

1. To introduce the participants to research ethics in human sciences clinical, behavioral, invasive, non-invasive; its history and origin and its relevance in contemporary society.
2. To enhance the knowledge of participants on specific issues like confidentiality, privacy, informed consent, voluntariness of research participation, research integrity and the challenges faced in the field.
3. How to ensure data confidentiality, reporting research without plagiarising, writing with responsibility and integrity.
4. Publication ethics to include issues of copyright, patents, and Intellectual property rights.

Broad Themes of the Conference:

- ✓ Ethics as a morals, values and philosophical subject
- ✓ Ethical concerns in Clinical research
- ✓ Ethical research practice in Fieldwork
- ✓ Issue of Trust and moral responsibility
- ✓ Ethical concerns in Researching among vulnerable and marginalized populations
- ✓ Ethics in tribal research
- ✓ Ethics in researching on children and adolescents
- ✓ Ethical and medical- legal issues in clinical trials
- ✓ Ethical Issues in Biomedical research and public health concerns
- ✓ Rights of the research participants
- ✓ Dilemmas of the Researchers
- ✓ Legal Issues in medically unfit population
- ✓ Ethical Issues in Writing and Publishing
- ✓ ICMR guidelines and challenges in social science research
- ✓ Data Confidentiality, ethics of data sharing , data compromise
- ✓ Consenting process, confidentiality and privacy in social/psychological/behavioral science research
- ✓ Ethics in audio-visual documentation and reporting
- ✓ Ethical issues in writing and reporting without plagiarising.
- ✓ Legal issues regarding copyright, patenting and IPR

Please note that:

21st and 22nd September shall be conducted in the physical mode.

23rd September shall be conducted in the online mode.

Important Dates:

Submission of Abstracts and Posters: 25th July 2023

Confirmation of Selection of abstracts and posters: First Week of August 2023

Submission of Full papers: 31st August 2023

Submissions to be sent to: ethicsnationalconference2023@gmail.com

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Conference Team

Conference Organizers:

Dr Sunita Reddy, JNU and **Prof. Vaishna Narang** (Retd. Prof. and former Member Secretary, IERB, JNU)

Organizing Team:

Dr Sandesha Rayapa, Dr Gopal Parihar, Ashani Dhar, Suparba Sil, Sreekumar, Ganga, Krishna Kumar,

Conference Advisory Members

1. **Prof. SK Sarin** - Vice Chancellor, Institute of Liver and Biliary Science (ILBS), Adjunct Professor, Special Centre for Molecular Medicine, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
2. **Prof. S. K Sopory** – Plant Physiologist, Emeritus Senior Scientist at International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi
3. **Prof. Seyed E Hasnain** - National Science Chair, IIT Delhi, Former Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Hamdard University and University of Hyderabad
4. **Prof. A.B. Ota** -IAS (Rtd.) Director and Special Secretary , SCSTRTI Odisha State Tribal Museum, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneshwar
5. **Prof. Bhushan Patwardhan** – Former Chairman EC,NAAC, Former Vice- Chairman UGC, National Research Professor- AYUSH Interdisciplinary School of Health Sciences, Savitribai Phule Institute
6. **Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar**- Vice Chancellor, Amity University Rajasthan, Former Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University, Former Associate Professor and Dean of School of Biotechnology at J NU, New Delhi
7. **Prof. Madhuri Behari** – Senior Consultant of Neurology at Fortis Healthcare, Former Professor and Head of the Department of Neurology, AIIMS
8. **Prof. SC Malik** – Senior Psychiatrist at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi
9. **Prof. Senthil S Kumaran** - Professor, Department of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, AIIMS

10. **Prof. Sanghmitra Acharya**, Professor and Chairperson, Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, School of Social Sciences, JNU, New Delhi
11. **Dr. PK Gulati** – Radiologist and Director at Gulati Imaging Institute, New Delhi
12. **Prof. R Gargesh** – Visiting Professor at Samarkand State University, Uzbekistan and Former Professor of Linguistics, University of Delhi
13. **Prof. KK Mishra** – ICSSR Senior Fellow, Former Vice Chancellor of Utkal University of Culture
14. **Prof. Ramesh Kumar Mishra** – Professor and Head Center for Neural and Cognitive Sciences, University of Hyderabad
15. **Prof. R Siva Prasad** – Retired Professor of Anthropology at Hyderabad Central University
16. **Prof. Salonee Priya** – Professor and Dean at Vivekananda School of English Studies, VIPS, Delhi affiliated with IP University
17. **Prof. Suhas Shetgovekar** - Professor of Psychology, IGNOU, New Delhi
18. **Prof. Swati Patra** - Professor of Psychology, IGNOU, New Delhi
19. **Prof. Ashima Nehra** - Associate Professor, Department of Neuro-Psychology, AIIMS
20. **Prof. Monika Mishra** – Associate Professor of Psychology, IGNOU, New Delhi