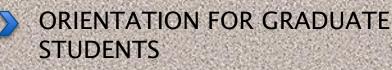
UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD SECRETARIAT



DATE: MONDAY, 21ST AUGUST, 2017

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21/08/2017

OVERVIEW

What is research?

Research may involve human or animal participants.

This comes with unique complex ethical, legal, social and political issues.



SOME ETHICAL ISSUES IN RESEARCH (1)

- Researchers may observe/cause/experience:
 - Discrimination based on religion, ethnicity, association, etc)
 - Cruelty
 - Unfair practices
 - Crime
 - Ethical dilemma
 - Personal culture/religious conflict
 - Harm/pain to research participants (physical, social, etc)



SOME ETHICAL ISSUES IN RESEARCH (2)

- Encounter secret experiences of participants, confessions, etc
- Record participants voices, pictures or videos
- Record personal confidential details (illness status, marital challenges, abortions, etc)
- Falsify data and results
- Plagiarism
- Coerce participants with diminished autonomy



BACKGROUND TO ETHICAL REVIEWS

- The Tuskegee Experiment (1932–1972): USA Public Health Service experiment on 399 black men in the late stages of syphilis
 - 28 direct deaths
 - 100 related complications
 - 40 wives infected
 - 19 children born with congenital syphilis
- Treatment of Jews at Concentration camps.
- Stanley Milgram's Study on obedience



3 BASIC ETHICAL PRINCIPLES (The Belmont Report)

PRINCIPLE 1: RESPECT FOR PERSONS

- Two separate moral requirements:
 - Acknowledgement of respondents autonomy; and

 Requirement to protect those with diminished autonomy including exclusion from study (children, patients, incapacitated, prisoners, etc).



APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLE 1 IN RESEARCH

INFORMED CONSENT

- Information: Enough information to enable participants make informed choice-The research procedure, purpose, risk, and anticipated benefit, opportunity to ask questions and to withdraw at any time from the research.
- Comprehension: Is the consent form crafted in comprehensible language? Consideration of respondents intelligence, rationality, maturity and language.
- Voluntariness: Clarity of consent form on the fact that it is voluntary
 - Autonomy to make reasoned decision/conditions free of coercion and undue influence (non-offering of excessive, unwarranted, inappropriate or improper reward or othe overture in order to obtain compliance.

PRINCIPLE 2: BENEFICENCE

 Efforts/obligation to secure respondents well being.

Researchers should not injure respondents regardless of the benefits from the research.



APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLE 2

ASSESSMENT OF RISK/BENEFITS

- Risk: The possibility of harm.
- Benefit: Promotion of health, wellbeing or welfare of respondents.
- Psychological harm, physical harm, legal harm, social harm, and economic harm and corresponding benefits.
 - Can the risks be minimized?
 - Can the research design be improved to minimise harm and maximize benefit?

What is the benefit (to participants; society)?



PRINCIPLE 3: JUSTICE

"Fairness in distribution" or "what is deserved".

An injustice occurs when some benefit to which a person is entitled is denied without good reason or when some burden is imposed unduly.

Distinctions based on experience, age, deprivation, competence, merit and position do sometimes constitute criteria justifying differential treatment for certain purposes.

APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLE 3

- Selection of subjects:
 - Appropriateness of selection pool.
 - Appropriateness of including vulnerable populations.
 - Is the recruitment fair and impartial?
 - Are the inclusion/exclusion criteria fair and appropriate?



ESSENCE OF INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Assess the ethical dimensions to be addressed in proposed study.

 Advice on the ethical dimensions observed, if necessary,

Consider the interface of the science and ethical dimensions.



INTERFACE OF SCIENCE AND ETHICS Will the proposed study lead to the achievements of objectives?

Are the objectives clear enough to ensure ensure good science?

Can the objectives be achieved with the proposed research approach?

Are there any deceptions in the proposal?



THE PROTOCOL REVIEW PROCESS

Submission to UCCIRB office (To Administrator).

Assigning of Reviewers (at least 2).

Receipt of Reviewers comments at Board Meetings

Feedback to Pis

Note: Protocols must be submitted at least a month to

WHY THE ORIENTATION?

Understanding of the Ethical Clearance processes.

Request for cooperation/supervision of research

The increased international support for ethical clearance.



CONTACTS

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THANK YOU



REFERENCES

The Belmont report

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- UCCIRB Application documents.
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