

Role and Importance of Ethical Consideration in Research

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Abstract:

If a doctor prescribes wrong medicine to a patient, the sufferer is only one person but if a researcher working in the field of education does not do his work honestly, the sufferer is the whole community. It is generally observed that research in Education is losing its credibility and prestige. Society no longer regards it as an instrument, which can bring change. The present paper discusses various important points which are related to the ethics in educational research and the need to define ethical code of conduct so that every researcher may realize that he is involved not only in research activity rather in a process of modifying the system of education, aiming to improve the life of individuals, society, community and ultimately the nation as a whole. On the basis of the result, various guidelines for researchers may be framed to carry out their work in ethically and justifiable manner.

Keywords: Ethics, Ethical Consideration, Research and Educational Research

1. Introduction

The protection of human subjects through the application of appropriate ethical principles is important in all research. Ethics plays an important role in our decision-making process as well as in research. Ethics deals with knowing what is wrong and what is right. Thus, it involves analyzing ethical decisions, beliefs, and action of line with different activities. Research ethics govern the standards of conduct for scientific researchers. It is important to adhere to ethical principles in order to protect the dignity, rights and welfare of research participants. As such, all research involving human beings should be reviewed by an ethics committee to ensure that the appropriate ethical standards are being upheld. Research ethics is closely related to the ethical principles of social responsibility. This research covers a wide context of working with people, so the researchers raised a task not only to gain confidence in the respondents' eyes, to receive reliable data, but also to ensure the transparency of the discipline. This paper tries to show the role and importance of ethical consideration in research on the basis of the views of the various research scholars.

Ethical issues are present in any kind of research. The research process creates tension between the aims of research to make generalizations for the good of others, and the rights of participants to maintain privacy. Ethics pertains to doing well and avoiding harm. Harm can be prevented or reduced through the application of appropriate ethical principles. Thus, the protection of human subjects or participants in any research study is imperative. Violations of human rights in the name of scientific research have been among the darkest events in history.

2. Review of Literature

Arifin Mohd S R, (2018) studied about the ethical considerations are important in all research area, the concern becomes more salient in qualitative research, particularly when involving vulnerable group of participants. It was the responsibility of the qualitative researcher to ensure participants to have a power of freedom of choice to involve in the study protect the participant's identity process and promote clear and honest research reporting without deception to readers.

Toom Kristel and Miller F Pamela, (2018) explained in their study that many inadequate decisions were made as a result of poor information. Their research actions can be treated as a form of research misconduct like fabrications, falsification or plagiarism. Sometimes the researchers made mistakes by poor record keeping, miscalculation, but research misconduct was considered only when researchers intend to deceive by deliberate falsification.

Abrar Mukhlash and Sidik Fzis Japar, (2019) critically discussed in their research paper about ethical considerations and methodological approach in relation to conducting research. With regard to research ethics, all general principles of ethics were considered. It was maintained that the explicit report on the ethical procedures of the research could be very useful to give the readers a complete picture of their research and to abolish unethical research assumptions.

Ethics is defined as the values and morals upheld during interaction with others during the collection of data and the dissemination of findings (Merriam, 1988). Some ethical considerations include an over-involvement of the researcher, confidentiality of data, the need to preserve the anonymity of participants and problems emerging from a misinterpretation of findings.

As in any research, the researcher should take responsibility for ensuring that guidelines and regulations are followed. Where there is an extensive analysis of participants' behavior and interaction over a period of time, the well-being, confidentiality, privacy and safety of individual participants must take precedence at all times.

In addition to this, the British Sociological Association code of ethics states that guarantees of confidentiality and anonymity given to research participants must be honored, unless there are clear and overriding reasons to do otherwise' (British Sociological Association, 1996).

3. Objectives

On the basis of the various review of literature and discussion the various important question related to the ethical consideration of the research scholar have been asked and all the factors affecting to it. Following are the objectives of the study-

- 1.To study the demographic profile of the research scholars this directly related to the ethics of research.
- 2. To analyze the various factors related to the role and importance of ethical consideration in research.

4. Hypotheses

1. There is no association between demographic variables and ethical consideration of the scholars.

2. Ethical considerations do not affect the quality of the research.

5. Research Methodology

In order to execute the objectives and testing the hypothesis, the questionnaires have been framed of thirty questions and were filled by the fifty respondents of the various disciplines like arts/humanity, commerce, education, law and science. The sample distribution from arts and commerce were covered fifty percent while rest were covered by education, law and science discipline. The techniques used to describe the objectives and hypothesis were frequency distribution, pie chart, percentage and chi square test which is appropriate for showing the association between two qualitative variables. The purposive sampling method has been used to collect the data and all the questions have been analyzed through excel pie diagram. The study area for this study was Bundelkhand University, Jhansi only.

6. Analysis and Interpretation

In this study, the collected data has been analyzed by using pie chart to understanding the conclusion of the result. The question wise analysis and interpretation may be as follows.

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Sr.	Analysis and Interpretation	Chart and Diagram
1.	For the study, role and importance of ethical consideration in research data were collected to keep in the mind the equal participation of male and female. 52% of the respondents were male while 48% were the female.	Gender <u>Fem</u> <u>48.0%</u> <u>48.0%</u> <u>52.0%</u> <u>Male</u> <u>52.0%</u>
2.	In the study, 26% respondents were from arts/humanity/social science discipline, 28% from commerce, 20% from science, 18% from education and 8% from the law. So it was the appropriate combination of all the discipline.	Discipline 28.0% 28.0
3.	Out of the total 50 respondents, 54% were from the urban area, 32% of the respondents were from rural and rest 14% of the respondents were from the semi-urban like tehsils, block etc.	Residential Area 54.0% 32.0% 32.0%
4.	In the study, 66% of the scholars have the age between 23 to 28 years while 34% of the scholars are having between 28 to 38 years. It shows the most of the passion about research in the younger's up to 28 years.	Age of Research Scholar
5.	Around 46 % of the respondents have the monthly income below 15 thousand, 28% of the respondents have between 15 thousand to 25 thousand rests 26% respondents were up to 45 thousand. It shows that 74% respondents have the monthly income up to 25 thousand.	Monthly Income of Research Scholar



11.	Around 76% of the respondents strongly agree for proper recognition after including other person's work while 24% of the only supported to proper recognition for the other person's work. It may be concluded that proper recognition should be given.	Proper Recognition after including other Person's Work
12.	All the research scholars were agreed that the data collection must be genuine. 84% were strongly agreed while 16% were agreed for it. It may be concluded that data collection should be genuine.	Data collection should be genuine.
13.	About the researchers should not adopt biased behavior while collecting data from respondents, 76% of the respondents were strongly agree, 20% agree, 2% neutral and rest were not agree. Hence conclusion is that researchers must be impartial.	Researchers should not adopt biased behavior while collecting data from respondents
14.	About the data/results revealed should be genuine, 82% of the respondents were strongly agreed while 18% were agreed. It may be concluded that data/ result revealed should be genuine.	The data/results revealed should be genuine
15.	About the importance of the research work, 78% of the respondents were agreed that it should be contribute to the society while 18% agree, 2% neutral and 2% disagree. Hence the conclusion is that it should be contribute to the society.	Research should contribute to society

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16.	About the outcome of the research should not harm the sentiments or image of any person or group, 84% of the respondents were strongly agreed while 16% of the respondents were agreed.	It should not harm the sentiments or image of any person/group
17.	About the research should be conducted as per process, 76% of the respondents were strongly agreed, 22% agreed and 2% were in neutral position. Hence conclusion is that research should be conducted as per the process.	Research should be conducted as per the process
18.	About the data manipulation should be ignored whether the results are correct or not, 58% were strongly agreed, 22% agreed, 2% neutral and around 18% of the respondents were disagreed.	Data manipulation should be ignored whether the results are correct or not
19.	About the research should be conducted considering a time frames, 70% of the respondents were strongly agreed, 24% agreed, 4% neutral and 2% were disagreed. Hence the conclusion is that research should be conducted considering the time frame.	Research should be conducted considering a time frame Strongly Disagree 24.0% 24.0% 70.0% Strongly Agree 70.0%
20.	In reference to while reviewing existing literature other's expression of facts should not be changed according to your judgments, 68% were strongly agreed, 22% agreed, 6% neutral and rest 4% of the respondents were not agreed.	While reviewing existing literature other's expression of facts should not be changed according to your own judgment Agree 22.0% 22.0% Disagree 2.1% Binagree Binagree



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7. Conclusion

In this research paper, 25 parameters were setup to fulfill the objectives and hypothesis and it could be seen in analysis and interpretation. All the parameters are directly concerned with the role and importance of ethical consideration in research. Demographical variables like gender, discipline, residential area, age, monthly income and expenditure, financial support, marital status and medium of research were considered and analyzed in reference to role and importance of ethical consideration in research. Other important observations and conclusions may be as follows.

1.Information of the research scholars must be kept confidential.

2. Proper recognition must be given after including their work.

3.Data collection should be genuine.

4. Researchers should be impartial while collecting the data.

5.Results revealed should be genuine.

6. Research should contribute to the society.

7. The outcome of research should not harm the sentiments or image of the person.

8.Research should be conducted as per the process.

9.Data manipulation should be ignored whether the result are correct or not.

10.Research should be conducted considering the time frame.

11. Other's expression of facts should not be changed according to your judgments.

12. Money consideration should not affect your research.

13.Attitude does not affect the ethics of the scholars.

14. There is no association between research aptitude, attitude and ethical consideration.

15.Ethical consideration do not associated with the demographic profile of the scholars.

16.Ethical consideration directly affects the quality of doctoral research.

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