

Study Materials for 4rth SEM (Paper-ANTACOR10T)

Unit - IV - Ethics of Research

Ethics -Some Important points

Informed Consent:

Informed Consent is an ethical and legal requirement for research involving human participants. It provides participants with sufficiently detailed information on the study so that they can make an informed, voluntary and rational decision to participate.

Informed Consent means the knowing consent of an individual or their legally authorized representative without undue advancement or any element of force, fraud, duress or any other form of constraints or coercion. It is a basic ethical tenet of scientific research on human populations. Sociologists recognize the possibility of undue influence or subtle pressures on research participants that may derive from researcher's position, expertise or authority.

It is a voluntary agreement to participate in research. It is not merely a form that is signed but is a process, in which the subject has an understanding of the research and its risks. Informed Consent is essential before enrolling a participant and ongoing once enrolled.

Confidentiality:

Confidentiality refers to a condition in which the researcher knows the identity of a research subject, but takes steps to protect that identity from being discovered by others. It means that the respondent's identity is known to the investigator but protected from public exposure.

Most human subject research requires collection of a signed consent agreement from participants, and thus researchers are aware of the identity of their subjects. In such cases, maintaining confidentiality is a key measure to ensure the protection of private information.

Anonymity :

It is a condition in which the identity of individual subjects is not known to researchers. It means that the researcher does not know the identity of the participants in the study. Because, most human subject research requires signed documentation of consent, subject anonymity is not as common in human subject research.

Examples: **Observation** in public places, where you cannot identify the person you observe.

Survey, where you do not ask the participants for their names.