

Strategies for the Empirical Study of Ethical Practices for Recruitment and Compensation

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How Do You Measure “Ethical”

- Dependent Variables
 - Informed Consent
 - Perception of Risk
 - Ethical Violations
- Independent Variables
 - Recruitment
 - Compensation

Dependent Variable: Informed Consent

- How well do participants understand the consent form/process
- How willing are participants to give consent

How Well Do Participants Understand the Informed Consent Form/Process?

- Study Procedures
- Risks/Benefits
- Compensation
- Right to withdraw
- Federal Certificate of Confidentiality

How Willing Are Participants To Give Consent?

- To each part of the study or study procedure
- Under different conditions
 - Variable compensation
 - Variable time requirements

DV: Perception of Risk

- Investigator vs. Participant Perceptions
- Public Health vs. Individual Health

DV: Ethical Violations

- Confidentiality
- Risks Outweighing Benefits
- Diagnosis Without Treatment?
- Research vs. Clinical Tests?
 - Results not shared with participants

Independent Variables: How Do We “Ethically” Vary Conditions?

- Recruitment
- Compensation

Recruitment

- Different Recruitment Strategies
- Different Recruiters

Compensation

- Money
- Material Goods
- Services
- None – Does Compensation Equal Coercion?

Conclusion

- Be Careful What You Wish For
- What Do We Do If We Find That Our Research Is “Unethical?”