



Unethical Research Practices Worksheet

Group 1

Unethical Practices	What to do instead?
A researcher is supposed to give all participants a \$15 gift card. They interview a few community members and pocket the gift cards.	
A community member doesn't want to do an interview, but you pressure them into doing it anyway.	
Youth researchers decide to only recruit their friends for interviews.	
The study team doesn't share back the results of their research with the involved community.	

Group 2

A researcher skips informing participants of the potential psychological risks of participating in the study.	
The study population does not understand the informed consent that the research team drafted.	
A participant wants to skip an interview question, but the researcher will not continue the interview until they answer it.	
Participants are not informed of what will be done with the data prior to beginning data collection.	

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Learn more about Safety 7 at <https://www.childtrends.org/project/centering-youth-experiences-youth-participatory-action>.

Group 3

A researcher records the focus group without asking for participants' permission.	
The study promises that participation in the focus group will remain private.	
A researcher encourages focus group participants to use their real names.	
A researcher shared the name of a participant that they promised would remain confidential.	
The research team included findings in the report that include identifiable information without permission.	
A researcher records an interview on their phone because you forgot your encrypted recorder.	
A youth researcher shared access to the focus group transcripts with a Child Trends staff member not on the project.	

Group 4

A research team is conducting research in a community with a large immigrant population and does not plan for an interpreter or bilingual researchers.	
A research team schedules focus groups during a time that is not convenient to most of the study population.	