

Class notes for Soc 1435-Social Changes in the United States

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Recorded for 1-10-6 class by Jaycanna Day

Clarifications:

Certification: 2 modules, research integrity and human subjects research in social and behavioral sciences

2 copies of each: 1 to turn in, 1 to keep for portfolio

Brief discussion of technical problems, website information and pointers on taking quizzes vs. tests (can look up answers while taking the quiz)

Why become certified? What did we learn?

As part of the process

Confidentiality and conflict of interest

What is the University trying to protect?

University as an entity

- findings, funding, reputation, liability (lawsuits)/conflict of interest

Subjects

From inhumane treatment

- well being: psychologically, emotionally, physically...no long term consequences
- dignity (standing in community/reputation)
- privacy/confidentiality
- rights
- preventing coercion: symbolic incentives (example of welfare recipients and monetary compensation)

What mechanisms does the IRB put in place to ensure University and subjects are protected?

Approved protocol: the parts of a research proposal...who, what, why important

Why don't we need protocol in class?

*informed consent – valid and purely voluntary (obtaining consent from subjects about risks/benefits, understanding of involvement)

Problems with informed consent: children, incarcerated, diminished mental capacity

2 (technically 3) categories of review when submitting to the IRB: (* most are in these 2 categories)

Full review- all 24 members of the board

*Expedited- reviewed by only 3 members of the board

*Exempt- not from review in general, from requirement of informed consent forms... no personal info/identifiers from participants

Why not submit to IRB/ exempt status?

Minimal risk, no personal info/identifiers linking to respondents

Archival data, secondary data analysis, no contact with subjects, public info (freedom of information act/public information)

Other than University IRB, who else to protect human subjects?

Hospital and those receiving federal money will be reviewed

What is research (Integrity)?

- generalizable results
- adds to a body of knowledge
- intended for publication
- Is it research if done by a hired gun? Private sector, red flag, conflict of interests

In this practicum:

Projects that do not require IRB review

- may not be generalizable outside of context
- will add to a body of knowledge
- most likely will not be published (we will be publishing for ourselves/ projects/presentations)

We have something of a contradiction: we are supposed to be practicing real research, but are unlikely to be able to plan and execute a project that the IRB would consider research – and we probably want to stay under the IRB radar, although we want scrupulously to observe standards of research ethics.

What won't we be able to do?

No vulnerable populations: children, incarcerated, cognitively disabled

Can not cause distress

No personal information/identifiers

No questions about potentially harmful activities (*legality and mandatory reporting*)

What can we do, use...the possibilities?

Observations, surveys (and *interviews with extreme caution*), archival data

Keep in Mind

- learning goals: good decisions concerning research
- not only understanding but recognizing the importance of research integrity and research with human subjects

***** for next time: list of 3 things that are different in your life vs. your grandparents lives**