

## **CODES OF BEHAVIOR FOR EVALUATORS**

1. Social science research reports there has been growing concern that the procedures and methods used by investigators be directed towards acceptable ends
  - a. For example, protection of rights and welfare of participants which is commonly required for all research
2. Informed consent is a procedure by which individuals choose whether or not to participate in a study
3. Codes of behavior generally:
  - a. A set of standards of practice
4. Each standard can be regarded as:
  - a. A principle mutually agreed by people engaged in a given profession
5. A principle is one
  - a. Which met enhances the fairness and quality of the practice
6. The existence of professional standards presents moral dilemmas for the evaluators working within or for an organization
7. So the investigators often performs multiple roles, which give rise to ambiguous and conflicting expectations
  - a. For example, the investigator might not agree with the goals of a given programmatic intervention or be at odds with the ways in which management has implemented the programme
8. In an analysis of ethical relationship, it was concluded that every nature on an organizational system necessitates that researchers need to approach participants and ethical issues differently from those in non applied settings

9. In such contexts, participants in evaluation cannot be approached as individuals. This is because of hierarchical and interdependent nature or roles and relationships
10. Within an organizational situation, evaluators do not have the power to resolve all ethical dilemmas.
  - a. For example, to ensure the wellbeing of participants, or to make assurances that the evaluation will be carried out as planned
11. It is suggested that evaluators need to modify their approach to ethical standards more flexibly, according to the situation at hand
12. Having reached what might be regarded as realistic position, it is up to the evaluator to communicate these expectations to stakeholders and clients
13. It is the evaluator's responsibility as ethical decision maker to create roles that are mutually clarified and compatible, and in creating them to affirm general ethical norms governing evaluation
14. The evaluator and the organization need to reach agreement on ethical principles that underlie an investigation
15. The implication is that, if such agreement cannot be reached early in the study the evaluator should withdraw
16. Codes of behavior for evaluative enquiry:
  - a. Evaluative enquiry is one branch of applied social science research
  - b. Evaluator needs to honor promises or anonymity and confidentiality
  - c. Evaluation is always conducted within the context of the needs of individuals or organizations
  - d. Speaking truth is risky and painful task but this is what the evaluator has to do

- e. Over the past decade, the development of codes of behavior or practice has become major issue for the evaluation profession
- f. Recent development of guidelines are:
  - i. The program evaluation standards
  - ii. The guiding principles for evaluators