Nachmiass RMSS 8e Chapter 4

1. Ethical considerations are NOT likely to be evoked by the:

A) setting in which the research takes place.

B) method of data collection.

**\*** C) amount of time it takes to collect data.

D) kinds of individuals serving as research participants.

2. One of the major ethical issues of the Milgram study was that:

A) subjects were asked to provide information of a sensitive and personal nature.

**\*** B) the experimental participants were subjected to extreme stress..

C) the researcher failed to provide research participants with a guarantee of confidentiality.

D) none of these answers is correct.

3. The Tuskegee syphilis study has been criticized on ethical grounds because:

A) the researchers did not make the treatment of syphilis available to the subjects.

B) the researchers failed to inform the subjects of their condition.

C) the researchers exploited largely uneducated African-American sharecroppers.

**\*** D) all of these answers are correct.

4. Falsifying data is damaging to the scientific community because:

A) fraudulent data is difficult to use.

**\*** B) it jeopardizes rules of communication, reasoning, and intersubjectivity in science.

C) the findings are incomprehensive.

D) all of these answers are correct.

5. Informed consent is essential in research in which:

**\*** A) participants are exposed to risk or must forfeit personal rights.

B) experimental research designs are used.

C) participants are subjected to stimuli.

D) personal interviews are used.

6. In social science research, what is considered to be ethical is based primarily on:

A) state and federal laws.

B) sets of moral absolutes.

**\*** C) the judgment of the researcher in conjunction with the broader scientific community.

D) court guidelines.

7. Which statement is the MOST accurate regarding how decisions relating to the ethics of research should be made?

A) Researchers should follow the advice of a lawyer.

**\*** B) Individual judgments should be made on the basis of the costs and benefits in each case.

C) Laws are clearly spelled out and researchers should follow them.

D) If there is any potential for harm to a participant, the research should not be conducted.

8. The idea of informed consent derives from:

A) the assumption that the value of knowledge outweighs possible risks to research participants.

B) Western values of obedience to authority.

**\*** C) the high value placed on freedom and self-determination.

D) the status that Americans attribute to scientific inquiry.

9. To study the effects of academic achievement on career orientation, a professor arbitrarily gives failing grades to a sample of students. This would raise the ethical concern of the:

A) selection of the research topic.

B) method of data analysis.

C) kinds of individuals studied.

**\*** D) procedures of the research design.

10. A professor explains in detail the nature of a research project and then offers extra credit to students who agree to act as research subjects. Ethically, which issue of informed consent does this situation raise?

A) competence

**\*** B) voluntarism

C) full information

D) privacy

11. Which type of information would be LEAST likely to require safeguards to protect the privacy of research participants?

A) criminal history

B) income tax records

**\*** C) age

D) sexual behaviors

12. The strategy of providing reasonably informed consent involves all of these elements EXCEPT:

A) a description of the benefits to be expected.

B) answers to questions about research procedures.

**\*** C) a careful explanation of the expected findings of the study.

D) an explanation that the participant is free to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.

13. Laud Humphreys study of homosexual encounters in public restrooms involved ethics because:

**\*** A) the privacy of those studied was not safeguarded.

B) homosexual behavior is an inappropriate topic for social science research.

C) the physical location of the research was inappropriate.

D) the research participants were men.

14. The major ethical problem with the study reported in Vidich and Bensman's Small Town in Mass Society was that:

A) several townspeople were injured in the experiment.

**\*** B) the townspeople's privacy was not adequately protected.

C) the researchers misused sensitive information.

D) informed consent was not obtained.

15. The major professional societies of social scientists have generally:

A) left ethical decisions to the discretion of individual researchers.

B) avoided ethical decisions because they are too controversial.

**\*** C) developed codes of ethics to assist their members.

D) adopted stringent codes of ethics with severe penalties for violators.

**Note:** Correct options are marked with “\*”.