

Ethics Cases

For each case, denote with **bold font** your choice for whether you believe that the actions or behaviors represent ethical or unethical events. Be sure to include the rationale in support of your position.

1. Dr. Smith, a researcher, published the results of a large study on the attitudes of medical personnel to euthanasia. He then received a request for the data from the American Medical Association who wished to verify the conclusions through a reanalysis of the data. Dr. Smith refused the request.

Ethical

Unethical

Rationale:

2. One of the assignments in a junior psychology course on research methods requires that students keep journals on their personal interactions with their friends and family. One of the students does not want to do the assignment and refuses. The faculty member believing that this is an acceptable assignment urges the student to do the journal.

Ethical

Unethical

Rationale:

3. A team of researchers obtained measures of motivation and initiative from employees selected from several departments. The Directors of some of these departments requested copies of the test scores for each of the employees. Since the research was dependent on the willingness of the departments to participate they provided the requested information.

Ethical

Unethical

Rationale:

4. A researcher employed a graduate student to perform research on individual attention span. Subjects were obtained through advertisement in a local newspaper. Individuals were paid \$25.00 to participate in this study. Those who accepted were told that they would be participating in a study that dealt with their reaction to work assignments.

Ethical

Unethical

Rationale: