

The Global Early Adolescent Study

Ethics with Adolescents

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My experience with adolescent research



- As an interviewer I did research with adolescents in college on my school project, which aimed at assessing the factors that influence the use of contraceptives among adolescents.
- This was very hard, I was not very knowledgeable on how to engage adolescents

“Ethics” in research/ programming with adolescents

- **Research ethics** are moral principles that guide researchers to conduct and report **research** without deception or intention to harm the participants of the study or members of the society as a whole, whether knowingly or unknowingly.
- Researchers need to understand the stages of adolescence, their social background and know how to engage them.
- They bring different needs that deserve to be met.
- They all deserve consent and assent, confidentiality, protection, respect, and transparency.

An example I have seen...

- Organization was interviewing adolescents about their lives at home,
- Adolescents explained their answers and expected that the organization would help them (with food, solve problems at home),
- They left and came with a different program not addressing the gaps they found during their research.

What should organizations do?

- Apart from considering all ethics in doing research with adolescents, the organizations should also be:
 - Experts in working with adolescents
 - Honest
 - Protective
 - Doing referrals
 - Involving adolescents in the process



Thank You



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