

# How and why ethical principles are changing

## Worksheet 2 - four key values

The key ethical research values of respect, care, honesty and fairness, emerged from in-depth consultations with researchers around the world by the EC-funded TRUST project. These values guide us to act ethically in our research work.

**Respect** means: to show esteem; to avoid interfering with or violating.

When researchers are thinking about respect, we need to ask ourselves:

- Am I showing respect in my research plans?
- Am I showing respect in my dress and manners when I interact with people as a researcher?
- Am I showing respect in my understanding and citation of others' work?

**Care** means: to show concern; to be thoughtful.

When researchers are thinking about care, we need to ask ourselves:

- Is there more I could do to care for participants and other stakeholders in my research?
- Is there more I could do to care for my data and my findings?
- Is there more I could do to care for myself in my research work?

**Honesty** means: to deal with the truth; not to steal, cheat or lie.

When researchers are thinking about honesty, we need to ask ourselves:

- Am I being honest with my participants and other stakeholders in my research?
- Am I treating my data and my findings honestly?
- Am I being honest with myself?

**Fairness** means: treating other beings, things, and the environment in a way that is equitable or reasonable.

When researchers are thinking about fairness, we need to ask ourselves:

- Am I being fair to everyone involved in the research?
- Am I being fair to my data?
- Is my research being fair to its wider context?

Full resource: <https://www.ncrm.ac.uk/resources/online/all/?id=20809>

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