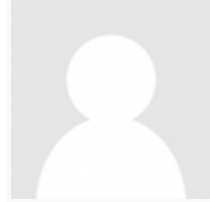


Maximum rating: -

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In reply to Nomusa Majola

### Peer Response

by [Haseeb Abdulhak](#) - Wednesday, 9 August 2023, 8:51 AM

Thank you, Majola, for the interesting post. I completely concur. Both data manipulation and selective reporting constitute unethical research practices that can compromise the scientific integrity and validity of findings (Majolac, 2023). Falsifying or misrepresenting data not only runs counter to scientific norms and principles but also threatens to quickly erode widespread public faith in the integrity and intellectual honesty underpinning research (Catano, 2007).

In the event that, the manufacturer declines to disclose both dataset's findings, you rightly pointed out that ABI contemplate the independent publication of the findings in a distinguished scientific journal. Such a course of action would enable the research to disseminate among a wider readership and mitigate the adverse consequences associated with biased reporting (Ravinetto, 2023).

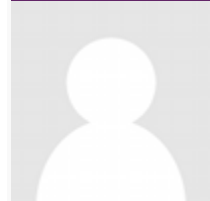
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In reply to Nomusa Majola

## Peer Response

by [Beatrice Mutegi](#) - Saturday, 12 August 2023, 5:29 AM

Hello Majola,

Your post has raised good points concerning Abi's situation. For instance, how data manipulation is unethical and how to ethically handle contradictory conclusions from accurate data analysis by sharing a comprehensive report with all analyses can discourage the manufacturer from selectively promoting favourable outcomes (Nosek & Bar-Anan, 2012).

Additionally, you are right that Abi can consider publishing the findings independently in a reputable scientific journal (Shamoo & Resnik, 2009). However, in addition to that, Abi should ensure that all sensitive data, like the participants' personal data, etc. - in his findings are anonymised, removed or censored, before publicizing his findings (User research community, 2018). He can guarantee that his research data management and privacy practices adhere to the law by having a data protection expert or legal adviser within his organization review them and also get informed consent from the participants to ensure data privacy like General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and confidentiality is achieved (User research community, 2018) (National Academy of Sciences (US), National Academy of Engineering (US) and Institute of Medicine (US), 2009).

Other factors that Abi should consider before publishing it are: Ownership of the research data, funding sponsor, if there is a Confidential Disclosure Agreement or not, etc. It is essential for Abi to address these factors in order to minimize the risks of lawsuits, breaching data privacy and confidentiality, etc. (RCR Administrators, N.D.).

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In reply to Nomusa Majola

### **Peer Response**

by [James Hines](#) - Monday, 14 August 2023, 5:08 PM

Thank you Nomusa, for such a wonderful initial post which appears to look deeply at the ethical side of Abi's situation and potential behavior, and breaks the topic down clearly.

You stated in the beginning of your final paragraph that “Engaging in unethical practices can have significant ethical, legal, social, and professional impacts”. I also strongly agree with this observation. Recent research by Soehartono et al (2022) which looked at Research Integrity and Research Ethics (RIRE) found that the United Kingdom was second globally, in the quantity of publishing volume put out yearly, just behind the United States. For those publications to hold weight and to transmit global soft power around the publishing standard, integrity and ethical behavior must be at the forefront of findings.

Within that same paper, Soehartono et al (2022) also Stated that “ethics and integrity continues to serve as a basis for good and wholesome research practices”. This statement is a cornerstone of past and future research.

Within your post, you also suggest that “selectively reporting certain analyses or results to promote a biased view is also unethical”, and this is part of the doubt that Abi appears to be challenged with due to how the research has been set-up. If Abi had followed a bibliometric consensus such as the Leiden Manifesto framework, which suggests to follow 10 guiding research principles (Kanchan & Krishan, 2019; Leckert, 2021), do you think that Abi could have avoided doubt in how and what he should present from his data findings?

It appears that Soehartono et al (2022), supports your observation and your statement that “Socially, selective reporting can mislead the public and impact consumer decisions”. A recent report by Soehartono et al (2022) came to the conclusion that “The absence of integrity and ethical principles can have potentially dire consequences which could erode public trust in research”. This rounds off our first paragraph nicely, where we suggested what the effect could have on quality of published papers

[References](#)

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