

Unit 04 Seminar Case Study

For this seminar, we were given a case study on privacy with questions to answer. Privacy is an important factor of ethical considerations while conducting research (Dawson, 2015) in this case Beth was conducting a scientific study.

There are legal requirements that are required to ensure the protection of Personal Identifiable Information (PII) is safe from any external research conducted (GOV.UK, 2018). Ricardo should not release the names and addresses requested by Beth as it would first require approval from the legal department from the government.

Assuming that Ricardo is responsible for determining the requested data, there are ethical issues to consider such as to avoid any harm that may potentially be caused, honour confidentiality of the people's data, respect privacy (Association for Computing Machinery, 2018) to name a few. Beth, the researcher requests for the data in order to request for approval for the scientific study. According to (Dawson, 2015), the approach by Beth is correct however, it is an ethical concern as the data is not accessible to the public. The people may have not wanted their information shared with the public.

Given the scenario of the case study where one-third of the sample data approved and gave the permission to use their data, one-third denied, and one-third did not respond to Beth. There are limited options available to Beth on how to approach this study to ensure that there is at least half of the individuals for a valid study. The options available to her is that she tries to follow up with the individuals who had not responded yet omitting the individuals who have already denied permission as that would be against the code of conduct.

References

Association for Computing Machinery, 2018. *ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct*. [Online]

Available at: <https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics>

[Accessed 4 September 2023].

Dawson, C., 2015. *Projects in Computing and Information Systems*. 3rd Edition ed. United Kingdom: Pearson.

GOV.UK, 2018. *The Data Protection Act*. [Online]

Available at:

[https://www.gov.uk/dataprotection#:~:text=The%20Data%20Protection%20Act%202018,Data%20Protection%20Regulation%20\(GDPR\).](https://www.gov.uk/dataprotection#:~:text=The%20Data%20Protection%20Act%202018,Data%20Protection%20Regulation%20(GDPR).)

[Accessed 5 September 2023].