

**Ethical and Societal Barriers Surrounding Neuroscience and Technology  
Research**

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## **Abstract**

The purpose of this study is to critically examine whether and to what extent there are significant ethical and societal barriers currently being faced by neuroscience and technology research. Since the passing of the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) initiative in 2013, there has been an exponential increase in the development of neuroscience and technology research. Review of literature and current policies shows, ethical issues ranging from autonomy, freedom, fairness, and safety for the public, which generate concerns for informed consent, equity among all groups and minimization of risk for all; and societal issues ranging from justice in the distribution of the existing and potential goods and services generated by neuro S/T research. Leading us to our overall concerns with access and quality of health care, fair distribution of treatment and new technologies beyond giving health care advantage to some over others. Understanding which issues exist, policies and outreach programs can be developed in order to better educate the public of neuroscience and technology research's potential benefits.

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Keywords: ethics, neuroscience, research and development, society, public administration, policy

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