

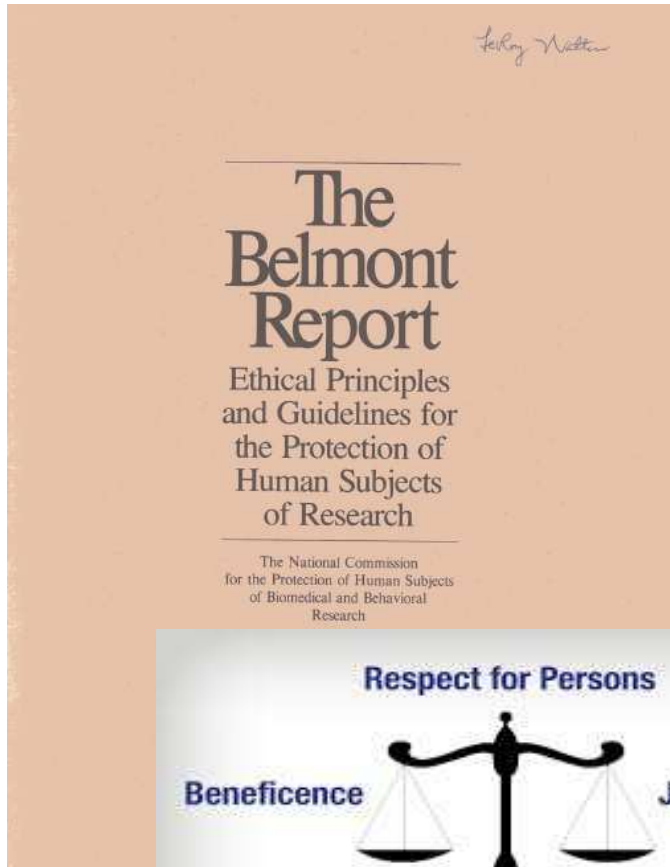


**GHENT
UNIVERSITY**

DOING RESEARCH ETHICALLY

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ETHICAL REQUIREMENTS



Nuremberg Code

1. Voluntary human consent is essential
2. Experimental results should results in good for society
3. Anticipated results should justify the experiment
4. Avoid all unnecessary physical and mental suffering
5. No experiment if there is a chance of death/disability
6. Minimize risk of subjects
7. Proper preparations and facilities to protect subjects
8. Experiments conducted only by qualified persons
9. Subjects can withdraw at anytime
10. Terminate experiment if results are known or with best judgement



THE “PROBLEM” OF ETHICS?

- Paperwork versus trust?
- Risk-averse universities
- Methods and ethics
- The ‘engaged’ researcher?



THE “PROBLEM” OF ETHICS? (2)

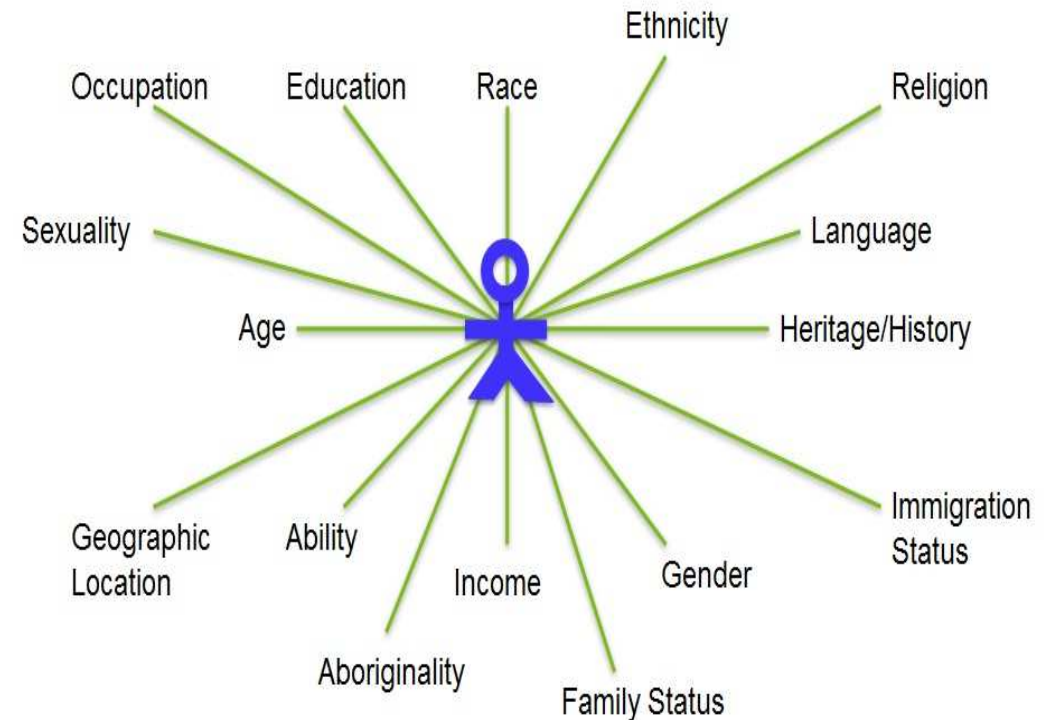
- Disjunction between procedural imperatives and the concrete implementation of ethical decision making in the field.
- Ethical dilemmas



"I'm afraid there's a big difference between Doctors Without Borders and Doctors Without Boundaries."

ETHICAL REFLECTIONS

1. Positionality of researchers - distance and/or proximity to the field
2. Insecurities and risks
3. identity of the researcher
4. conflicting demands of ethical research and doing research in and/or on authoritarianism, precarious and/or violent conflict.



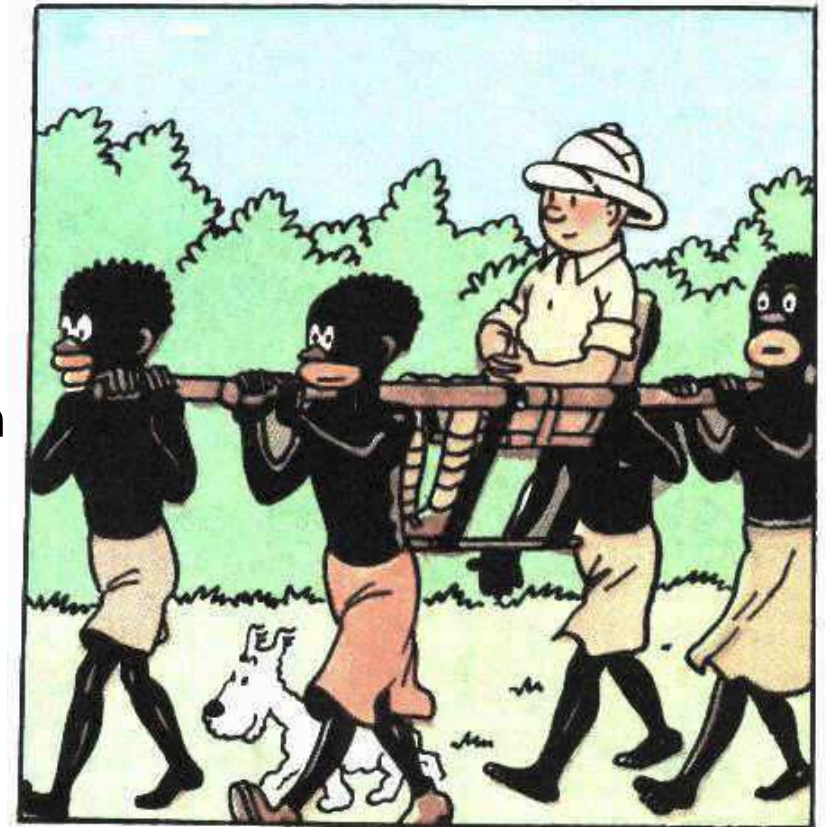
AUTHORITARIAN CONTEXTS & VIOLENCE

Obligations and ethical concerns to ensure transparency might hollow out another ethical imperative namely the protection of research respondents or participants.



TOWARDS SOME (TENTATIVE) RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Address ethical requirements & RE-negotiate.
2. Reflect on the type of research questions we address in relationship to the epistemology of our work but also in relation to the physical integrity and security of our research participants.
3. Collaborative reflection on how to best behave in the field (especially in sensitive contexts) AND after we leave 'the field' ... what exactly are we giving back?
4. Rethink our relations towards our local research assistants, translators, fixers or facilitators and empowerment.



TOWARDS SOME RECOMMENDATIONS (2)

– Empowerment



Respect & Honesty



Justice & Fairness

Care



Process

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