

A?

Aalto University
School of Arts, Design
and Architecture



WP 2 and Ethical Considerations

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Image: Gordon
Johnson / Pixabay

1. Brief status comments WP2

- Article 1 background (theoretical framework) is well defined
- Empirical portion (re: displacement) has experienced delays
 - Interviews in Iceland – mostly done, few still to be added
 - Interviews in Norway – done
 - Interviews in Finland – done by Teams / telephone
 - Interviews in Canada – by videocalls – interrupted 6 / 2021

2. Interviews / observations

- Jyväskylä apartment fire 2018 – some persons declined to participate due to the incident being so recent.
- Iceland landslide (climate change) Dec 2020 - completed
- Norway landslide 2012 (climate change) – interviews completed
- Canada wildfire 2016 (climate change) – interviews interrupted

- Expert interviews in Norway (lawyer in Norway, Red Cross psychiatrist)

3. Building blocks of qualitative research ethics

Non-maleficence

Not harming participants

Beneficence

Producing positive and identifiable benefit

Autonomy or self-determination

Respecting participants' values and decisions

Justice

Treating all people equally

(Adapted from Ethical Theory by Murphy and Dingwall, 2001, p. 339)

4. What is ethical soundness

- **scientific quality**
 - The research has not been done before
 - Uses 'sound' methodology
- **welfare of participants**
 - Weighing the risk to participants against the benefits of new knowledge
- **respect for the dignity and rights of participants**
 - Consent given based on adequate information
 - Confidentiality, inability to identify

5. Ethical considerations on interviews

- In the RESCUE project:
- Participants provide informed consent to take part
- Participants' interviews are stored on secure servers
- Participants cannot be identified
- Participants' values and decisions are respected

6. Characteristics of ethical dilemmas

Ethical dilemmas arise from the need to weigh

the research interest

(better knowledge, new solutions for existing problems, and the like)

against

the interest of participants

(confidentiality, avoidance of any harm, and the like).

7. Summer 2021 very bad in Canada

- **2021** has been one of **Canada's** busiest fire seasons in recent years. Nationally, there have been over **6,224 fires**



e.g. the City of Lytton was completely destroyed

-> lots of media coverage

Image: [Saanichnews.com](https://www.saanichnews.com)

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Questions

Ethics comments

Some participants CAN be identified by their stories

Some participants had done a lot of work to overcome the trauma, but some have not

The issue of trauma-informed consultation is not well covered (codes may not be method sensitive)

-> to avoid re-victimizing Canadian participants, we halted interviews this past June. They will re-start next month.

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Questions

Questions

Please comment on best practices in trauma informed interviews / vulnerable populations

To avoid causing harm, should we include more 'second tier' interviews such as first responders and counsellors ? (Also understanding some participants will benefit from telling their stories.)

Balanced representation: Are we attracting more people who are doing better, or have even done well from a crisis? What about the First Nations? Immigrants? Families with no insurance?

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Thank
you!

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