

**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES GRADUATE PROGRAMS
HDFS DOCTORAL DEGREE**

**ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR THE REPORTING AND PUBLISHING OF SCIENTIFIC
INFORMATION**

The following ethical standards are extracted from the “Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct,” which appeared in the December 1992 issue of the *American Psychologist* (Vol. 47, pp.1597-1611). Standards 6.21-6.26 deal with the reporting and publishing of scientific information.

6.21 Reporting of Results

- (a) Psychologists do not fabricate data or falsify results in their publications.
- (b) If psychologists discover significant errors in their published data, they take reasonable steps to correct such errors in a correction, retraction, erratum, or other appropriate publication means.

6.22 Plagiarism

Psychologists do not present substantial portions or elements of another’s work or data as their own, even if the other work or data source is cited occasionally.

6.23 Publication Credit

- (a) Psychologists take responsibility and credit, including authorship credit, only for work they have actually performed or to which they have contributed.
- (b) Principal authorship and other publication credits accurately reflect the relative scientific or professional contributions of the individuals involved, regardless of their relative status. Mere possession of an institutional position, such as Department Chair (or Laboratory Director), does not justify scientific credit. Minor contributions to the research or to the writing for publication are appropriately acknowledged, such as in footnotes or in an introductory statement.
- (c) A student is usually listed as principal author on any multiple-authored article, that is substantially based on the student’s dissertation or thesis.

6.24 Duplicate Publication of Data

Psychologists do not publish, as original data, data that have been previously published. This does not preclude republishing data when they are accompanied by proper acknowledgement.

6.25 Sharing Data

After research results are published, psychologists do not withhold the data on which their conclusions are based from other competent professionals who seek to verify the substantive claims through reanalysis and who intend to use such data only for that purpose, provided that the confidentiality of the participants can be protected and unless legal rights concerning proprietary data preclude their release.

6.26 Professional Reviewers

Psychologists who review material submitted for publication, grant, or other research proposal review respect the confidentiality of and the proprietary rights in such information of those who submitted it.

From the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (4th edition) (1994). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.