

Study 2 Intervention

Consistency Bias Condition

Research misconduct is standardly defined as fabrication or falsification of data and plagiarism. But the ethics of some other behaviors, often referred to as “Questionable Research Practices” (QRPs), are more controversial, in part because practices that are legitimate in some contexts may be misleading in others. Examples of common QRPs include “p-hacking,” failing to report all experimental conditions of a study, and adding additional participants until statistical significance is reached. When used unjustifiably, QRPs lead to poor science. Researchers who value the role of science in generating knowledge and benefiting humankind, however, are conscientious about avoiding QRPs as much as possible. They know that good science is ethical science and they understand the importance of public trust. Like the vast majority of NIH-funded researchers, you likely model research integrity to those you mentor and work with to remain consistent with your values. You realize that engaging in questionable scientific conduct would be inconsistent with your core ethical standards, and would undermine your identity as a research scientist.

Control condition

As defined in federal policy (Office of Science and Technology Policy. Federal Research Misconduct Policy. Federal Register. 2000 Dec 6;65(235):76260–76264), "Research misconduct means fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results. a) Fabrication is making up data or results and recording or reporting them. (b) Falsification is manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately represented in the research record. (c) Plagiarism is the appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit. (d) Research misconduct does not include honest error or differences of opinion."