


Appendix C: Ethics Code Excerpts

Excerpts From the Code of Ethics of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

I. PREAMBLE

Criminal Justice is a scientific discipline and those who teach, research, study, administer or practice in this discipline subscribe to the general tenets of science and scholarship. They also recognize that the discovery, creation, transmission and accumulation of knowledge in any scientific discipline involves ethical considerations at every level.

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II. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

In their professional activities, members of the Academy are committed to enhancing the general well-being of society and of the individuals and groups within it. Members of the Academy are especially careful to avoid incompetent, unethical or unscrupulous use of criminal justice knowledge. They recognize the great potential for harm that is associated with the study of criminal justice, and they do not knowingly place the well-being of themselves or other people in jeopardy in their professional work.

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Members of the Academy are honest and open in their professional dealings with others. They are committed to the free and open access to knowledge, to public discourse of findings, and to the sharing of the sources of those findings whenever possible. They do not knowingly make false, misleading or deceptive statements in their professional roles. In particular, they do not knowingly present false, misleading or deceptive accounts of their own or other people's professional work for any reason.

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III. ETHICAL STANDARDS

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B. MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY AS RESEARCHERS

Objectivity and Integrity in the Conduct of Criminal Justice Research

1. Members of the Academy should adhere to the highest possible technical standards in their research.
2. Since individual members of the Academy vary in their research modes, skills, and experience, they should acknowledge the limitations that may affect the validity of their findings.
3. In presenting their work, members of the Academy are obliged to fully report their findings. They should not misrepresent the findings of their research or omit significant data. Any and all omitted data should be noted and the reason(s) for exclusion stated clearly as part of the methodology. Details of their theories, methods, and research designs that might bear upon interpretations of research findings should be reported.
4. Members of the Academy should fully report all sources of financial support and other sponsorship of the research.

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6. Consistent with the spirit of full disclosure of method and analysis, members of the Academy, after they have completed their own analyses, should cooperate in efforts to make raw data and pertinent documentation available to other social scientists, at reasonable costs, except in cases where confidentiality, the client's rights to proprietary information and privacy, or the claims of a field worker to the privacy of personal notes necessarily would be violated. The timeliness of this cooperation is especially critical.
7. Members of the Academy should provide adequate information, documentation, and citations concerning scales and other measures used in their research.
8. Members of the Academy should not accept grants, contracts or research assignments that appear likely to violate the principles enunciated in this Code, and should disassociate themselves from research when they discover a violation and are unable to correct it.

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11. Members of the Academy have the right to disseminate research findings, except those likely to cause harm to clients, collaborators and participants, those which violate formal or implied promises of confidentiality, or those which are proprietary under a formal or informal agreement.

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E. MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY AS EXPERTS

1. In situations in which members of the Academy are requested to render a professional judgment, they should accurately and fairly represent their areas of expertise, qualifications, and authority.
2. In their roles as practitioners, researchers, teachers, and administrators, members of the Academy have an important social responsibility because their recommendations, decisions, and actions may alter the lives of others. They should be aware of the situations and pressures that might lead to the misuse of their influence and authority. Members of the Academy should take steps to ensure that these situations do not produce deleterious results for clients, research participants, colleagues, students and employees.

F. MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY AS PRACTITIONERS

1. Practitioners who are members of other professional organizations are expected to adhere to those organizations' codes of ethics. This code is not meant to supersede the codes of other professional organizations, but rather it is intended to complement those codes. However, when members who are practitioners act as academics (e.g., teaching, conducting research), they are bound by this code of ethics while acting in their capacity as academics.

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Excerpts From the Code of Ethics of the American Sociological Association

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13. Research Planning, Implementation, and Dissemination

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13.04 Reporting on Research

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- (b) Sociologists do not fabricate data or falsify results in their publications or presentations.
- (c) In presenting their work, sociologists report their findings fully and do not omit relevant data. They report results whether they support or contradict the expected outcomes.
- (d) Sociologists take particular care to state all relevant qualifications on the findings and interpretation of their research. Sociologists also disclose

underlying assumptions, theories, methods, measures and research designs that might bear upon the findings and interpretations of their work.

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- (f) If sociologists discover significant errors in their publication or presentation of data, they take reasonable steps to correct such errors in a correction, a retraction, published errata, or other public fora as appropriate.

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- (h) Sociologists take special care to report accurately the results of others' scholarship by using correct information and citations when presenting the work of others in publications, teaching, practice and service settings.

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14. Plagiarism

- (a) In publications, presentations, teaching, practice and service, sociologists explicitly identify, credit and reference the author when they take data or material verbatim from another person's written work, whether it is published, unpublished, or electronically available.

- (b) In their publications, presentations, teaching, practice and service, sociologists provide acknowledgement of and reference to the use of others' work, even if the work is not quoted verbatim or paraphrased, and they do not present others' work as their own whether it is published, unpublished or electronically available.

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