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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q6(c)

What are the ethical issues that a researcher faces in making use of participant observation as a method of collecting data? Explain

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · Sociology GS 1 · 10 marks · Sociology

Sociology - The Discipline: Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology; Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences; Sociology and common sense.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/sociology-gs-1/2023/what-are-the-ethical-issues-that-a-researcher-faces-in-making-use-of-participant-observation-as-a-method-of-collecting-data-explain/>

Informed consent

The rule that people should know they are studied and for what purpose, within safety limits.

Covert observation

Withholding research identity, which gains naturalness and loses consent.

Humphreys tearoom study

A classic breach of privacy by following men from a public sexual setting into their homes.

Street Corner Society

Whyte's long participation that raised lasting questions about secrets and publication.

Gatekeeper

A person whose permission opens a field and may silence less powerful members.

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