

The article originally appeared in the journal <http://behavioralscientist.org/behavioral-scientists-ethics-checklist> . We have posted it on Ethics CORE with the kind permission of the author and the journal.

The article begins by narrating an honest endeavour of a corporate organization to get more information about its employees that ultimately results in developing a lack of trust and drainage of both time and money. The author suggests that this could be curbed largely with the help of an ethics checklist. This checklist highlights six key principles and questions that every organization – corporate houses or research institutes - should consider before jumping into any research activity. The questions posed in the checklist address aligning interests of the researchers and participants in the research, transparency in the research process, evaluation of the effectiveness of the research, privacy and anonymity of the participants, freedom to take part or leave the research setting and finally explicitly naming the potential benefits of undertaking the research.