Ethical Research Quick Reference

Protect People

- ☐ Protect living people’s private information and confirm permission for its intended use or disclosure.
- ☐ Honor confidentiality, refusals, and contact boundaries. Silence does not authorize repeated contact.
- ☐ Consider how DNA findings and sensitive discoveries could affect other people.

Research Honestly

- ☐ Distinguish documented findings, recollections, interpretations, and unproven theories.
- ☐ Record sources so others can trace the information and understand your conclusions.
- ☐ Give conflicting evidence fair consideration and correct errors you have shared.

Respect Contributions

- ☐ Credit contributors appropriately and respect their preferences for recognition.
- ☐ Check copyright and permission before reproducing material. Credit alone is not permission.
- ☐ Identify restored, colorized, cropped, or AI-modified images so they are not mistaken for originals.

Share Responsibly

- ☐ Review the audience, purpose, and sensitive details before sharing.
- ☐ Present difficult truths accurately, without speculation or sensationalism.
- ☐ Pass along confidentiality conditions and sharing restrictions when transferring research.

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