Research Ethics

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People Know You By Your Reputation

It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it. If you think about that, you'll do things differently.

Warren Buffett

Who Are You?

Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are.

John Wooden

Know Yourself

• What motivates you?
  – Money (personal or research support)
  – Prestige
  – Respect from others
  – Job success/fear of failure
  – Ego
  – Competition
  – Revenge

• What could be used to corrupt you?
  – ID and then beware

Money makes people stupid!

• Whenever an issue surrounding money comes up, alarm bells should be going off in your brain. Behave as though you have a news reporter looking over your shoulder.

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• The Hypothesis:
  – Credit for the idea – original source
  – Short cuts – reading the original article versus a summary or someone else’s conclusions/citations
  – Journal paper review
  – Confidentiality
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• The Work Itself:
  – Intentional deceit – expected results? Time/cost?
    Lazy? Jealous? Vindictive?
  – Letting the desired results drive the design and analysis of the data
  – Unintentional deceit – pruning data; excluding data points; accepting uncertainty
  – Using funds as intended

If you don’t have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?

John Wooden

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• Publication:
  – Authorship
  – Acknowledgements
  – Funding agencies
  – Timing