

Unit 5: Community Research Partner Rights

Topic 5.1: Keeping Community Research Partners Safe



So far, we have talked about all the ways you need to take care of research participants. As a community research partner, you also have rights. We'll talk about these in this unit.



Sometimes you study research topics that are important to you because of your own life experiences. Sometimes you may not want to do research on topics related to your lives or the people you know.



It's important to check in with yourself. It's ok if you can't work on research some days or have to ask someone to do part of the research job that is causing stress or hard feelings.

There might be times that you feel uncomfortable or unsafe when you are collecting data. This is not very common, but it is helpful to plan ahead. For example,

- You might go to an interview, but then feel like the interview location is unsafe.
- Someone in the community might not respect your job as a researcher and not talk to you respectfully.
- Someone could feel unsafe if a participant gets upset and starts yelling.



These things do not happen a lot, but if they do, you don't have to do anything that makes you feel unsafe, uncomfortable, or not respected.

During research you may hear stories that are upsetting or make you worried. It's important to work with your team to have a plan for when this happens.

Finally, if someone asks you to help them in a way that you don't feel comfortable with, like asking for money or help getting somewhere that is not related to the research, it is ok to say no. Talk to your project leader if you have questions or need help.