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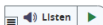
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Navigating the ethical maze in disability research: ethical contestations in an African context

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In this article

Points of interest

Introduction

Research, disability
and research ethicsMethodological
contextTheoretical
contextualization
of the ethical
issues

Abstract

Despite changes in how disability is viewed, ethical requirements for disability research have hardly changed. Some ethical clearance procedures, processes and practices still consider persons with disabilities as not able, creating unease among researchers and research participants with disabilities themselves. This paper considers five ethical contestations arising from research in the area of disability in an African context: positionality, vulnerability, signed consent, anonymity, and research committee composition. We argue that ethical requirements in practice are still largely based on a medical model of disability and propose that culturally sensitive social and human rights models should influence disability research ethics.

Keywords: research ethics, disability, social model, human rights model

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