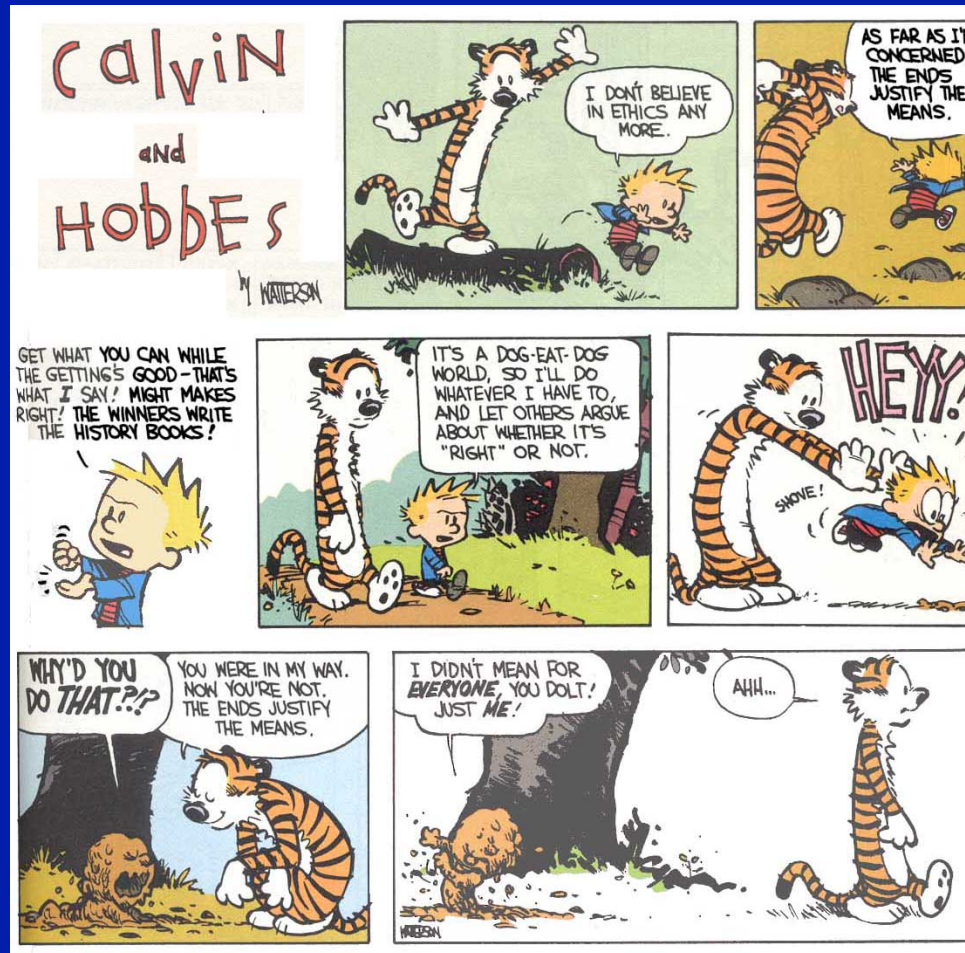


Ethical Requirements in Human Participant Research



Ethics Policy

- Canadian post-secondary institutions follow the Tri-Council Policy Statement (TCPS2)
- It covers the ethical conduct of all faculty, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, undergraduate students and staff who conduct research with humans
- Each institution's ethics board makes decisions independently; you need to know the procedures for your institution
- If the results are intended to be published or disseminated in any form, ethics approval is required.

Key Issues

- Dual-role research: you are both the teacher and the researcher
- Power differentials should not influence student decisions about the research
- You should not take an active role until after grades are posted; use a mediator
- In-class surveys, interviews, and focus groups are done by the mediator
- Informed consent and confidentiality
- Data security

Practical Considerations

- Get to know the Chair of your ethics board
- Invite the Chair to meet with researchers to review the procedures
- Find out the committee meeting schedule (especially in summer)
- Plan on several weeks to complete the approval process