



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Group Harms and Harms to Groups

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Group Harms (and Benefits)

Harms	Process-related	Outcome-related
Harms to structured groups	Disrupting	Undermining
Group-mediated individual harms	Stigmatizing	Stereotyping
Other third-party harms	Contagion	Exploitation



Why IRBs are not well-suited to address these problems

- IRBs not suited to weigh benefits and harms of research outcomes.
- Non-human subjects research poses similar risks.
- Protecting groups may compete with protecting research subjects.
- Different criteria should govern the protection of research subjects than should govern the protection of third parties.



What should be done?

- Inform individual research subjects of group risks
- Inform structured groups of research risks and benefits
- Aim for collaboration with legitimate leadership of structured groups.
- Seek knowledge of what might be stigmatizing or stereotyping and how to limit these risks.