

BECOMING A SELF-REFLECTIVE RESEARCHER: SUCCESSFULLY ENGAGING MINORITY COMMUNITIES: A Building Trust Curriculum

Although medical research has been instrumental in improving the health of Americans, the underrepresentation of minorities in research has limited their ability to benefit equally from scientific advances. The *Building Trust Between Minorities and Researchers (BT)* project was a Bioethics Research Infrastructure Initiative funded by the National Institutes of Health to foster greater communication between researchers and minority communities. ***Becoming A Self-Reflective Researcher: Successfully Engaging Minority Communities*** is one of three BT curriculums and it is designed for use by researchers, staff, and health professionals to strengthen capacity to respectfully recruit and retain minority participants. Through seven interactive modules, participants respond to trigger films, discuss complex ethical issues, and practice skills for enhancing recruitment, retention, informed consent, and the development of community partnerships. Unique features of this program include: (1) a formative exploration of how past research abuses contribute to a legacy of mistrust today; (2) tools useful for opening the dialogue about sensitive topics such as race, racism and discrimination; (3) information on how and why to build community relationships; and (4) an extensive look at how to reform the informed consent process.

Module 1: Research, Race, and Social Justice
Outcome: Examine how social and historical context impact researchers' engagement with minority communities.

Module 2: Case Studies in Ethically Complex Research
Outcome: Analyze ethical considerations in conducting research with minority populations within the contemporary contexts of racial and ethnic diversity and social justice.

Module 3: Critical Conversations
Outcome: Recognize how researchers can effectively communicate with minority communities to stimulate openness to research.

Module 4: Meaningful Partnerships
Outcome: Examine the importance, benefits, and challenges of community partnerships in the respectful engagement of minority communities in research.

Module 5: Respectful Recruitment
Outcome: Identify effective and respectful recruitment strategies for use with racial and ethnic minority communities.

Module 6: The Informed Consent Conversation
Outcome: Enhance the effectiveness of the informed consent process with racial and ethnic minority participants.

Module 7: Conscientious Retention
Outcome: Explore the unique factors that contribute to enhanced retention of individuals from racial and ethnic communities in research.

