

**Oral History:**

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**Ethics and Legalities**

## Have your say

What did students say last year?

- Last year 90% of students at Sheridan reported they felt a sense of belonging to our community.
- 60% of Sheridan students felt they had adequate interaction with other students outside classes.

What are we doing with your feedback?

- Sheridan is working to help students have more time to interact with each other outside classes. We have new activities and workshops planned.

Check your inbox for the SES – open 6 September to 9 October.

Help shape Sheridan for future students.

Prize draw winners will be announced— have



**SHERIDAN**  
INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION



Student Experience Survey

# Definitions: Legal Issues

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“Legal issues have a set of rules on which they are based and are punishable by law if those rules are not adhered by.”

*(Difference Between Legal and Ethical Issues (28 May 2014). Difference Between.*  
<https://www.differencebetween.com/difference-between-legal-and-vs-ethical-issues/>)

# Definitions: Defamation

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- According to Patti Miller in her book *Writing True Stories*, you're only in trouble if what you're saying or writing could be considered defamatory: i.e. if what you're writing is untrue and it damages the subject's reputation (2017, pp. 236–237).

# Definitions: Defamation

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- “Published defamation—called **libel**—for example a newspaper article or television broadcast. Pictures as well as words can be libellous.”
- “Oral defamation—called **slander**—for example comments or stories told at a meeting or party.”

(from University of Wollongong. (n.d.). *Defamation law and free speech*, <https://documents.uow.edu.au/~bmartin/dissent/documents/defamation.html>, accessed 11 August 2022.)

# Definitions: Ethical Issues

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Ethical considerations centre around protecting the rights and safety of the interviewee (the person being interviewed).

They are moral considerations rather than whether it is punishable by law.

See Oral History Australia. (2007). *Guidelines for Ethical Practice*.  
<https://oralhistoryaustralia.org.au/guide-ethical-practice/>

# Tutorial Questions

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1. How would we maintain ethics in the interview if in the middle of the interview a crime would be revealed?
2. Assuming that each society has its prevailing ethics, how to be ethical in an interview where the ethics of the society that the interviewer lives in is different from the ethics of the society where the interviewee lives? What would be the best guide to use?

# Coming Up: Week 4

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- Visit to City of Vincent Library. Meet out the front at 9.00 am
- Discussion about technology and recording

## **Homework:**

- Readings
- Journal Entry #3
- Post tutorial questions the night before class

# Coming Up:

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- Readings

- Ritchie, pp. 45–51, ~~104–110~~, 103–106
- Ritchie, ~~pp. 137–161 (Ch. 5)~~, pp. 137–142 (with the rest of the chapter being optional if video is a realistic option for you).
- Robertson, pp. ~~29–62 (Ch. 4)~~ pp. 29–50 (rest of the chapter optional)