

# Ethical dilemmas can international psychologists

[Sociology](#), [Ethics](#)



The list below though not exhaustive but have been potential dilemmas that international psychologists face during the execution of their services in a culturally diverse population: Linguistic competencies- A case in point of such a situation is where immigrants travel in host community and want to use the health opportunities of that community. The medium of exchange for the host community is mainly English and say the immigrant is from a Chinese background.

The children of most immigrants tend to adjust quickly in terms of linguistic abilities and therefore are most often interpreters for their parents. A parent of such cultural background seeking mental health services will rely on the children to interpret for them. The dilemma here is the international psychologist is bound by law not to expose a patient's sensitive document to a third party and also how can the international psychologist ascertain that the patient clearly understood the informed consent interpreted by the child.

The steps taken in such a scenario is the need for bilingual staff to facilitate the care of culturally diverse patients (Congress, 2004). Practitioners legal obligation versus workplace policies- Davidson, (2010, p. 70) reported that workers within the social services will be unfazed by the dilemma between acting in the ethical best interest of direct service recipients and acting according to the law.

For instance, an international psychologist working with an organization in a culture where children or minors work to fend living for their parents will be faced with a dilemma as to whether he is legally obligated to report this

illegal activities of the organization or has an obligation to the organization to report. Using individual participants to represent the whole population- In his voice thread, Dry. Larsen (2014) noted that most hypothesis used in testing cross cultural research uses individual participants as a unit of analysis to aggregate an overall score for each culture.

We are cautioned by the video on cross cultural competence that when working with culturally diverse population, we should delve into the demographics and composition of the group so that at the end all benefits and risk should be proportionately distributed. The ethical issue that arises when we stereotype or generalize the attribute of one culture to encompass the whole is that relationships among the measured rabbles in one culture will not necessarily translate to the same relationship in another culture.