

## N323 – Clinical Journal Three

Mary Jensen

Discuss a legal or ethical issue that is going on in the arena of Mental Health nursing.

1) Identify a nursing journal article related to the issue, reference the article in APA format

2) State your thoughts, feelings, and concerns about the issue

In the field of mental health nursing, there are many legal and ethical aspects related to research taking place. As discussed by Pattanayak, Jain, Kuppili, & Sagar(2017), because of the relationship the researchers have with the participants, they are at risk for being exploited due to their condition and how it affects their behavior, cognitive function, and emotions. I feel that this is a genuine concern, and there must be a check and balance system in place to help ensure this does not take place. The recommendation made by Pattanayak, Jain, Kuppili, & Sagar (2017), is that it is essential to have a researcher who is well trained and informed about the rights of those with mental illnesses. I think this is a great way to help prevent the individuals from being taken advantage of; my question is, how do they ensure the selected person has the right intentions for the people with mental illness. Another question raised is the issue of informed consent and the capacity of the individual's decision-making abilities (Pattanayak, Jain, Kuppili, & Sagar, 2017). This is important because to give consent truly means you fully understand the procedure, risks, and can withdraw, as discussed previously their cognitive function and decision making can be altered due to the mental illness, so how do we determine they actually give their consent.

Pattanayak, R., Jain, S., Kuppili, P., & Sagar, R. (2017). Ethics in psychiatric research: Issues and recommendations. *Indian Journal of Psychological Medicine*, 39(5), 558–565. doi: 10.4103/ijpsym.ijpsym\_131\_17