

**Butler University Department of Sociology
Ethical Agreement Form**

As an intern, you are expected to follow certain ethical guidelines for your benefit and protection, as well as for those of clients, internship supervisors and agencies, and the internship coordinator and university. Whenever you have questions about ethical conduct, you should discuss them with your agency supervisor or internship coordinator. The following are the minimum ethical standards that you, as an intern, must agree to follow:

CONFIDENTIALITY

Interns must not reveal the identity of clients or any information that would uncover the identity without written permission from the clients. There are two exceptions to this principle. The first is if the clients may be dangerous to themselves or others, and the second is in cases of the abuse and neglect of children and the elderly. In these situations, interns are required to inform their supervisors, who will contact the proper agencies and authorities. In some instances, courts can order the release of case notes and records. Interns should also become familiar with state laws. Confidentiality must also be maintained in the classroom when sharing information from cases.

COMPETENCY

Interns must acknowledge the limitations of their abilities to assist clients. It is imperative that they accept that some situations are beyond their experience and obtain assistance from their agency supervisors and employees.

CORRUPTION

Interns must not be involved in any illegal operations or violations of laws. They should not take part in any attempt to undermine the criminal justice system or abuse the power given by the state, associated with their internships. Interns have a duty to report any mismanagement of justice noticed while they are interning. They are obligated to treat all clients with justice and equity.

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Interns will not develop a clinical relationship with anyone with whom they have an existing relationship of any type. It is unethical for interns to see classmates, co-workers, friends, or family members as clients. It is also unethical for them to become sexually or romantically involved with agency clients. Interns will not be involved in sexual harassment. I hereby agree to follow the guidelines stated above. I will also become familiar with the ethical guidelines for the professional discipline associated with the internship placement agency.

Signature of Intern _____ **Date** _____