

Discussion – Peer response 1:

Hi Maria

Your post effectively outlines the ethical obligations of individuals when presenting statistical data supported by multiple references. Concealing relevant findings is deemed unethical, and your mention of Berenson et al. (2019) further underscores the importance of transparency and integrity in data reporting. Your critique of Abi's behaviour rightfully focuses on the selective consideration of favourable correlations and disregarding harmful ones. While your post cites Berenson et al. (2019) as a strong point, it could be further strengthened with more specific details about Abi's actions and the context, as Veetikazhi et al. (2020) note.

Your reference to the ACM (2018) Code of Ethics is a powerful reminder of the principles we should uphold in our work, particularly those related to human well-being, avoiding harm, and honesty. This framework bolsters the argument that Abi must report findings honestly and comprehensively. The mention of the Andrew Wakefield Case, a stark example of the consequences of unethical reporting (Masic, 2020), serves as a solid cautionary tale.

Your post rightly emphasises the importance of ethical guidelines and best practices in statistical analysis, particularly regarding the potential misrepresentation of statistical details, as Tractenberg (2020) points out. It suggests the necessity of reporting such unethical behaviour to appropriate regulators (Wiśniewska, 2022), underlining the urgency of maintaining the integrity of our field.

While I agree with your findings, integrating Abi's actions within the context of the case study and the questions presented would further enhance your analysis.

References:

ACM (2018). *ACM Ethics*. [online] ACM Ethics. Available from: <https://ethics.acm.org/> [Accessed June 20, 2024].

Berenson, M., Levine, D., Szabat, K. & Stephan, D. (2019) *Basic Business Statistics, Global Edition*. 14th ed. Harlow: Pearson International Content.

Masic, I. (2020) Unethical Behaviors of Authors Who Published Papers in the Biomedical Journals Became a Global Problem. *Medical Archives*, 74(1), p.4. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.5455/medarh.2020.74.4-7>.

Tractenberg, R.E. (2020) Concordance of professional ethical practice standards for the domain of Data Science: A white paper. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/p7rj2>.

Veetikazhi, R., Kamalanabhan, T.J., Malhotra, P., Arora, R. & Mueller, A. (2020) Unethical employee behaviour: a review and typology. *The International Journal of Human Resource Management*, 33(10), pp.1–43. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1080/09585192.2020.1810738>.

Wiśniewska, M. (2022) Just culture and the reporting of food safety incidents. *British Food Journal*. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1108/bfj-12-2021-1316>.