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Fieldwork Or Controlled Lab Experiments?

There could be many reasons why researchers choose fieldwork over controlled lab experiments. One of these reasons is that fieldwork allows researchers to study individuals in their natural state. Real-life studies can provide results that are more accurate than experiments. Since participants are behaving normally, it grants researchers the opportunity to experiment with a group in a typical setting. However, with fieldwork, it becomes hard to control outside variables. Unknown or outside variables can throw off the results of a study. Thus, it's important to carefully identify the type of study that you're trying to conduct. Another reason why researchers might choose fieldwork over controlled lab experiments is because the study is hard to replicate in a lab. Certain studies such as social and environmental could be better off conducted in a natural setting. I say this because outside variables affect the outcome of a study. If a study is relying on a response from the outside, choosing fieldwork would be the better route. Studies, such as Human Behavior could raise ethical concerns if conducted in a lab. It could create physical stress for participants, especially in cases where subjects feel misled. With this, researchers need to obtain informed consent from the subject to reduce physical harms and physiological stress. Lastly with fieldwork, researchers have the ability to conduct longitudinal studies. Researchers will have the ability to conduct studies that could start from a couple of weeks to a year. Most longitudinal studies are conducted as fieldwork or observational studies. It

allows one to observe the changes over a period of time. Fieldwork provides opportunities to thoroughly track data, while being able to recognize certain patterns. Ultimately, there are no wrong or right answers for whether fieldwork should be favored over controlled experiments. The digression should be decided upon the researcher based on the type of research they are conducting,