Decision Making Guide for Oral History or Case Study Activities

Is It Human Subjects Research? Does it Need IRB Review?
Decision Making Guide for Oral History or Case Study Activities
Is it Human Subjects Research?

Does it need IRB review?

Activity (case study) (oral history)

Systematic investigation?

Designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge?

Yes

NO

STOP

IRB Review

Application of 45 CFR 46.102
Considerations:

- Hypothesis testing
- Set of questions
- Multiple subjects
  - Same set of questions for each
  - Cross comparison of cases or stories
- Comparison over time
  - One case or many

Systematic investigation?

Considerations:

- Single story or case
- No set hypothesis
- Phenomenologic activity *(where ever the conversation goes)*

*Probably...*  
*Maybe not...*
Considerations:

• Draw general conclusions about multiple cases/stories

• Apply knowledge broadly to a group

**Probably…**

Considerations:

• Describing one story/case

• Anecdotal information

**Maybe not…**