Neuroethics and cultural diversity

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There is a growing discussion about the statute of neuroethics as a scientific discipline. There are at least two main reasons why this debate is still open: (1) the discipline is quite young, so there is still the need for clarifying both its methodology and content; (2) since neuroethics is conceived as an interface between academic research and different societal stakeholders, a number of different factors impact the identity of neuroethics (including its methodology and content). Cultural diversity is among the most impactful factors shaping neuroethics, both as a scientific discipline and as a social enterprise. The cultural impact on science and on the public perception of science is particularly relevant to neuroethics, which aims to facilitate the creation of an interface between neuroscience and society at large.

I will provide a theoretical justification of the need for neuroethics to account for cultural diversity, proposing some relevant models for achieving this goal.