

Week #1 Negative Academic Experiences: Preparing the Data for coding

Now that we have the data, we still have to clean it up a bit before we can begin our analyses. Part of this is renaming the columns in the dataframe to be more user friendly. Currently, the columns have unhelpful names like “Q23” which will be a pain to deal with later on when we want to build more complex models.

Luckily, R has a function to do this task, called `colnames`.

Template of the code:

```
colnames (name of dataframe)[colnames(name of dataframe) == “Old variable name”<- “New variable name”
```

A real example:

```
colnames(data)[colnames(data) == "Q77"] <- "consent"
```

Your task:

Please rename the column names working backwards, so starting from SC1 and going forward. Please stop at SE_3.

I will post the Rscript (place where all the code lives) and then you can download it from the internet and open it in R. The data will live in Box and I will add you too the Box.

When naming the new variables keep in mind a few things.

1. Keep the variable names relatively short. Coding is hard, we don't want to make it harder by having to do extra typing
2. There are many ways to name variables, but I use underscores and try to keep everything in lower case
 - a. For example for Q133 where it asks what degree students are working toward I would probably just name it degree
 - b. Make sure to keep mental notes on what variables names you have already used so you don't use the same one twice