

Transparency: An Introduction

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What do we mean by “transparency” in research?

Part of the research process includes: sharing data, sharing designs, sharing analysis plans, sharing deviations from plans.

Share with whom?

- ▶ The public
- ▶ Other researchers
- ▶ Policy makers and other decision makers
- ▶ Political actors
- ▶ **Your future self** (Bowers and Voors 2016)

Why transparency?

- ▶ Makes it easier for people to interpret your results.
 - ▶ Makes it easier to for you to justify your choices about: design, analysis, interpretation.
- ▶ Makes the investigator accountable to a community (or communities).
- ▶ Make **future you** happier with **present you** (Bowers and Voors 2016)

How transparency?

- ▶ Share designs and analysis plans on the [EGAP Registry](#) or other registry.
- ▶ Follow best practices for using code to change the world:
 - ▶ Bowers and Voors (2016) and [10 Things To Know about Project Workflow](#)¹.
 - ▶ for example share your code on Github (see [the repository for the Rabb, Bowers, et al. \(2022\)](#) or the [repository for the Rabb, Swindal, et al. \(2022\)](#)).
 - ▶ See the [OES Project Process](#) for how a **team** does transparency.

¹see also [some of the opinionated guide about using LaTeX](#)

References

- Bowers, Jake, and Maarten Voors. 2016. "Six Steps to a Better Relationship with Your Future Self, v 2.0." *Revista de Ciencia Política* 36 (3): 829–48.
- Rabb, Nathaniel, Jake Bowers, David Glick, Kevin H. Wilson, and David Yokum. 2022. "The Influence of Social Norms Varies with 'Others' Groups: Evidence from COVID-19 Vaccination Intentions." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 119 (29).
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- Rabb, Nathaniel, Megan Swindal, David Glick, Jake Bowers, Anna Tomasulo, Zayid Oyelami, Kevin Wilson, and David Yokum. 2022. "The Limits of Nudges: Results of a Statewide Vaccination RCT." *Nature*, April.
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