

# MONICA ALEXANDER - OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO SHARING CODE

We all know sharing code is important for reproducibility, so why aren't we doing it?

> "What if my code isn't good enough to share?"

- Coding gap within & between disciplines (physical vs social sci, quant vs qual researchers)
- Social Sci replication not possible but reproducibility is
- largely an issue of confidence + exposure
- Start w/ informal code reviews with someone you trust (pair-programming lite)
- aim for incremental improvements eg functionalise something, document data cleaning } Tidy Tuesday scary but rapid turnaround

## Helping others

- Starting is hard, if it works it works, errors are daunting, debugging is a skill, Indirect. for help
- Notebooks for teaching: emphasise that its all one big project & encourages commenting + explanation.
- Crit'isms for solo-projects to make collaborating less of a hurdle.
- Lots of live coding to normalise errors
- Be pedantic about "small" things eg file paths, hard coding numbers.

## Collaborating

- ▷ Most efficient division of labour does not develop skills or encourage open Sci.

## final thoughts

- It's okay to be nervous about sharing code.
- You'll never be the best coder.
- "Good Code" is not well defined. Aim for code that works.
- Data + Code are part of manuscripts.