



# Open data blog for Computational Social Scientists

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**Open Seeds**  
Mentoring & Training Program

# How it started

## Not much discussion on Open data

- Less resources to look into
  - People did not know where to look or who to ask
- Lack of exposure to resources
  - Researchers did not know where to look to gather all information they would like to have

## The idea was .....

“I am working with collaborators from my university in developing an open platform for the humanities and social science (HSS) and computational social science (CSS) researchers at the university at various stages of their academic career, where the community can interact with each other through questions and answers on discussions pertaining to open data usage, which would actively shape their future work in ethical and responsible data usage while also promote interdisciplinary and open research across various fields.”

*(Link to the Github repo: <https://github.com/booktrackerGirl/Open-platform-for-social-science-researchers>)*

## But there were some problems. Why?

# Problems faced and what OLS taught me

## Problems:

- Broad vision
- Ambitious milestones
- Gathering people across disciplines
- Lacking connections and communication skills
- Single-handedly had to design everything from scratch

**Changed direction multiple times, but came up with the ultimate solution...**

## What I learnt from OLS:

- Different skill sets (Github, community designing, open leadership, etc.) by attending cohort calls and learning from my peers
- In spite of regular setbacks, continue on your path

# The solution: Open Data blog

Github repo: <https://github.com/booktrackerGirl/The-Curious-Researcher/>

The Curious Researcher



ABOUT ME

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RESOURCES

AUTHOR'S HOME

## The Curious Researcher

This is a blog where I will share about different topics I come across during my research journey.

### Is research ethics important for collecting social data?

Doing the right thing doesn't automatically bring success. But compromising ethics almost always leads to failure.

Posted on June 12, 2023

This is a post.

Tags: research ethics social data online platforms



- Manageable and sustainable
- Space to share and talk about any topic of interest
- Providing valuable resources
- Invite guests/volunteers to contribute to the channel
- Providing a channel to people to share their thoughts and learn about different topics
- Providing open access licensing to all the works



# Future steps

Building up the brand

Engaging researchers from the community

Inviting collaborators to contribute

## Starting the blog site

Organizing the pages of the blog and compartmentalizing the posts and resources for easy access to anyone visiting the blog site.

June  
2023

Sept  
2023

Posting, posting and POSTING!

To ensure that the posts reach the target audience (researchers), promote and post valuable content at regular intervals.

## Gathering researchers from the community

Discussing the idea of open research to researchers across discipline. Using the blog to provide examples and spark interest to engage and contribute.

Dec  
2023

Mar  
2024

Inviting guests and volunteers to share

Promoting the idea of open research is not limited to myself. Providing guests/volunteers a platform to contribute in our shared interest in open research through the blog.



# Lessons learnt

**Starting a project from scratch and managing it single-handedly by oneself is tough!**

**Expecting the unexpected.**



# Thank you!

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OLS organizers and co-participants

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