

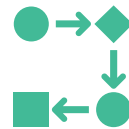
Creating a Research Proposal

Stacey Coleman

What is a Research Proposal?



First stage in
planning a project



A product - the
result of a process
of planning and
designing



A standalone
document

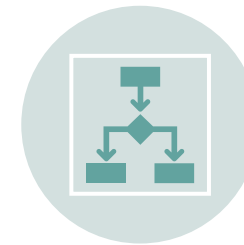


The first time you
will present
information
relating to your
own research!

Research Proposal: Purpose



What is the research about?
What is the topic / area?



What will the research find
out / achieve?



How will you go about
forming conclusions?



What can we learn from the
research ... and why is it
worth learning?

Research Proposal

Proposal gets judged **Generally** and **Technically**

General

Is the proposed research feasible (doable)?

Does it make sense?

Is it worth doing?

Can the proposer effectively carry out the research?

If done, will it produce a successful dissertation?

Research Proposal

Proposal gets judged **Generally** and **Technically**

Technical

Is the proposed design / method appropriate?

Have appropriate measures/tasks/etc been identified?

Are there quality concerns related to data collection?

Is the proposed analysis appropriate?



Completing the Proposal

Psychology Research Area (tick all that apply)

Social Psychology	Developmental Psychology	Biological Psychology	Forensic Psychology
Health Psychology	Individual Differences	Educational Psychology	Political Psychology
Cognitive Psychology	Clinical Psychology	Counselling Psychology	Occupational Psychology
<i>Other: indicate briefly (not included in word count)</i>			

Proposed Study Design (tick all that apply)

Quantitative	Experimental	Applied (with UWTSD students)	Online Questionnaire Survey
Qualitative	Quasi Experimental	Focus Groups	Online
Mixed Methods	Applied (with external organisation)	Interviews	Lab-based study
<i>If Applied, and involving an external organisation, please indicate your plans for gaining appropriate approvals from the organisation: (not included in the word count)</i>		<i>Other study design: indicate briefly (not included in word count)</i>	

Suggested Research Title / Area (15 words max)

Be as specific as you can with this.

Clearly outline the design, population and main phenomena (where possible).

This should be more specific than just a broad topic area.

Background (250 words max)

Why is your study important?

What theory and/or empirical research (previous research studies) support your research questions?

The aim here is to provide a **rationale** for the study by producing a brief review of relevant **psychological** literature / theory

Minimum of five references

Research Questions / Hypotheses (100 words max)

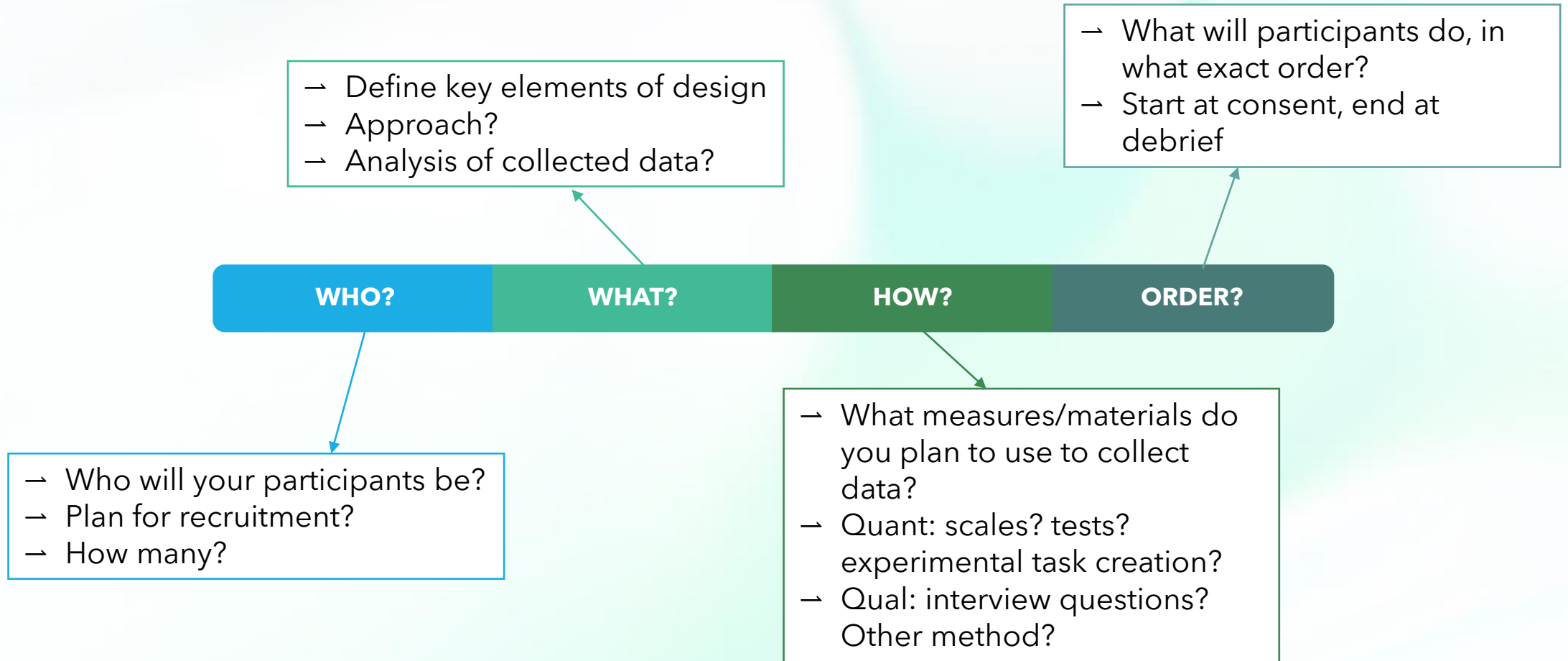
What are you trying to find out?

Research questions **only** for qualitative proposals

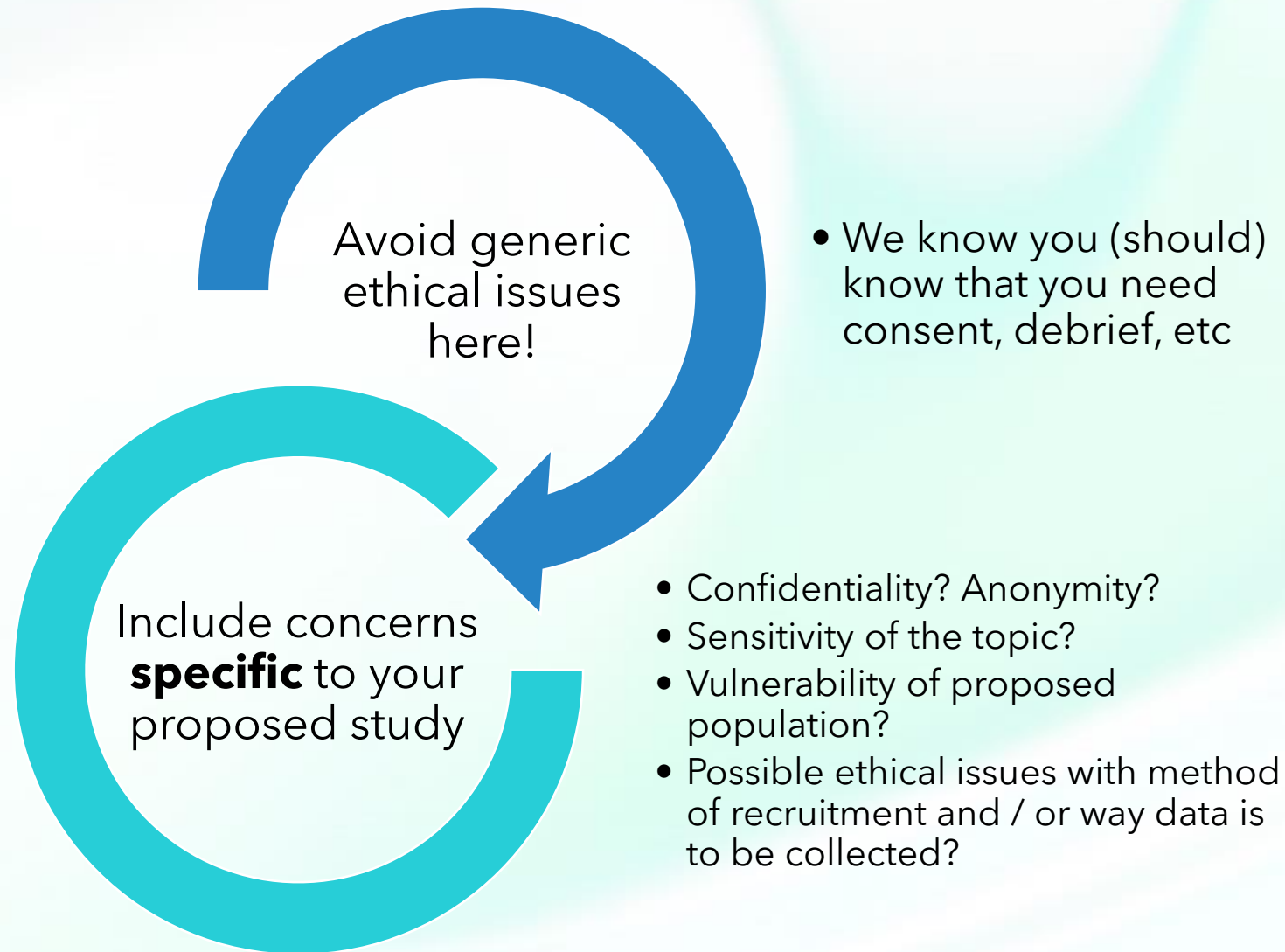
Ideally, specific hypotheses should be generated for quantitative proposals (and these must be justified)

Combination if proposing mixed methods

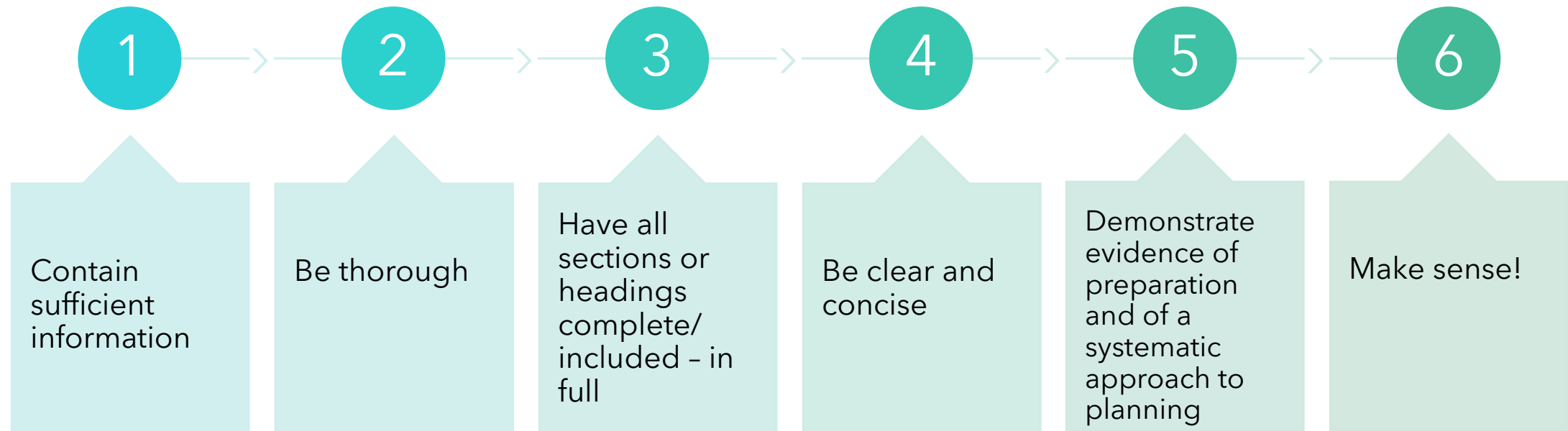
Methodological Details (500 words)



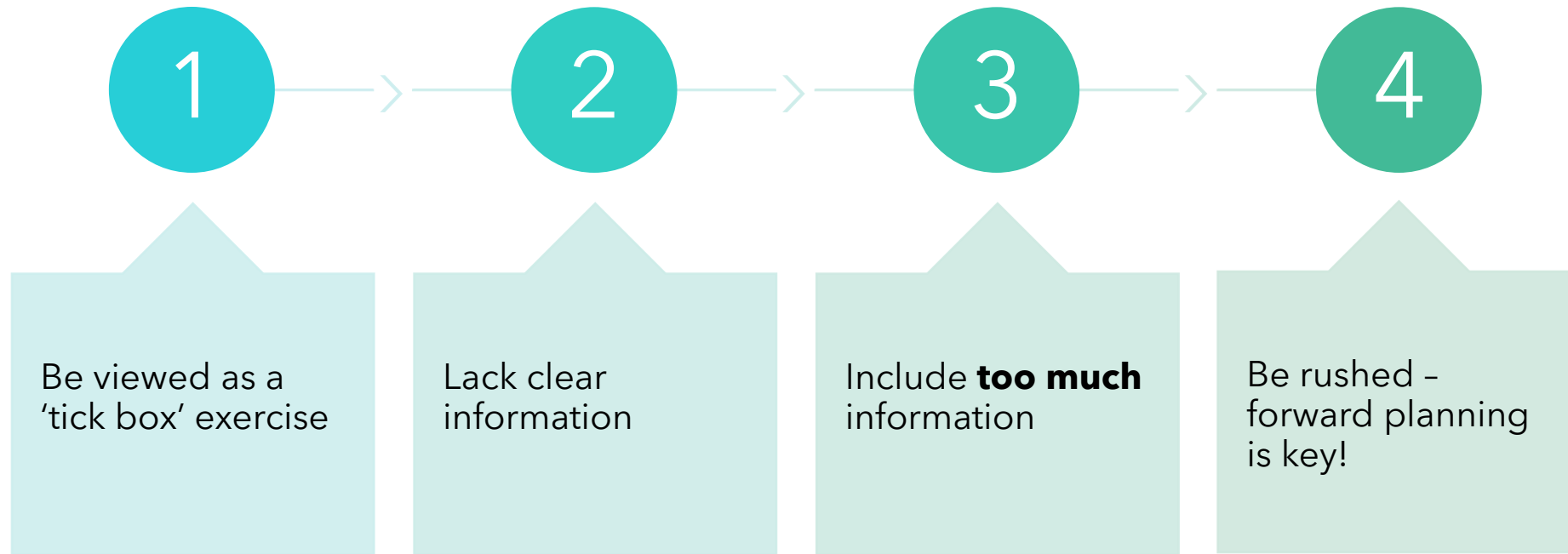
Ethical Considerations (150 words)

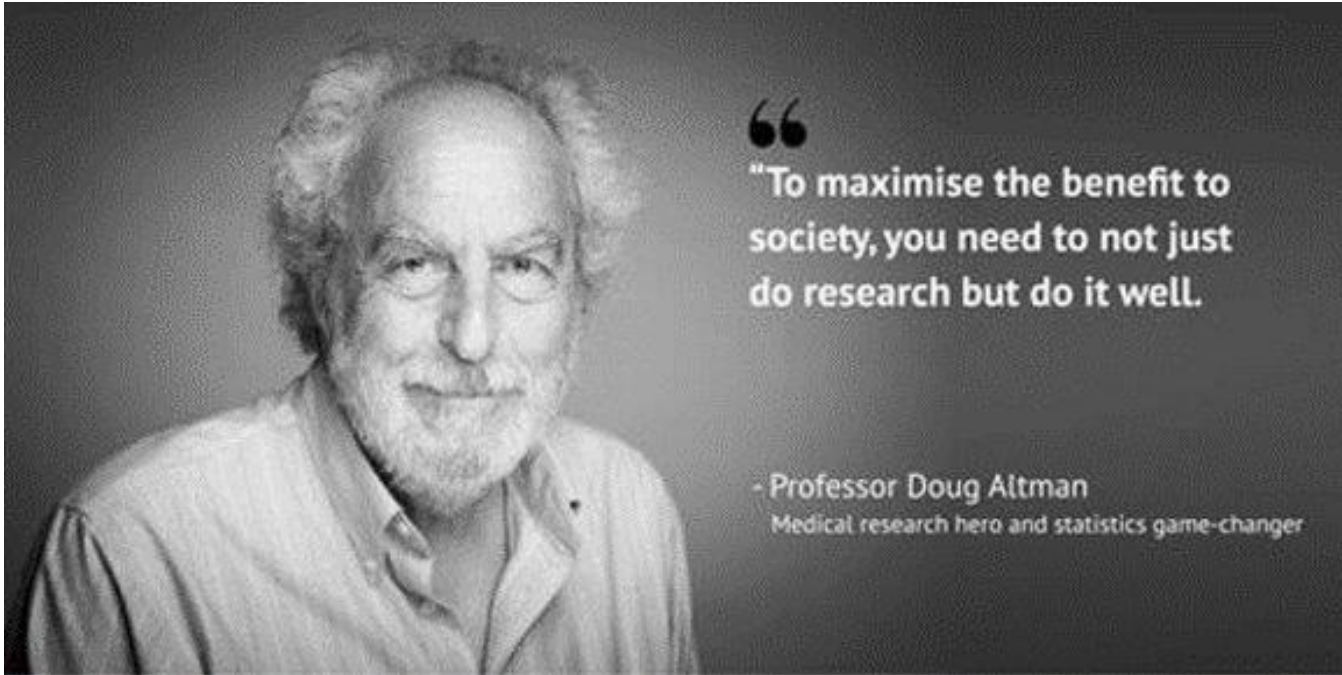


Your research proposal should...



Your research proposal should NOT...





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“To maximise the benefit to society, you need to not just do research but do it well.

- Professor Doug Altman
Medical research hero and statistics game-changer

If you cannot be bothered to put the time and effort in then you should not be doing research, and you certainly will not be doing good research.