Activist and Scientist

When do dual commitments become problematic?

Researchers' quotes

- Traffic engineer/researcher: The aim of the study was... "**to provide a stronger justification** for expanded road capacity and automobile access."
- A "car professor" (in a participant recruitment/fundraising call): Recruiting participants: "We Need Your Help **to Expose** #AntiCarBias."
- A well-known researcher, explaining the motivation for their study on cycling exceptionalism : "...**sometimes you do science to make a point**."
- A well-known car-use researcher: "I have been a **hater** of public transportation for my entire life." "That was what **motivated** my entire academic career."

The real quotes by influential researchers

- A Finnish traffic engineer/researcher loved by Finnish media: The aim of the study was... “to provide a stronger justification for **enhanced winter maintenance” (for cycling)**
- A well-known Dutch “cycling professor” (in a participant recruitment/fundraising call): Recruiting participants: “We Need Your Help to Expose #**CarSupremacy**.”
- A well-known British researcher, explaining the motivation for their **motonormativity** study: “...sometimes you do science to make a point.”
- A well-known US active travel researcher: “I have been a **hater of cars** for my entire life” “That was what motivated my entire academic career.”

Why becoming an activist?

Personality

Universalism, non-conformity, empathy

Own experiences

Own habits, trauma

Research evidence

Knowledge threshold

What do you do as an activist?

Self-identification

Join advocacy groups, you & your bike photos

Lobbying

Influencing public policy, statements

Public

Social media, Constructive vs. shaming, naming

Activism identity's influence on research

Research topics selection

Research

Self-censorship (file-drawer problem), cherry-picking

Editor, peer-reviewer

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THANK YOU!