

# **Pragmatics of ethics: paper writing**

# Transparency

- Every statement should be based on either a source or own data (provenance trail)
- Sources need to be retrievable
- You should have read your sources
- Difference between results and discussion
- Discussion is the only place where you can make non-founded statements

# Authorship

- Authors are those who provided
  1. Contributed major conceptual ideas
  2. Played key role for data collection
    - including the instrument builder of the experiment
  3. Wrote (part of) the paper
- You should never have to ask the question “Do you want to be co-author?”
  - The content of the paper dictates the author set
- Golden rule: discuss authorship in advance
  - Who has an interest, for what reason, balance against future publications, importance of first-authorship for juniors, ....

# Things to avoid

Four sins:

- parochial reference list
- use of related work just for your own purpose
- use of subjective terms
  - “very”, “user-friendly”, “strong”, “fast”
- unfounded positivism in discussion
  - “current version has some open ends, next version will not have these”