

# In-person session 7

**February 23, 2023**

PMAP 8521: Program evaluation  
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

# Plan for today

**Super quick FAQs**

**RCTs**

**Matching and IPW**

# Super quick FAQs

# Commenting stuff

# Randomness

**How do we use random.org for things in R?**

**Do researchers actually check  
all of the assumptions of OLS?  
(or any statistical test?)**

**Sometimes**

# RCTs

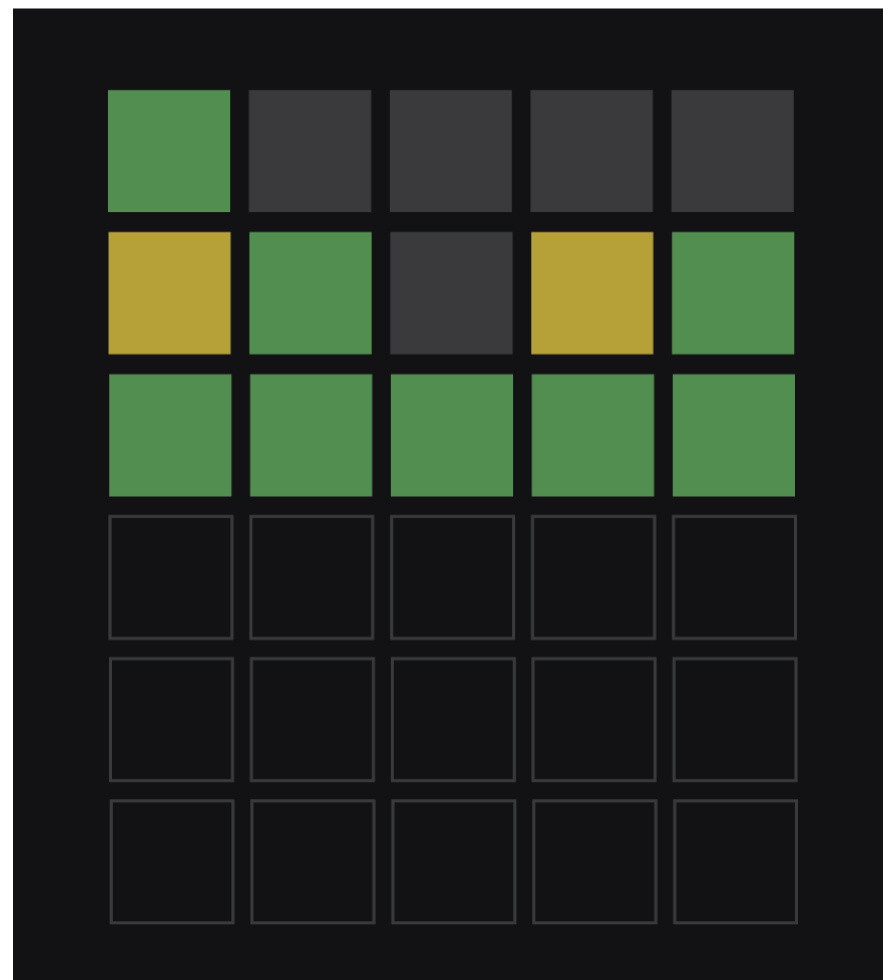
**Do we really not control  
for things in an RCT?**



# Randomness and arrow deletion



# Wordle!



Feb 10 2022 Day 236 PAUSE  
Feb 11 2022 Day 237 ULCER  
Feb 12 2022 Day 238 ULTRA  
Feb 13 2022 Day 239 ROBIN  
-----NYT TAKES OVER-----  
Feb 14 2022 Day 240 CYNIC  
Feb 15 2022 Day 241 AGORA  
Feb 16 2022 Day 242 AROMA  
Feb 17 2022 Day 243 CAULK  
Feb 18 2022 Day 244 SHAKE

# Balance tests



**Chelsea Parlett-Pelleriti**  
@ChelseaParlett



Trying to convince someone NOT to do t-tests to compare randomly assigned groups at baseline



**no context the good place** @nocontexttgp · Mar 10



1:04 PM · Mar 13, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone



**Chelsea Parlett-Pelleriti** @ChelseaParlett · Mar 13



THE RANDOMIZATION WORKED. RANDOMIZATION DOESN'T MEAN  
GROUPS WILL ALWAYS BE EQUAL



3



4



44



**Chelsea Parlett-Pelleriti**  
@ChelseaParlett



YOU DONT NEED A HYPOTHESIS TEST IF YOU KNOW  
THE DATA GENERATING PROCESS

1:18 PM · Mar 13, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

**Can you walk through an example of  
RCTs in class?**



# Matching and IPW

**Can you talk more about  
propensity scores and  
"weirdness" weights?**

**Why not just control for confounders  
instead of doing the whole  
matching/IPW dance?**

**Which should we use?  
Matching or IPW?**

**Can you walk through an example of  
IPW and matching in class?**