Hi. I am Sara Algoe from The Love Consortium. I am a social psychologist at The University of North Carolina, and Director of The Love Consortium—a global network of researchers on a mission: to advance the scientific study of social connection through greater collaboration. Our hope is to bring together researchers from multiple disciplines to collaborate on research using archived datasets.

This is an invitation for you to learn more about a tool we have created to facilitate collaboration using archived data.

Although it has been necessary to halt in-person data collection during this time of physical distancing, we have been hearing stories from colleagues and graduate students of the understandable anxiety this causes regarding programs of research and career progress. In the hope of offering one avenue of support to members of our research community who might be affected by this, we have pushed up our previously planned webinars to begin next week, rather than in the summer.

To this aim, we have created an online, openly searchable dataverse where researchers can describe their existing datasets so that others may more easily find them and subsequently spark new collaborations. **We hope you'll take a moment to explore the dataverse and consider contributing your own dataset descriptions.** It takes less than an hour to create a dataset record in the dataverse and there’s no expectation to post data outright—just the willingness to consider collaborating if someone sees your dataset description and reaches out about a relevant research question.

*Now, more than ever, is the time to open doors for greater scientific collaboration.*

Whether your data collection efforts have been halted as a result of the novel coronavirus or you’re just looking to quickly test a new research question, we encourage you to search the existing datasets for one that may suit your needs.

Or, if you’re looking for ways to make a positive impact for other researchers during these trying times or simply would like to make the most of an existing dataset, we invite you to post your own dataset description on The Love Consortium Dataverse.

We know that many junior researchers especially are feeling the pinch of stalled data collection efforts during this time. Please note that the data owner does not need to be the person to post the dataset description. This would be a great opportunity for a graduate student to get to know a senior advisor’s archived datasets by being the person to post a description, with the added bonus of new potential collaborative opportunities. (The faculty member is, of course, still listed as an author on the contribution.)
We will be hosting a number of webinars in the coming weeks to give an overview of The Love Consortium Dataverse, explain the process to post a dataset description, and answer any questions. We anticipate each webinar to take just 30 minutes, but have reserved the full hour for additional conversation, should the Q&A portion run over. Please sign up or reach out if you’d like to hear more.

After registering via one of the links below, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

*Note: Although graduate students are invited to participate in any of the sessions, those times marked with asterisks below are exclusively reserved for graduate students. We ask faculty to please not register for those times.

All times in Eastern Daylight Time (GMT-4)
Monday April 13: 8AM (Register) & 12PM* (Register)
Tuesday April 14: 1PM (Register) & 9PM (Register)
Wednesday April 15: 12PM (Register) & 3PM* (Register)
Thursday April 16: 8AM (Register) & 11AM (Register)
Friday April 17: 9AM (Register) & 4PM (Register)
Monday April 20 1PM (Register) & 9PM* (Register)
Tuesday April 21 9AM (Register) & 3PM (Register)
Wednesday April 22 8AM (Register) & 2PM (Register)
Thursday April 23 1PM* (Register) & 9PM (Register)
Friday April 24 10AM (Register) & 12PM (Register)

Finally, we would be so grateful if you could share this information with any colleagues—faculty, graduate students, lab managers—who may benefit from this effort.