

Care in the university community

WONKFEST

Wednesday 9 June 2021



Kate Tapper



Hello!

*I am **Kate Tapper***

I think we need to change the way we think about care in higher education.

You can find me at **@KateTapper** on LinkedIn



Care...

Not a university -ish word

- Child care
- Social care
- Health care
- Student ~~care~~ *wellbeing*
- Staff ~~care~~ *wellbeing*



Care...

What do you notice?

- Child care
- Social care
- Health care



**We associate care
with *“the vulnerable”***

**We are not weak, broken
or vulnerable.**

Therefore 'care' is irrelevant.



Irrelevant?

Learning

Not knowing

Not understanding

Getting it wrong

Discovery

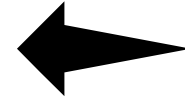
Taking risks

Failing

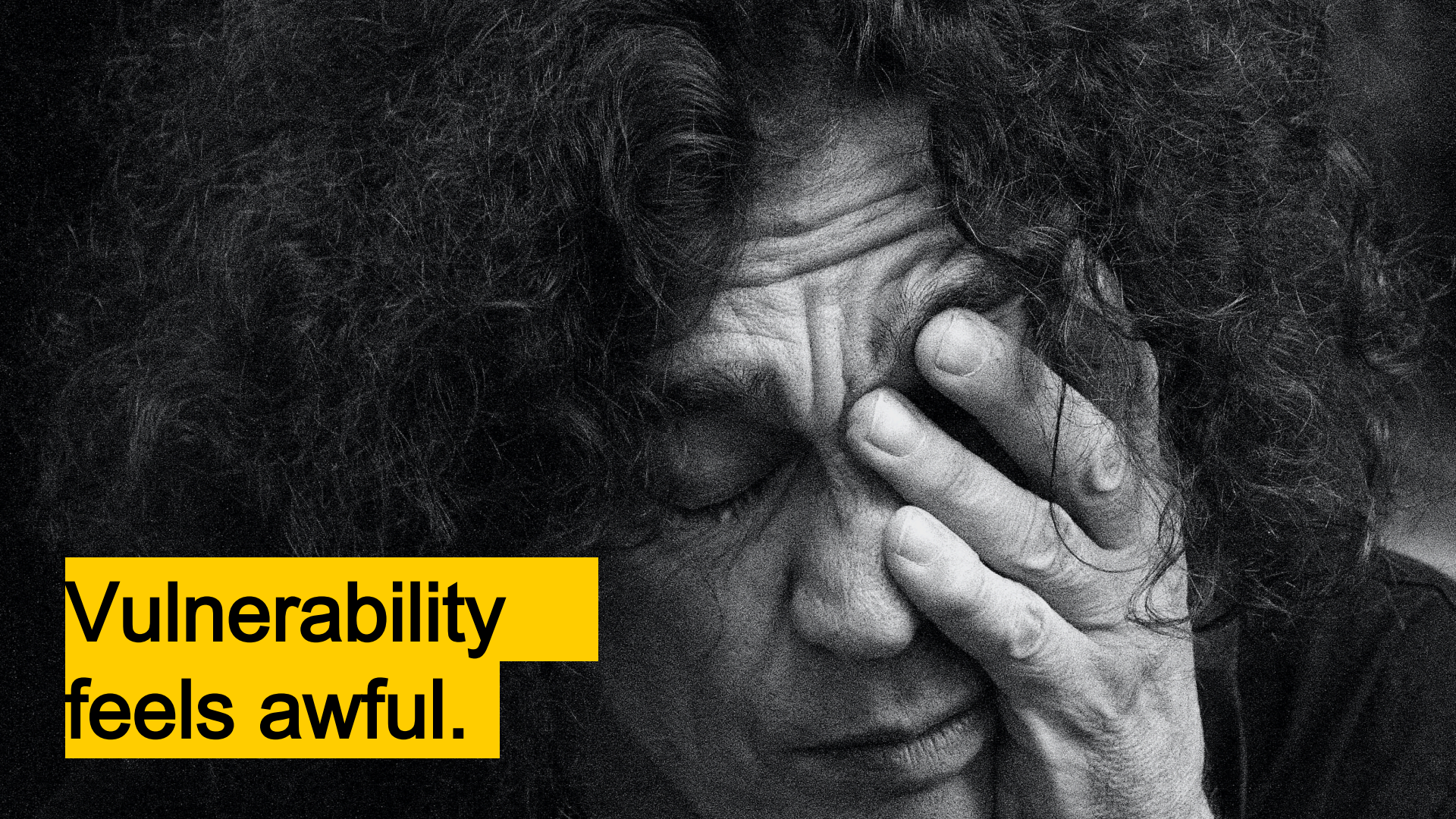
Being rejected

Enterprise

All of these



Vulnerability in all we do



**Vulnerability
feels awful.**



**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**

An abstract background featuring a grey sphere with a dashed line, several orange triangles and circles, and white dashed lines on a black field.

COVID-19

**THERE IS
NO PLANET B**





Building back higher?

- Acknowledging past failings and mistakes
 - Trying something new



REQUIRES A SHIFT FROM


“I’m right”

“I know”

to

“I’m not sure”

“I’m sorry”

A photograph showing a group of young women. In the center, a woman with long brown hair wearing a green t-shirt has her back to the camera. Two other women are supporting her: one on the left with her hand on the woman's shoulder, and one on the right with her hand on the woman's shoulder. The woman on the right is wearing a maroon top with a colorful patterned band on the sleeve. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor setting.

***A caring community
supports us to be
vulnerable.***



Caring culture

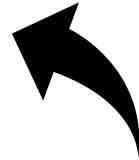
Support to compassionately
investigate and learn
without shame.



Care...

What must we reimagine?

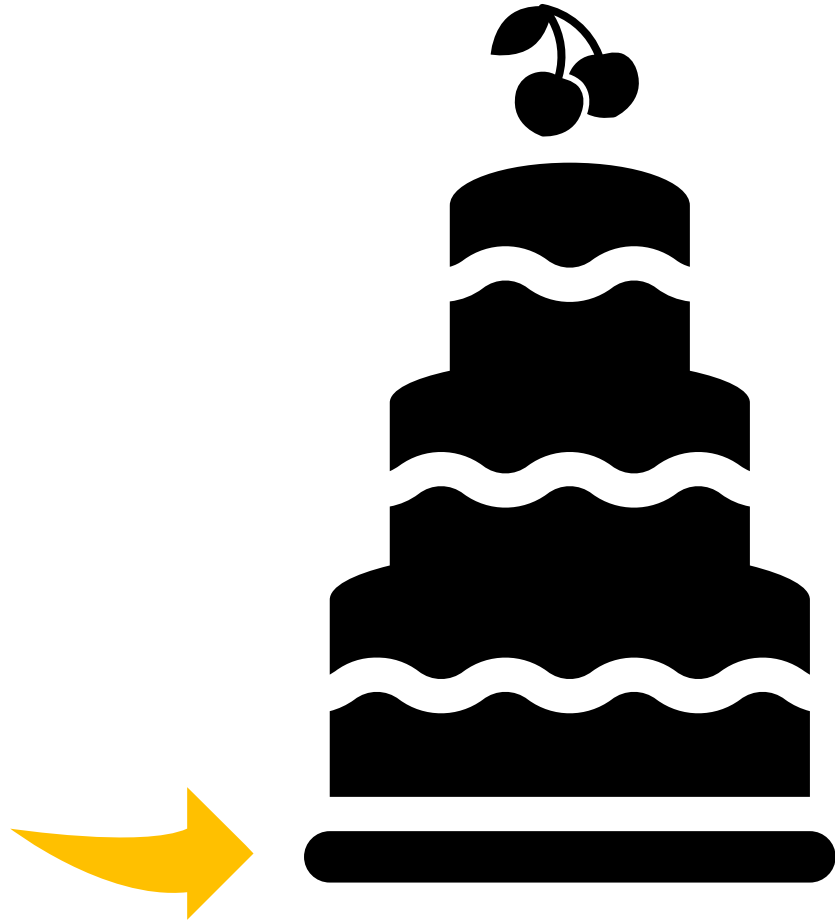
- Assessment?
- Critique?
- Debate?
- Performance?



**What enables us to learn
without shame?**

**Care is for life,
not just for crises**







Thank you!

If you have questions

You can find me at

- @katetapper (linkedin)
- kate@buddevelopment.co.uk (newsletter)