



# Comment on Blundell

seminar on the use of evidence in policy making  
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## Substance

- Admirable work: relevant policy issues combined with state-of-the art analysis
- Benchmark to us
- "Matching reforms to response elasticities"!
- Question: Policy reforms (particularly ERA and NDLP) coincide with economic upswing: how to integrate labour demand in the analysis?

## Interaction between policy making and research

- Who set the target groups and the means of the reforms?
- When and how did the research community get involved?
- How was analysis made available timely?
- How was the researcher(s) chosen?
- *Ex post* impact on policies?
- Ethical considerations

## What do we learn?

- Both inside and outside evaluation is needed, as well as *ex ante* and *ex post*
- Sectoral research institutes as inside-outside contact points in Finland
- Research community should get more interested in policy oriented research (post graduate studies, tenure track, "mandarins"), as well as...
- Policy community enhance its capacity to utilise research based evidence