

Macalester College
Institutional Review Board
1600 Grand Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105

Date: September 30, 2018

TO: Lisa Mueller, Political Science
Macalester College

FROM: Geoffrey Gorham, Chair
Macalester College IRB

RE: Do "Safe Spaces" Reduce Sensitivity Bias?

Dear Prof. Mueller,

Thank you for sending for IRB review your proposed, preliminary research protocol 'Do "Safe Spaces" Reduce Sensitivity Bias?' along with the detailed pre-analysis survey plan and survey instrument.

After reviewing your interview and research protocols, the proposed interview questions themselves, and your methods for protecting the confidentiality of respondents, I have determined that your proposal qualifies for expedited IRB review under Federal and Macalester regulations since it is in the category of 'research on individual or group characteristics or behavior conducted by survey or interview' and presents no more than minimal risk to the participants (**Federal Register 46:** 8392; Jan. 26, 1981).

Your informed consent form, research procedures and interview protocol are well-designed to ensure the confidentiality, autonomy and interests of your subjects. This proposal is hereby approved.

Keep in mind that IRB approval is for one year from the date of this memo. If your research continues beyond that time, please be back in touch with IRB.

Do let me know if you have any questions. Good luck with your valuable and interesting research.