

To: William Freivogel and Emily Cooper
From: M. Daniel Becque
Chair, Institutional Review Board
Date: September 30, 2022
Subject: Media Literacy in Illinois

IRB Reference Number: 22166

The above referenced protocol has been reviewed by the Institutional Review Board (IRB). This project has been determined to be Journalism and exempt from review by the IRB.

The Code of Federal Regulations at 45 CFR 46.102(l)(1) exempts journalism from the definition of research that is to be reviewed by the IRB. The IRB finds that your research fits within this exemption.

Although journalism is exempt from review, I am concerned about the title and purpose statement of your research. You will be doing five interviews, yet the title is Media Literacy in Illinois, and your purpose is to look at Illinois public high schools and how they are implementing this new requirement. Your title and purpose seem to be generalizing from five schools to all of Illinois. Generalizability is the key nature of the research that the IRB must review. I will be interested to read this article when it is done, please send it to me (mdbecque@siu.edu). I look forward to reading the article and especially the conclusions.

This determination is valid only for the above referenced project as submitted for review. The IRB is required to review all work with human participants and only the board may determine the regulatory requirements for each project, including modifications to the scope of the above referenced project.

The board thanks you for your commitment to fulfilling your obligation as an SIU affiliated investigator and wishes you success in your endeavors. Please feel free to contact us with any questions as your project progresses or with future application submissions.