

June 22, 2017
Length of Session: 1 Hour

The Psychology of Insults and Insulation

To what extent do personal verbal attacks and generalized insults based on group stereotypes cause psychological harm to their listeners? Can insulation from insults cause harm to the intended beneficiaries? This panel will explore the benefits and risks of insulating students from vile or contemptuous speech and gauge where experts are in agreement about the unnecessary harms of vicious words as well as the risks of over-protection.

Learning Outcomes:

- Participants will learn about the balance of overprotection and insulation
- Participants will discuss the tension inherent in that balance
- Participants will learn about current research on psychological processes and impacts

Evelyn R. Carter, PhD, conducts research on how people detect and discuss cues to racial bias across group lines, and about how to create and sustain inclusive environments and practices. Dr. Carter holds an MA (University of Illinois at Chicago) and PhD (Indiana University) in Social Psychology, and was awarded a National Science Foundation SBE Postdoctoral Fellowship to continue her research on how to engage in successful conversations about bias. Dr. Carter is currently a Research Scientist for BruinX in the UCLA Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Alyssa Croft, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Social Psychology at The University of Arizona. Her research interests span a range of psychological topics relating to social roles, identity, and group membership; including exploration of how, when, and why people are constrained by invisible psychological barriers, such as stereotypes and societal expectations. She earned her PhD in Social Psychology from the University of British Columbia.

Glenn Matchett-Morris, PhD, is a Staff Psychologist and the Associate Director of Counseling & Psych Services at the University of Arizona. He earned a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Arizona and an M.A. in Counseling and PhD in Counseling Psychology from the University of Oregon. He has worked in a variety of mental health settings, including universities, inpatient mental health units, outpatient behavioral health clinics, the U.S. Army, prisons, and Pima County Superior Court.



S. Brooke Vick, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Whitman College. Trained broadly on the psychology of prejudice and social identities, Dr. Vick has examined the effects of having a marginalized social identity on academic performance, motivation, physiological reactivity, and social perception. Her research has also investigated strategies ranging from self-acceptance to confronting discrimination that can help improve outcomes for members of socially devalued groups. She earned her PhD in Social Psychology from the University of California, Santa Barbara

Related Articles:

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/227597060> The Psychological Impact of Prejudice

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