

 [IP--feedback sought for Social Justice Position Statement](#) by Louise S. [2013, Jan 27]

Dear All,

Attached please find the Social Justice Position Statement for the Society for Humanistic Psychology (Division 32 of APA) that Sarah Kamens and I drafted. We thank the help of Louis Hoffman, President of Division 32, and the Social Justice Position Statement Committee, consisting of Scott Churchill and David Elkins. We would appreciate some feedback from you.

Thanks in advance,

Louise

 [SHP Social Justice Position Statement January 2013](#)

 [Comment by John Christopher](#) by Louise S. [2013, Jan 27]

Lovely statement Louise!

 [Comment by SayyedMohsenFatemi](#) by Louise S. [2013, Jan 27]

Dear Louise,

That's a great statement.

It may be safe to say that in line with this commitment, humanistic psychology may explore the possibility of creating an irenic mind through which justice can be understood beyond the epistemological level namely the ontological level. Many seemingly fine attempts may fail to address the practical implications of social justice when they are implicitly embedded within the tacitly prescribed mindsets of the institutional legitimacy which may, albeit vociferously, act from one single perspective. Thus, the pearl of social justice may be easily incarcerated through the subjugation of numerous forms of mindlessness that impede the process of paying attention to the grammar of understanding beyond the premature cognitive commitments of discursive configuration of social justice. Opening up this space may enrich the scope of a mindful humanistic psychology which can affect the quality of life through examining the non-oppositional categories within the irenic mind.

Thank you. Mohsen

 [Comment by Catherine T.L. SUN](#) by Louise S. [2013, Jan 27]

Hi, Louise:

I would like to see more emphasis on addressing the subtle and often implicit oppression in psychological research, specifically with reference to Western psychology as a benchmark of excellence.

Best,
Catherine



 [Comment by Rick \(Shweder\)](#) by Louise S. [2013, Jan 27]

Hi Louise,

I suppose my feedback is that there is a difference between an academic research oriented society and a social activist organization. I would prefer the mission of the society as a organization to be intellectual, not moral. As individuals or citizens we all have moral and political views, but the role of an academic society is to encourage debate and critique, which I think is hampered once an organization starts making collective statements about right and wrong. I have attached what I view as one of the great statements about academic freedom. It is part of the policy of the University of Chicago not to throw the weight of the institution behind social, moral or political causes so as to maintain the contentious free speech environment of institution. It is a brief statement but raises the right issues in my mind. It is known as the Kalven Committee Report (on the University's Role in Political and Social Action). See the attachment.

Warm regards, as ever,

Rick (Shweder)



[Kalven Committee Report](#)