

Review of: "Support for Campus Censorship"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article came to me for review. I'm writing about it here because I agree with Michael W. Kraus's review.

To not be repetitive, I agree with the appointments above about the problems with the methodology (including in the second version of the paper), especially with the statements and the lack of context for them. Also, the introduction, literature review, discussion of results, and conclusion are still superficial in my point of view, since the results and the topic raise important questions (but are not addressed) in the literature and discussions on the topic. For instance:

2-Statements related to freedom of ideas and speech and censorship on campus are problematic (in my view, historically, institutionally, and empirically false, e.g., historical exclusion, silencing, discrimination, and coloniality of knowledge production and people on universities show us the opposite). So, the paper should discuss more in depth about them and make clear the theoretical and philosophical standpoint (with citation and argument) to the reader.

3-The notion that students - especially conservatives - are being curtailed raises questions about proportion and veracity, and conservative think tanks use this discourse as a strategy on campus to amplify their arguments in the political arenas. Conservative movements in higher education and science (whether student or political), funded by powerful think tanks, have a strategy for political and cultural disputes on campus: purposely raise controversies (and often offend groups of people) so that liberal activism reacts, and then the conservatives claim that they are victims of censorship. So, in this debate, the topic of political activism is central, since it influences students and society about the topic. I recommend reading some literature on politics on campus, such as Amy J. Binder and Jeffrey L. Kidder (2022), The Channels of Student Activism: How the Left and Right are Winning (and Losing) in Campus Politics Today. There is interesting research on leftist and conservative activism on campus, including a chapter about free speech on campus.

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