

Ryan Blackburn

Independent Study and Mentorship

Spiece 4B

1 December 2017

## **Motives and Impacts - Cause Groups**

### **Interview Assessment 3**

**Name of Professional:** Ms. Tracy Gamble

**Profession/Title:** President

**Business/Company name:** Frisco Women's League

**Date of Interview:** 10 November 2017

As my research has culminated into coherent concepts on the influences associated with policy, I have realized that, in discussing the purpose behind my work, listeners are often unable to substantiate my claims to actual concepts, and ponder how I could allow for my research to be seen as more appealing and justified to others. In introducing these concepts, I have realized that the comments and experience of local professionals in each interest group would further solidify the trends presented in my research. As such, I have worked to contact Ms. Tracy Gamble, the leading figure of Frisco Women's League, to convey her beliefs on how cause groups can impact

policy on a variety of levels. As I prepared for the interview, I hoped to be able to utilize the stance Ms. Gamble gives, backed by her expertise in working with a nonprofit advocating community service, to further my understanding of the impact such cause groups can have.

Perhaps because of this clear vision of what I hoped to achieve from talking with Ms. Gamble, our conversation was very successful: not only did I learn much more of the conviction and aspirations of nonprofits like Frisco Women's League, but I also received a great deal of constructive comments on the progress of both my research and study as a whole. Being an avid advocate of service and civic responsibility, Ms. Gamble often commented on the various motives of nonprofits and community organizations, underlining the inherent drive that volunteers and members would have. Indeed, because many nonprofits lack the funds to pay contributors for their work, I learned that the members of the group work to spark change regardless of compensation; Ms. Gamble later applied this to political activism, suggesting that many of these groups have ideological foundations in their causes and are often much more pursuant of their goal. In addition to this conviction to achieve reform, we also discussed how, in spite of mediums to input your opinion into governmental procedures, many cause groups are composed of members already involved in politics, and are usually effective in pursuing specific processes, such as local town halls or legislative sessions, to implement policy that furthers their cause.

Just as I gained greater understanding in how a nonprofit executes actions in relation to governmental policy, I also found that Ms. Gamble gave insightful advice on how to expand my independent study in the future. As our conversation progressed, I saw that we both held very similar values in utilizing your vote as a citizen, and asked her how this concept could benefit my

study. Ms. Gamble suggested that, in pursuing greater political participation, I utilize outside materials, such as community news outlets and organizations, to the best of my ability to promote that cause. This took an active role in inspiring my original work, and encouraged me to continue seeking more information on my research as a whole as I apply it to my empowerment of the general public. Indeed, the advocacy and sense of community that Ms. Gamble held dear has inspired me to champion these values as well, not as just a medium to appeal to a greater majority, but also as a tool for improving my own values as I endeavor to reform our voter culture.