Hi Bill,

Approval of your IRB application is pending the following (minor) issues. Note that exemption 2 only applies to anonymous surveys, and because you will know the Twitter address and for the interviews, additional identifying information, the study will not be eligible for exemption.

2b) The Twitter post about the survey should be provided with the IRB application

6a) should be Confidential instead of Anonymous

4) Informed consent:

- Appendix A:
  - missing a statement of benefits of participating in the research and the time required to participate the study
  - the statement that “... your answers will be anonymous unless you choose to provide contact information for follow-up interviews” should probably be “confidential” instead of “anonymous”, since the researcher will be able to see the subjects’ Twitter usernames and in many cases Twitter user names are real names
  - “…does not imply employment with the state of New Jersey, Rowan University…” appears twice in the informed consent

- Appendix B:
  - missing a statement of benefits of participating in the research
  - the statement that “... your answers will be anonymous unless you choose to provide contact information for follow-up interviews” should be “confidential” instead of “anonymous”, since the researcher will know the subjects’ names in order to contact the subjects for interviews
  - “…does not imply employment with the state of New Jersey, Rowan University…” appears twice in the informed consent

Feel free to contact me with any questions, and to email your revisions/responses.
Harriet

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