

**June 2019**

**Letter of Invitation to participate in the study “An Exploration of Student Incivility in Social Work Education” conducted by Dr. Tanya Shute and Dr. Jan Yorke with Laurentian University’s School of Social Work**

Dear Social Work and Social Services Colleagues,

For those of us who teach in social work or social services work programs in Ontario colleges and universities, we are often surprised by disruptive and disrespectful student behaviour in our classrooms directed toward faculty members. This study seeks to explore the nature of incivility in social work classrooms, looking at student behaviour that ranges from disruption and disrespect at one end of the continuum to verbal harassment/abuse and threat/actual physical violence at the other end. If you are part-time, sessional, full-time, inactive/retired from social work/social services teaching, we would appreciate you sharing your experiences with us.

Dr. Tanya Shute (RSW, MSW) and Dr. Jan Yorke (RSW, MSW) have many years of social work teaching experience at both the community college and university levels, and are concerned with the lack of scholarly literature on the topic of incivility in social work classrooms, because we know that we and our colleagues have experienced some really challenging situations in social work classrooms. We hope that you would agree to participate in our anonymous online survey, which should take between 15-20 minutes. We also hope you would consider taking part in a semi-structured interview (in person or by telephone, as available), for which we will offer you a \$10 coffee gift card for your time. The online survey will be available until October 2019. In the online survey you will be asked if you would like to be contacted to set up an interview. The research team would be happy for you to participate only in the interview as well, if you do not wish to complete the survey. If you would like to be interviewed only, you can arrange for a convenient time by emailing either of the researchers. If you have any questions at all about the research project, you can contact Tanya Shute at [tg\\_shute@laurentian.ca](mailto:tg_shute@laurentian.ca) or Jan Yorke at [jyorke@laurentian.ca](mailto:jyorke@laurentian.ca).

This study is funded by the Laurentian University Research Fund. This project has met the standards for ethical review by the Laurentian University Ethics Review Board.

If you are interested, please proceed to the link: <https://shute.limequery.com/743913?lang=en>