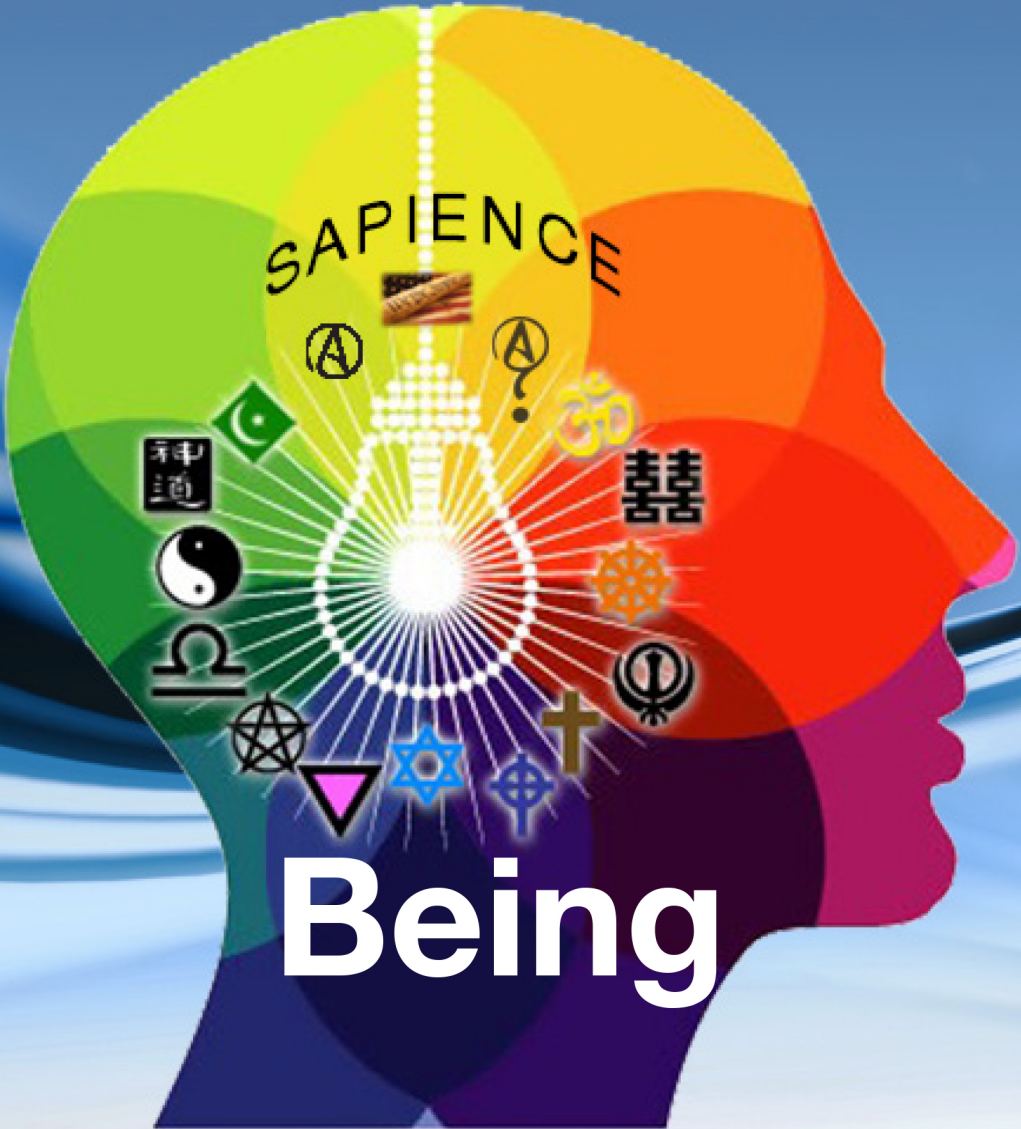


# The S.A.P.I.E.N.T.

(SOCIETY ADVANCING PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE & ENLIGHTENMENT NOW TOGETHER)



## Enhancing Viewpoint Diversity & Intellectual Humility to MAKE FREE SPEECH AGAIN ON CAMPUS

Corey Lee Wilson

# **The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being**

**Enhancing  
Viewpoint Diversity  
&  
Intellectual Humility  
to  
Make Free Speech Again On Campus**

By

**Corey Lee Wilson**

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Below in alphabetical order are the major contributors to *The SAPIENT Being* that I borrowed verbatim, quoted, and conceptualized much of their content from a little to a lot. Wherever this happened, I did my best to acknowledge my source. If I didn’t at times within the fifteen chapters, I did so intentionally because doing so would have distracted from their message. Nonetheless, they are more than referenced in the Resources section and memorialized in the Acknowledgments below.

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**Cooley, Lauren:** An influential Florida campus free speech activist and contributor at the *Washington Examiner* who heavily influenced Chapter 8.

**Haidt, Dr. Jonathan:** Centrist and co-founder of the Heterodox Academy and its biggest advocate, spokesperson, and leader in the field of viewpoint diversity, he wrote the 2012 book, *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*. Haidt co-wrote *The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas Are Setting Up a Generation for Failure* in 2018 with Dr. Greg Lukianoff. Haidt and Lukianoff provide the foundation of the Three Great Untruths in Chapter 13. Haidt’s many articles include the “Cultural Roots of Campus Rage,” “The Yale



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Problem Begins in High School,” and “Why Concepts Creep to the Left and he also influenced in varying degrees the content in Chapters 1, 5, 10, 11, 12, and 13.

**Holmes, Kim R.:** Author of *Rebound: Getting America Back to Great* in 2013 and *The Closing of the Liberal Mind* in 2016, Distinguished Fellow at The Heritage Foundation, he contributed to the hate speech content in Chapter 2 and illiberalism in Chapter 3.

**Lukianoff, Dr. Greg:** President and CEO, Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) contributed to the first part of Chapter 1 and the FIRE owns Chapter 2. Lukianoff co-wrote *The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas Are Setting Up a Generation for Failure* in 2018 with Dr. Jonathan Haidt. Lukianoff and Haidt provide the foundation of the Three Great Untruths in Chapter 13.

**Poliakoff, Dr. Michael:** President of the American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA) and strong defender of the Chicago Principles in Chapter 4 and big proponent of civics education in Chapter 14.

**Roth, Michael S.:** President of Wesleyan University and author of *Beyond the University: Why Liberal Education Matters* in 2014 and the article “The Opening of the Liberal Mind” in 2017 ends Chapter 10 and he is a strong viewpoint diversity champion and role model for other college presidents.

## The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

## Foreword



For free speech to be valuable to the pursuit of truth, we all need to be both humble and open. We need humility to recognize that we might not be right about everything all of the time, and that we have something to learn from others. We also need to be open to the possibility of altering our views, opinions, and even values based on our engagement with the world.

In other words, our identity as a person must be kept separable from the ideas we happen to endorse at a given time. Otherwise, when those ideas are criticized, we are likely to experience a conversation, book, or lecture as an attack upon our self, rather than as an opportunity to think about something more deeply.

Humility, openness, engagement, a strong and maturing self that is always a work in progress; these are the necessary ingredients for a free society, and for shared progress, according to John Stuart Mill.

Today's campus conformists are in danger of squandering this legacy. How can students learn, think, and grow without exposure to unexpected, challenging ideas? How can any campus fulfill its mission of preparing tough-minded and capable students if it instills in them a desire to squelch opposing views rather than a willingness to consider and confront them?

## The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

A 2016 Gallup survey found that more than one in four college students felt colleges should be able to restrict students from “expressing political views that are upsetting or offensive to certain groups,” while nearly half were open to restricting press access to public events.

In its 2015 Report of the Committee on Freedom of Expression, the Chicago Statement reaffirmed that: “Because the University is committed to free and open inquiry in all matters, it guarantees all members of the University community the broadest possible latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge, and learn.

Colleges and universities—and their presidents, boards of trustees, faculties, and alumni—must maximize support for free expression, intellectual pluralism, and most of all viewpoint diversity. In the end, students—and society—can only benefit from embracing the free marketplace of ideas.

Are you interested in ensuring freedom of speech and expression, enhancing viewpoint diversity, and developing intellectual humility? If yes, please read on and if you also believe in the message of this book and willing to fight for it—please considering joining one of these two programs below sponsored by the SAPIENT Being.

### **Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC) Program**

Provide high school and college students the opportunity to start SAPIENT Being campus clubs, chapters, and alliances where independent, liberal, and conservative minded students can meet safely and freely as sapient beings to learn the facts and truth concerning the important issues facing us today. Learn more about the process of practicing, protecting, and promoting viewpoint diversity, freedom of speech and intellectual humility as part of the Make Free Speech Again on Campus program for on or off and/or virtual campus groups at <https://www.sapientbeing.org/programs>.

This is a new membership drive with independent students in mind who want to hear both sides of an issue, from any topic, without intimidation. It's also a perfect opportunity for liberal and conservative minded students to pop each other's ideological bubbles, and together, openly, and honestly, discuss and debate the hottest and most contentious issues facing America and the world today. We accomplish this by following the

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highest standards of civil discourse and debating each other's ideas, premises, and principles without attacking their character with malice and prejudice. This is sapience at its best!

### **World of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Program**

Return free speech, open dialogue and civil discourse to high school and college campuses without intimidation and threat of violence to those with differences in opinion, ideologies, and practices. Encourage open debate, dialogue, and the free expression of alternative and non-orthodox viewpoints with the goal of creating a World of Writing Warriors (WOWW) program at <https://www.sapientbeing.org/programs> that upholds journalistic standards and promotes viewpoint diversity throughout all types of campus journalism and media.

The WOWW Program is a partnership between the SAPIENT Being and Fratire Publishing that provides a unique opportunity for promising and unpublished writers, student and graduate journalists, debate programs and sponsors, white paper researchers and authors of every discipline and background to contribute to any of the MADNESS titles and chapters and be recognized for it. Because Fratire Publishing is a small but determined independent publisher, it makes the perfect home for the WOWW Program with its 50 MADNESS series of titles.

Come join us and see what it's all about and how you can make a difference. You might be angered, motivated, and pleased to know you can become a sapient being and together, help fight and reverse the state of idiocracy that has consumed our campuses and threatened our American institutions.

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# The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

## Preface

If someone tries to tell you there is “no” freedom of speech issue on campus, do not believe them. Speaking your mind on campus can put your education and/or your career at risk. It’s a serious problem but it’s only one of three concerns of the SAPIENT Being.

The other two are the lack of viewpoint diversity and the loss of intellectual humility at our educational institutions. At the SAPEINT Being, we’re prepared to address all three!

Consider these disturbing trends:

- A recent study found that 68 percent of college students “largely agree” the campus climate today prevents some students from being able truly to speak their minds for fear of offending someone.
- In a 2016 Gallup survey, one in four college students felt schools should be able to restrict students from “expressing political views that are upsetting or offensive to certain groups.”
- Shockingly, the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) rated the level of freedom of speech permitted at 466 major universities. They found that 28 percent received a “red light” rating, 62 percent a “yellow light” rating, and only ten percent received a “green light” rating.

Regarding the lack of viewpoint diversity to burst the prevailing ideological bubbles within America’s campuses, consider these alarming statistics:

- More than 50 percent of students surveyed reported they do not think their college frequently encourages students to consider a wide variety of viewpoints and perspectives.
- UCLA’s Higher Education Institute shows that the faculty has moved considerably leftward since the late 1980s, especially in the Arts and Humanities. In New England alone, liberal professors outnumber conservative ones by an astonishing ratio of 28 to 1.

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- A large student and faculty sampling by the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AACU) reported only eighteen percent of the faculty and staff strongly agreed that it was “safe to hold unpopular positions on campus.”

And the third major concern on campus is a lack of intellectual humility from students, administrators, and faculty. Consider these examples:

- The first is the rise of Intolerance: Since 2000, the FIRE has recorded 379 instances of disinvitations, with nearly 25 percent of those occurring from 2016 to 2018. In those two years, 82 percent of disinvitations have been of the Left’s doing.
- The second is the lack of Constructive Disagreement: This concept centers around creating a dynamic where key stakeholders in the faculty and student body are compelled to disagree. The word “constructive” alludes to the need to raise issues, debate, and resolve them reasonably. In the academy, this rarely happens—but it does so in the corporate world—successfully.
- And the third concerns the prevalence of Confirmation Bias: The 2008 paper, “Estimating the reproducibility of psychological science” describes the replication failure rate being as high as two-thirds to one-half of 100 sampled experiments published in 2008 in three high-ranking psychology journals.

All of these facts, figures, and trends reveal a failing report card by any measure! Together, we can raise the grade on campus and that is what the SAPIENT Being intends to do by developing intellectual humility, spreading viewpoint diversity, and enhancing freedom of speech. From all three of these virtues, we create a foundation of sapience.

The primary focus of this book is on ensuring freedom of speech and expression, enhancing viewpoint diversity and developing intellectual humility and create a lifelong journey of sapience for the independent and open minded student, administrator, and academic educator.

It’s 2020 and a new decade is upon us. Let it be the decade of newfound sapience. Out are the idiotic modes of thinking, hereto referred as the idiocracy—and in to replace it is sapience. Let’s welcome with open minds

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a Society Advancing Personal Intelligence and Enlightenment Now  
Together—the S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being.

As John Stuart Mill famously wrote in *On Liberty* over a hundred and fifty years ago; a message and wisdom that resonates as loud and clear today as it did then:

*He who knows only his own side of the case knows little of that. His reasons may be good, and no one may have been able to refute them. But if he is equally unable to refute the reasons on the opposite side, if he does not so much as know what they are, he has no ground for preferring either opinion... Nor is it enough that he should hear the opinions of adversaries from his own teachers, presented as they state them, and accompanied by what they offer as refutations. He must be able to hear them from persons who actually believe them... ..he must know them in their most plausible and persuasive form.*

Best regards and sapiently yours,



Corey Lee Wilson



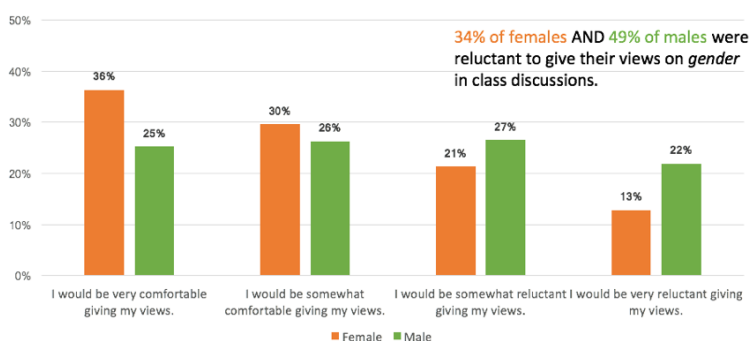


## The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

## 1 – Freedom of Speech Madness and Viewpoint

### Suppression

Think about being at your school in a class that was discussing a controversial issue about GENDER. How comfortable or reluctant would you feel about speaking up and giving your views on this topic?



*Courtesy of the Heterodox Academy*

Most college students in the United States should be able to expect that freedom of expression will be upheld on their campuses. After all, public institutions are legally bound by the First Amendment, and the vast majority of private colleges and universities promise their students commensurate free speech rights.

In spite of this legal landscape, far too many colleges across the country fail to live up to their free speech obligations in policy and in practice. Often, this occurs through the implementation of speech codes: university policies that restrict expression that is protected under First Amendment standards.

University censorship regimes are teaching some students not only to live with but to embrace the conformism of thought inculcated through university speech codes, speaker dis-invitations, “safe spaces,” “trigger

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warnings,” and campus shout-downs of invited speakers, the report demonstrates.

Too many students feel afraid to speak honestly on campus for fear of offending someone, a new national survey of college students says. Furthermore, the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) surveyed the written policies of 466 colleges and universities, evaluating their compliance with First Amendment standards and their college rankings are disturbing.

### The Freedom of Speech Problem Begins in High School

In 2015, Dr. Jonathan Haidt (pronounced “height”—not “hate”), a leader at the Heterodox Academy, had a bizarre and illuminating experience at an elite private high school on the West Coast that he generically calls “Centerville High.” From this encounter, the Heterodox Academy posted his article, “The Yale Problem Begins in High School” and the beginning of this chapter is quoted directly from it.

Haidt gave a version of a talk on “Coddle U vs. Strengthen U” that he first gave at Yale a few weeks earlier to approximately 450 students, from grades 9-12, in the auditorium. There was plenty of laughter at all the right spots, and a lot of applause at the end, so he thought the talk was well received:

But it wasn’t and after the discussion began it was the most unremittingly hostile questioning he’d ever had. Haidt doesn’t mind when people ask hard or critical questions, but he was surprised that he had misread the audience so thoroughly. His talk had little to do with gender, but the second question was “So you think rape is OK?”

Like most of the questions that followed, it was backed up by a sea of finger snaps. “I had never heard snapping before,” says Haidt. “When it happens in a large auditorium it is disconcerting. It makes you feel that you are facing an angry and unified mob—a feeling I have never had in 25 years of teaching and public speaking.”

As Haidt describes the rest of the encounter, after the first dozen questions, he noticed that not a single questioner was male, so he began to search the sea of hands and I did find one boy, who asked a question that

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indicated that he too was critical of his talk. But other than him, the 200 or so boys in the audience sat silently.

After the Q&A, a line of boys came up to Haidt to thank him and shake his hand—but not a single girl came up to him afterward.

The next session involved 60 students who had signed up for further discussion as was moved to a large classroom. The last thing he wanted to do was to continue the fruitless arguing, so Haidt decided to take control of the session and reframe the discussion:

“What kind of intellectual climate do you want here at Centerville?” he asked the group. “Would you rather have option A: a school where people with views you find offensive keep their mouths shut, or B: a school where everyone feels that they can speak up in class discussions?”

### **Can You Speak Freely or Are You Walking on Eggshells?**

“OK, let’s see if you have that,” Haidt continued. “When there is a class discussion about gender issues, do you feel free to speak up and say what you are thinking? Or do you feel that you are walking on eggshells and you must heavily censor yourself?”

Just the girls in the class, raise your hand if you feel you can speak up?” (about 70% said they feel free, vs about 10% who said eggshells). Now just the boys? (about 80% said eggshells, nobody said they feel free).

Now that the students had a personal stake in the conversation, Haidt continued. “Now let’s try it for race. When a topic related to race comes up in class, do you feel free to speak up and say what you are thinking, or do you feel that you are walking on eggshells and you must heavily censor yourself? Just the non-white students?” (the group was around 30% non-white, mostly South and East Asians, and some African Americans).

A majority said they felt free to speak, although a large minority said eggshells) Now just the white students? (A large majority said eggshells)

“Now, let’s try it for politics,” he added. “How many of you would say you are on the right politically, or that you are conservative or Republican?” (6 hands went up, out of 60 students). “Just you folks, when politically charged topics come up, can you speak freely?” (Only one hand went up,

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but that student clarified that everyone gets mad at him when he speaks up, but he does it anyway. The other five said eggshells.)

Haidt presses on. “How many of you are on the left, liberal, or Democrat?” (Most hands go up) Can you speak freely or is it eggshells? (Almost all said they can speak freely.)

### **Let Me Get This Straight: You Do *Not* Have Such a School**

Dr. Jonathan Haidt explains: “So, let Me get this straight. You were unanimous in saying that you want your school to be a place where people feel free to speak up, even if you strongly dislike their views. But you don’t have such a school. In fact, you have a school in which only people in the preferred groups get to speak, and everyone else is afraid. What are you going to do about this? Let’s talk.”

After that, the conversation was extremely civil and constructive. The boys took part just as much as the girls. They talked about what “Centerville” could do to improve its climate, and Haidt said the most important single step would be to make viewpoint diversity a priority. On the entire faculty, there was not a single teacher that was known to be conservative or Republican. So, if these teenagers are coming into political consciousness inside a “moral matrix” that is uniformly leftist, there’ll always be anger directed at those who disrupt that consensus.

Haidt continues. “And then... they go off to college and learn new ways to gain status by expressing collective anger at those who disagree. They curse professors and spit on visiting speakers at Yale. They shut down newspapers at Wesleyan. They torment a dean who was trying to help them at Claremont-McKenna. (These incidences mentioned are covered and explained in Chapter 3).

And in all cases, they demand that adults in power ‘do something’ to punish those whose views offend them. Their high schools have thoroughly socialized them into what sociologists call victimhood culture, which weakens students by turning them into “moral dependents” who cannot deal with problems on their own. They must get adult authorities to validate their victim status.

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So they issue ultimatums to college presidents; and, as we saw at Yale, the college presidents meet their deadlines, give them much of what they demanded, commit their schools to an ever tighter embrace of victimhood culture, and say nothing to criticize the bullying, threats, and intimidation tactics that have created a culture of intense fear for anyone who might even consider questioning the prevailing moral matrix.”

### **The Only Hope for High Schools and Colleges**

The only hope for Centerville High and America’s colleges is to disrupt their repressively uniform moral matrices to make room for dissenting views. High schools and colleges that lack viewpoint diversity should make it their top priority. Race and gender diversity matter too, but if those goals are pursued in the ways that student activists are currently demanding, then political orthodoxy is likely to intensify.

Per Haidt: “Schools that value freedom of thought should therefore actively seek out non-leftist faculty, and they should explicitly include viewpoint diversity and political diversity in all statements about diversity and discrimination. Parents and students who value freedom of thought should take viewpoint diversity into account when applying to colleges. Alumni should take it into account before writing any more checks and boycott their support until conditions improve.

The endemic problem refers to an unfortunate feedback loop says Haidt: “Once you allow victimhood culture to spread on your campus, you can expect ever more anger from students representing victim groups, coupled with demands for a deeper institutional commitment to victimhood culture, which leads inexorably to more anger, more demands, and more commitment.”

This problem didn’t start at our colleges—it started in high school. As long as many of our high schools are turning out students who have only known eggshells and anger, whose social cognition is limited to a single dimension of victims and victimizers, and who demand safe spaces and trigger warnings,” concludes Haidt, “it’s hard to imagine how any university can open students’ minds and prepare them to converse respectfully with people who don’t share their values. Especially when there are no adults around who don’t share their values.”

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### Where There's Smoke of Free Speech Suppression— There's F.I.R.E.

Demands for censorship of student and faculty speech—whether originating on or off campus—are common, and universities continue to investigate and punish students and faculty over protected expression as shown with many examples in Chapter 3.

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), a national foundation aiming “to defend and sustain the individual rights of students and faculty members at America’s colleges and universities,” immediately endorsed these principles upon their release in 2014.

The following year, the FIRE launched a national campaign asking colleges and universities across the country to adopt the Chicago Principles. As of May 2019, 63 institutions or faculty bodies have adopted or endorsed the Chicago Principles or a substantially similar statement, according to FIRE.

The number of American institutions of higher education adopting the Chicago Principles continues to grow. The FIRE surveyed publicly available policies at 362 four-year public institutions and 104 of the nation’s most prestigious private institutions. Their research focuses in particular on public universities because, as explained in detail below, public universities are legally bound to protect students’ right to free speech and can be successfully sued in court when they do not.

The FIRE rates colleges and universities as “red light,” “yellow light,” or “green light” institutions based on how much, if any, protected expression their written policies restrict. Of the 466 schools reviewed by the FIRE, 133, or 28.5%, received a red light rating. 285 schools received a yellow light rating (61.2%), and 42 received a green light rating (9%).

#### **The FIRE Defines These Terms as Follows:**

**Red Light:** A red light institution is one that has at least one policy both clearly and substantially restricting freedom of speech, or that bars public access to its speech-related policies by requiring a university login and password for access.

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A “clear” restriction is one that unambiguously infringes on protected expression. In other words, the threat to free speech at a red light institution is obvious on the face of the policy and does not depend on how the policy is applied. A “substantial” restriction on free speech is one that is broadly applicable to campus expression.

For example, a ban on “offensive speech” would be a clear violation (in that it is unambiguous) as well as a substantial violation (in that it covers a great deal of what is protected under First Amendment standards). Such a policy would earn a university a red light.

When a university restricts access to its speech-related policies by requiring a login and password, it denies prospective students and their parents the ability to weigh this crucial information prior to matriculation. At FIRE, they consider this denial to be so deceptive and serious that it alone warrants an overall red light rating.

**Yellow Light:** A yellow light institution maintains policies that could be interpreted to suppress protected speech or policies that, while clearly restricting freedom of speech, restrict relatively narrow categories of speech.

For example, a policy banning “verbal abuse” has broad applicability and poses a substantial threat to free speech, but it is not a clear violation because “abuse” might refer to unprotected speech and conduct, such as threats of violence or unlawful harassment. Similarly, while a policy banning “profanity on residence hall door whiteboards” clearly restricts speech, it is relatively limited in scope.

Yellow light policies are typically unconstitutional, and a rating of yellow light rather than red light in no way means that FIRE condones a university’s restrictions on speech. Rather, it means that in FIRE’s judgment, those restrictions do not clearly and substantially restrict speech in the manner necessary to warrant a red light rating.

**Green Light:** If the FIRE finds that a university’s policies do not seriously threaten campus expression, that college or university receives a green light rating. A green light rating does not necessarily indicate that a school actively supports free expression in practice; it simply means that the school’s written policies do not pose a serious threat to free speech.



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### The FIRE's Student Attitudes Free Speech Survey

In 2017, FIRE also contracted with YouGov, a nonpartisan polling and research firm, to conduct a national online survey of 1,250 undergraduate students who were currently attending a two- or four-year educational institution in the United States. Survey respondents were participants in YouGov's online, opt-in research panel, consisting of about 1.8 million individuals.

The aim at each stage of this survey project was to objectively understand the opinions and attitudes of college students. Before publication, this report was externally reviewed by Wendy L. Watson, JD, PhD, and Angela C. Erickson to verify that the results are presented in a fair and honest way. Every effort has been taken to ensure that the following interpretations are accurate.

Some alarming statistics are as follows:

- Very liberal students are fourteen percentage points more likely to feel comfortable expressing their opinions in the classroom than their very conservative peers.
- Half of students (54%) agree that they have stopped themselves from sharing an idea or opinion in class at some point since beginning college.
- Almost one-third of students (30%) have self-censored in class because they thought their words might be considered offensive to their peers.
- Almost one-third of students (29%) have self-censored on campus outside of class because they thought their ideas might be politically incorrect.
- A majority of very liberal students (63%) and almost half of very conservative students (45%) agree that it is important to be part of a campus community where they are not exposed to intolerant or offensive ideas.
- There is a partisan divide of 32 percentage points in attitudes toward campus protest: 28% of Democrats and 60% of Republicans

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agree that they should not have to walk past student protests on campus.

- Democratic students are nineteen percentage points more likely than their Republican peers to agree that there are times a speaker should be disinvited.
- Three-quarters of very liberal students (78%) and less than half of very conservative students (38%) support the withdrawal of a guest speaker's invitation in some cases.

On September 29, 2020, FIRE released their "2020 College Free Speech Rankings: What's the Climate for Free Speech on America's College Campuses?" report that features the opinions of the roughly 20,000 students surveyed by the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, College Pulse, and RealClearEducation.

Other highlights: Seven of the top ten colleges for free speech are public, and only one of the top ten is in the Northeast, while the bottom ten include many schools that repeatedly make headlines for campus censorship.

Notably, eight of the top ten institutions in the study earn the highest, "green light" rating for their free speech policies in FIRE's annual Spotlight on Speech Codes report.

### **The Top Five Colleges For Free Speech:**

1. The University of Chicago (Green)
2. Kansas State University (Green)
3. Texas A&M University (Green)
4. University of California, Los Angeles (Green)
5. Arizona State University (Green)

### **The Worst Colleges For Free Speech:**

1. Syracuse University (Yellow)
2. Dartmouth College (Yellow)
3. Louisiana State University (Red)
4. University of Texas (Red)
5. DePauw University (Red)

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### The Transformation of Hate Speech

Explained by Kim R. Holmes, Executive Vice President at The Heritage Foundation, “A prime example of parsing good speech from bad is the notorious notion of “hate speech,” which involves designating certain kinds of remarks, gestures, expressions, and writings as intentionally hateful and thus worthy of regulation and even criminalization.

Attempts to prohibit hate speech and hate crimes have been around for years in the United States. Appropriate efforts to condemn symbolic acts of violence such as cross burnings by the Ku Klux Klan have expanded over the years inappropriately to include all sorts of alleged speech and thought crimes.”

Holmes adds, “Today a public statement against illegal immigration or same-sex marriage can be labeled hate speech. The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) routinely includes pro-family groups in its list of “hate” groups based solely on their opposition to same-sex marriage.

By and large America’s upper courts have not looked favorably on campaigns to criminalize speech. When such cases have come before the Supreme Court, it has ruled in favor of free speech. Nevertheless, proponents of hate speech restrictions are not giving up. The movement has grown in recent years, particularly as the values and ideologies of identity politics became acceptable to more Americans.”

### Legal Restrictions on Speech

Per Holmes, “There are two types of threatening or defamatory speech that can potentially be restricted by the law. One is any speech, gesture, or conduct that is intended to incite, and is likely to incite, imminent lawless action such as violence.

The second includes certain classes of speech, such as obscenity and libelous words, which can be limited. They were not considered to rise to the level of First Amendment protected speech.

Oliver Wendell Holmes added a twist to the theme of prohibited speech in 1919 when he argued in *Schenck v. United States* that “falsely shouting fire in a crowded theater” was prohibited. The circumstances for restricting

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speech were expanded somewhat, but the main purpose of preventing physical harm was retained.

### **The Rise of ‘Hate Speech’ Rules**

Criminal intent has always mattered in determining if a crime was premeditated. All this started to change with the rise of radical multiculturalism. Under its influence the ideas of hate speech and hate crimes were invented. Instead of worrying about the violent intent of individuals, hate speech advocates wanted to ban utterances, gestures, conduct, or writing that they deemed prejudicial against a protected individual or group.

They were most successful on college campuses, spawning a rash of new speech codes and other imaginative methods to control what people say and think. In the name of diversity certain classes of people—racial minorities, women, and homosexuals—were considered to need protection from offensive language.

The shift was not to some heightened awareness of persecution so much as a new focus on generalizing the causes of the persecution. Hate speech no longer focused on the acts of individuals but on whole classes of people who were supposedly to blame, regardless of what individuals in each class might say or believe.

Despite their success on campus, advocates for hate speech restrictions have been rebuffed repeatedly by the courts. Every attempt to curb free speech in America has run up against the First Amendment, which clearly provides that “Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press ... .”

Since the 1990s, under the influence of the radical multicultural movement, the definitions of hate speech have become far more elastic. In 2009, the National Hispanic Media Coalition outlined its definition in a report. It specified four areas as hate speech: false facts, flawed argumentation, divisive language, and dehumanizing metaphors.

Hate speech was no longer about the explicit words of individuals meant to incite violence, but a general atmosphere of public opinion that could be construed to encourage violence against certain kinds of people.

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### Seeing Speech as Harm

There are profoundly serious problems with the concept of hate speech. For one thing, it fails to distinguish between legitimate political content, which is protected by the Constitution, and explicit intentions to commit violence, which are not.

Under the new rules, what may clearly be an expression of political opinion could be interpreted as offensive to anyone anywhere, and therefore arbitrarily deemed hateful. No direct threats of harm are even necessary. Certain ideas and opinions are now defined by their political content to be the moral equivalent of a threat to do violence and physical harm.

The motive of hatred is inferred not from actual words threatening violence but from, for example, what the National Hispanic Media Coalition deems “false facts, flawed argumentation, and divisive language.” No distinction is made between threatening someone with real violence and merely disagreeing with the facts and arguments. Nor is allowance made for the possibility that a disagreement over facts and logic may have nothing whatsoever to do with feelings of hatred.

Hating someone and criticizing their arguments or positions are not the same thing. A Christian, for example, may object to gay marriage on religious grounds, but that does not mean he hates any individual gay person any more than a gay person’s objection to the traditional definition of marriage means he hates straight people.

To assume that all disagreements are grounded in irrational fears is itself irrational. If it were, otherwise, we might as well abolish not only our universities but our system of law: Both rely on the assumption that people are moral beings with the freedom to make choices. Without that assumption, people honestly could not be held accountable for anything.

If it were all about presumed ill motives, especially those mandated by vague social forces, we might as well not bother to learn the facts about anything. Our pursuit of knowledge and justice fundamentally depends on open and honest debate, and to sacrifice that standard is not only to return to pre-liberal standards of controlling knowledge but to slide over into authoritarian methods of thought control.

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### Losing Objectivity

Another serious flaw is that hate speech laws completely ignore a fundamental principle of American jurisprudence—namely, that a person convicted of a crime must have actual criminal intent.

It is ludicrous to argue that saying offensive words alone or simply disagreeing with someone in an argument shows criminal intent. Even in cases where maliciousness was clearly involved, the Supreme Court has ruled that freedom of speech trumps offensive speech when no physical harm is intended.

It also has ruled that criminal intent is required even in cases where violent language is aimed at a specific person. It is not enough, the high court ruled in the 2015 Facebook case of Anthony Elonis, to show that a “reasonable” person could detect a threat from someone’s postings. The mental state of the person making a threat must be considered to determine whether the real intent to commit violence existed.

Proponents of hate speech restrictions such as New York University Professor Jeremy Waldron believe that criminal intent to commit violence is irrelevant. All that is required for speech to be categorized as hate speech is that a person’s or group’s “dignity” is under threat.

Put aside the huge difference between offending someone and meaning them physical harm. The bigger problem is that it is left almost entirely to the accuser to determine and apply the standards for defining dignity and therefore establish what is offensive and what is not.

The rational give-and-take that one assumes should be part of such determinations—and which necessarily presumes some social consensus on how the speech affects the public good—is short-circuited by giving one side a decided advantage.

The problem is compounded by the fact that there can be legitimate disagreements over the political content of speech. Nor can the determination of hate speech be justified solely on the basis of whether doing so engenders “social peace,” as Waldron argues.

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If this were an unassailable public good in and of itself, we could find any number of authoritarian ways to try to enforce it. But we would be considerably less free and democratic as a result.

Authoritarian rulers ban free speech to maintain public order, but even if this extreme case is not what Waldron and other defenders of hate speech have in mind, we must ask where to draw the line.

Should the people at the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) get to decide that any criticism of Sharia law is ipso facto “Islamophobia” and therefore make it legally prohibited? Nihad Awad, executive director of CAIR has labeled critics of Sharia law “Islamophobic.”

Not since George Orwell’s “thoughtcrimes”—the author’s word for unapproved thoughts in his novel *1984*—has there been so little regard for the dangers of controlling free speech. Not only has the bar been lowered from threatening physical violence to merely giving offense, it is now up to those who allege an offense to decide whether the offense was intended.

What is really in the heart of the accused is immaterial, because both meaning and intent are prejudged by a set of proscribed ideological positions and, in some cases, even by the race of the accused.

### The Death of Freedom

Whatever this may be, it is not liberal Liberalism of all kinds, including the more progressive variety adopted by the ACLU in the 20th century, always made freedom of expression and speech a constitutionally protected principle.

Not anymore. Today free speech is in progressive liberal circles clearly subordinated to other concerns. Lost are not only a sense of balance and proportion but the principle of mediation.

Liberalism has survived all these years because it was flexible. It accepted implicitly the idea that people had different interests as individuals, and that the only way to reconcile those differences was to assume the good faith of everyone equally as individuals.

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Hate speech theory does not do that. It assumes bad faith on the part of people regardless of their stated intentions, essentially calling them liars if they defend themselves against the current orthodoxy.

Above all, hate speech theory obliterates the ethical responsibility of the individual. Liberal philosopher and lawyer Ronald Dworkin was quite right that, as obnoxious as some hateful speech can be, it is necessary to allow it for no other reason than that trying to ban it will undermine the moral case against discrimination.

Ultimately people—individual people—have to make their own moral judgments about how to treat each other with respect and dignity. Having this issue forced on them by law and coercion not only takes away the right of individuals to make that call on their own, it also undermines the moral authority of making the right decision.

As John Locke argued in his Letter Concerning Toleration (1689), coercion in matters of conscience can undercut the moral legitimacy of the oppressor's cause. One must be free to decide; otherwise the decision is not ethical at all but simply a matter of submission as a way to avoid punishment.

One of the unique attributes of being American has been a passionate devotion to free speech. So, are we exaggerating the threat to free speech? Most Americans still cherish free speech. They will not give it up lightly. But the trends are not good and the SAPIENT Being, founded as a Society Advancing Personal Intelligence & Enlightenment Now Together (SAPIENT Being), will demonstrate through sapience that the threat is real to freedom of speech and expression.

As lines get blurred and free speech is cheapened as a mere social fiction by clever intellectuals, we could find ourselves losing one of the most precious birthrights of our historical fight for freedom—the liberty to believe and say what we please about the nature of our government, our politics, and our society.



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## 15 – Become a Sapient Being: Start Now!



There are many paths, experiences, and journeys towards becoming a sapient being and no two are alike. My journey continues to this day, and ultimately, it's up to each of us as to how, when, and where we get there. The two most important things are to get started and remember the journey never stops. The idiocracy is out there in force and thrives on campus so it's going to be a long journey ahead. Be prepared!

Our struggle for sapience reminds me of the story of the Biblical story David and Goliath: The sapient beings are David and the so-called Progressive, New Left, and Postmodernism movements are the Goliaths we must face head on in battle as sapient beings. Despite the odds in battle, we know who prevails with the timely sling of a stone.

Today's stone is a metaphor aims for truth, honesty, and sapience. Though small in size, smartly placed with a high degree of accuracy—anything is possible.

### **Sapient Beings Matter**

To demonstrate what is possible, a loosely defined informal group of commentators who oppose what they believe to be the dominance of

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identity politics, political correctness, partisan politics, and cancel culture in higher education and the news media has immersed. They're known as the Intellectual Dark Web (IDW) and a number of their members are included in *The SAPIENT Being*.

Sources differ on the nature of the IDW, with some describing it as left, and others as ideologically diverse, but nonetheless united against primary adversaries hailing predominantly from progressives, including postmodernism, post-structuralism, Marxism, and political correctness.

*Psychology Today* characterized it as "generally concerned about political tribalism and free speech", or as a rejection of "mainstream assumptions about what is true". *Salon* dubbed it a politically conservative movement united more over a rejection of American liberalism than over any mutually shared beliefs. Alternatively, the *National Review* posited that, despite comprising "all political persuasions", the IDW was united in a particular conservative-leaning conceptualization of injustice and inequality specifically.

Whatever it's called, according to Bari Weiss, individuals associated with the intellectual dark web include:

|                 |                 |                           |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Ayaan Hirsi Ali | Maajid Nawaz    | Lindsay Shepherd          |
| Jonathan Haidt  | Jordan Peterson | Michael Shermer           |
| Sam Harris      | Steven Pinker   | Debra W. Soh              |
| Heather Heying  | Joe Rogan       | Christina Hoff<br>Sommers |
| Claire Lehmann  | Dave Rubin      | Bret Weinstein            |
| Douglas Murray  | Ben Shapiro     | Eric Weinstein            |

### What is the Idiocracy?

An idiocracy is a disparaging term for a society run by or made up of idiots (or people perceived as such). Idiocracy is also the title of 2006 satirical film that depicts a future in which humanity has become dumb.

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The Idiocracy takes its name from a 2006 American science fiction comedy film directed by Mike Judge, who co-wrote it with Etan Cohen titled, “The Idiocracy.” Starring Luke Wilson, Maya Rudolph and Dax Shepard, it tells the story of Joe Bauers (Wilson), an American soldier who takes part in a classified military human hibernation experiment, only to accidentally awaken 500 years later in a dystopian society, in which commercialism has run rampant, and mankind has embraced anti-intellectualism and is devoid of intellectual curiosity, social responsibility, and coherent notions of justice and human rights.

**Idiocracy:** Is democracy gone wrong through idiocy. It is the unfortunate situation where the vote of a person ignorant of even the most basic of facts surrounding an issue or candidate counts exactly as much as the vote of someone who is well-informed about the specific issue or candidate.

### Are You a Sapient Being?

Sapience, also known as wisdom, is the ability to think and act using knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense and insight. Sapience is associated with attributes such as intelligence, enlightenment, unbiased judgment, compassion, experiential self-knowledge, self-actualization, and virtues such as ethics and benevolence.

Being a sapient being is not about identity politics, it’s about doing what is right and borrows many of the essential qualities of Centrism that supports strength, tradition, open mindedness, and policy based on evidence not ideology.

Sapient beings are independent minded thinkers that achieve common sense solutions that appropriately address America’s and the world’s most pressing issues. They gauge situations based on context and reason, consideration, and probability. They are open minded and exercise conviction and willing to fight for it on the intellectual battlefield. Sapient beings don't blindly and recklessly follow their feelings or emotions.

Their unifying ideology is based on the truth, reason, logic, scientific method, and pragmatism—and not necessarily defined by compromise, moderation, or any particular faith—but is considerate of them.

## The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

Does this sound like you? Or someone you want to be? Are you ready for a Society Advancing Personal Intelligence & Enlightenment Now Together (S.A.P.I.E.N.T. ). If the answer is yes—The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being’s two programs: the Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC) Program and the World of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Program might be right for you!

### **Think for Yourself**

Most importantly, per a letter written by Princeton University professor Robert George in 2017 and endorsed by 28 professors from three Ivy League universities for incoming freshmen, “Think for yourself!”

George’s letter continues:

Thinking for yourself means questioning dominant ideas even when others insist on their being treated as unquestionable. It means deciding what one believes not by conforming to fashionable opinions, but by taking the trouble to learn and honestly consider the strongest arguments to be advanced on both or all sides of questions— including arguments for positions that others revile and want to stigmatize and against positions others seek to immunize from critical scrutiny.

The love of truth and the desire to attain it should motivate you to think for yourself. The central point of a college education is to seek truth and to learn the skills and acquire the virtues necessary to be a lifelong truth-seeker. Open-mindedness, critical thinking, and debate are essential to discovering the truth. Moreover, they are our best antidotes to bigotry.

### **Open-Mindedness, Critical Thinking, and Debate are Essential to Discovering the Truth**

Merriam-Webster’s first definition of the word “bigot” is a person “who is obstinately or intolerantly devoted to his or her own opinions and prejudices.” The only people who need fear open-minded inquiry and robust debate are the actual bigots, including those on campuses or in the broader society who seek to protect the hegemony of their opinions by claiming that to question those opinions is itself bigotry.

## The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

So, don't be tyrannized by public opinion. Don't get trapped in an echo chamber. Whether you in the end reject or embrace a view, make sure you decide where you stand by critically assessing the arguments for the competing positions. Think for yourself. Good luck to you in college!

Now, that might sound easy. But you will find—as you may have discovered already in high school—that thinking for yourself can be a challenge. It always demands self-discipline, and these days can require courage.

In today's climate, it's all-too-easy to allow your views and outlook to be shaped by dominant opinion on your campus or in the broader academic culture. The danger any student—or faculty member—faces today is falling into the vice of conformism, yielding to groupthink, the orthodoxy.

At many colleges and universities what John Stuart Mill called “the tyranny of public opinion” does more than merely discourage students from dissenting from prevailing views on moral, political, and other types of questions. It leads them to suppose that dominant views are so obviously correct that only a bigot or a crank could question them.

Since no one wants to be, or be thought of as, a bigot or a crank, the easy, lazy way to proceed is simply by falling into line with campus orthodoxies. Don't do it!

To be sure, our overly-politicized culture has a hard time viewing any “verbal cacophony” as a sign of strength and vibrancy. And perhaps nowhere is this truer than on many college campuses where political correctness is rampant, groupthink is common, and social media “mobs” arise in a flash to intimidate anyone who openly strays from the prevailing orthodoxy.

Yet, university officials do their students – and the surrounding community – a great service when they stand up to speech-squelching bullies, when they refuse to give in to those seeking to use a “heckler's veto” against invited speakers, and when they point people (perhaps especially during trying times) to the importance of free expression, intellectual diversity and civil discourse.

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### Become a SAPIENT Being Member, Activist or Leader

The SAPIENT Being is committed to create a network of student and academic stakeholders united in their intent to see the university live up to its ideals of truth, civil disagreement, and intellectual discovery. We want administrators and professors to stand up for free speech and free inquiry without undue restrictions.

We envision a campus where ideas can be expressed, beliefs challenged and theories critically analyzed so as to help students develop a more comprehensive and valid understanding of varied social and political perspectives, freed from the fear of intimidation by peers and orthodox viewpoints.

The SAPIENT Being is non-partisan and will never partake in campaign activities of any kind advocating for a specific candidate, making political phone calls, encouraging students to participate in campaign events, etc. The SAPIENT Being does not associate with any political party.

The SAPIENT Being is an organization where independent, liberal, and conservative minded students can meet safely and freely together to learn the facts and truth about important public policy issues facing us today and how best to debate and address them with sapience and time tested proven methodologies and philosophies.

We believe it's important to offer a non-partisan educational and activism group for students who are moderates, independent minded or have mixed viewpoints. The SAPIENT Being will offer a forum for debate and discussions on campus and allow a wide variety of viewpoints to be heard. The corollary benefits of membership are civic involvement, free speech activism and leadership development.

Our political ideology is based on reason, logic and pragmatism and not necessarily defined by compromise or moderation—but is considerate of them. Sapient beings are about achieving common sense solutions that appropriately address current and future needs; support the public trust; and serve the common good.

## The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

The Society Advancing Personal Intelligence & Enlightenment Now Together (SAPIENT) Being was founded for the common good by Corey Lee Wilson in 2019 and its primary goals are to help return freedom of speech, viewpoint diversity and intellectual humility to college campuses (and high schools too) by creating and promoting opportunities for open dialogue and common ground where sapience trumps all ideologies and the vast assortment of new age “isms.”

The Society Advancing Personal Intelligence & Enlightenment Now Together (SAPIENT) Being is an education based non-profit 501 (c) (3) non-profit, non-partisan, non-religious, and non-sectarian organization that subscribes to only one ideology; which is human sapience (wisdom); and welcomes with open minds, arms and hearts the believers and practitioners from all ideologies, faiths and walks of life.

### What Makes the SAPIENT Being Unique and Beneficial?

The SAPIENT Being is a new 21st century organization whose philosophical roots and principles of wisdom focus on a world view with a humanistic approach to debating and addressing our most pressing issues with viewpoint diversity, intellectual humility, and freedom of speech.

Acting as a leader, consensus builder and nexus for public policy debates on and off campus, SAPIENT Being organizations and members can rise above political party lines and ideologies, and learn, connect and advance their sapient skillsets for the betterment of themselves, their schools and society in general—and reach a higher state of being in the process.

The SAPIENT Being understands the importance and relevance in providing a voice for the student members in regard to the vision and mission of our organization. They are the front line of defense and activism with ensuring and fighting for freedom of speech every day on their campus and their feedback is critical to the success of our free speech movement.

Your input is extremely valuable and must be heard! High school club members can be as young as thirteen years old and college and university chapter and alliance members can be as young as eighteen years old to



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serve as one of the SAPIENT Being's eight board members (5 post graduate voting members and three student non-voting members).

Few organizations offer such an opportunity at a young age for leadership and the chance to be heard and listened to as BOD members. It's also a mark of distinction and achievement that you and potential employers can look proudly upon when listed in your resume or curricula vitae.

The SAPIENT Being's campus chapter movement and journalism programs are as follows:

### **Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC) Program**

Provide high school and college students the opportunity to start SAPIENT Being campus clubs, chapters, and alliances where independent, liberal, and conservative minded students can meet safely and freely as sapient beings to learn the facts and truth concerning the important issues facing us today. Together, we become wiser in the process by practicing, protecting, and promoting freedom of speech and expression and their principles as part of the Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC) program.

This is a new membership drive with independent students in mind who want to hear both sides of an issue, from any topic, without intimidation. It's also a perfect opportunity for liberal and conservative minded students to pop each other's ideological bubbles, and together, openly, and honestly, discuss and debate the hottest and most contentious issues facing America and the world today. We accomplish this by following the highest standards of civil discourse and debating each other's ideas, premises, and principles without attacking their character with malice and prejudice. This is sapience at its best!

### **World Of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Program**

Return free speech, open dialogue and civil discourse to high school and college campuses without intimidation and threat of violence to those with differences in opinion, ideologies, and practices. Encourage open debate, dialogue, and the free expression of alternative and non-orthodox viewpoints with the goal of creating a World of Writing Warriors (WOWW)

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program that upholds journalistic standards and promotes viewpoint diversity throughout all types of campus journalism and media.

The WOWW Program is a partnership between the SAPIENT Being and Fratire Publishing that provides a unique opportunity for promising and unpublished writers, student and graduate journalists, debate programs and sponsors, white paper researchers and authors of every discipline and background to contribute to any of the *MADNESS* titles and chapters and be recognized for it. Because Fratire Publishing is a small but determined independent publisher, it makes the perfect home for the WOWW Program with its *MADNESS* series of titles.

### Starting a New SAPIENT Being Club, Chapter or Alliance Organization

Starting a SAPIENT Being organization is a great way to gain leadership experience, meet like-minded friends, and make a lasting impact on your campus and your country. Our campus organization types are broken down into three separate categories: clubs, chapters and alliances based on your education level.

Regardless of the clubs, chapters, and alliances type of organization on campus, all of them must be chartered with SAPIENT Being HQ and all of their members must be registered as a SAPIENT Being member. SAPIENT Being membership is only \$25 and is a lifetime membership with no annual renewal required.

For a lifetime membership fee of \$25, the SAPIENT Being can be the nurturing home to those students who are not the right fit for other organizations based on party lines and ideologies and see themselves instead as being above them. Now they have a place to go, thrive and prosper, and become wiser, more sapient, in the process!

By becoming a lifetime member of the SAPIENT Being, you receive a free PDF version of *The SAPIENT Being* book, 25% discount on all of the 50 *MADNESS* series of research books, the opportunity to be one of the three non-voting Board of Directors (BOD) for the SAPIENT Being during your

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academic years, and immediate access to join Fratire Publishing's World Of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Program.

There is no limit on the number of memberships to our organization. However, there is a minimum number of members (4 for high school clubs, five for two-year community college chapters, and six for four-year university alliances) required to be considered an active and registered SAPIENT Being campus organization.

To start an active SAPIENT Being campus organization, each organization is required at the time of chartering and/or renewing their yearly charter, to have and maintain the minimum required number of campus members and the purchase at least once a year of a starter Campus Activism Kit at either the \$100, or \$125 or \$150 level depending on your campus type as shown below.

All types of club, chapter and alliance members and their organizations in whole shall conduct themselves following the CHARACTER COUNTS<sup>®</sup> program that utilizes the Six Pillars of Character consisting of: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship as well as the rules, requirements and best practices outlined and specified in the [SAPIENT Being Organization Handbook](#).

### **Club Organization Requirements at High Schools**

All clubs must maintain the minimum membership number of four (4) members and are considered active when they sign their charter agreement and purchase a \$100 activism kit. The activism kit and membership count show SAPIENT Being HQ and your school that your organization is serious about fighting for and protecting freedom of speech and expression.

These minimum requirements also make your club eligible for nominating and voting on one club representative for the USA to be elected to the SAPIENT Being Board of Directors for a one year term. This is a distinct honor for a club member to be the leader and spokesperson for SAPIENT Being high school club members and organizations by taking part as one of the board of director members.

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## **Chapter Members Responsibilities at 2-Year Community Colleges**

All chapters must maintain the minimum membership number of five (5) members and are considered active when they sign their charter agreement and purchase a \$125 activism kit. The activism kit and membership count show SAPIENT Being HQ and your school that your organization is serious about fighting for and protecting freedom of speech and expression.

These minimum requirements also make your chapter eligible for nominating and voting on one chapter representative for the USA to be elected to the SAPIENT Being Board of Directors for a one year term. This is a distinct honor for a chapter member to be the leader and spokesperson for SAPIENT Being community college chapter members and organizations by taking part as one of the board of director members.

## **Alliance Members Responsibilities at 4-Year Colleges & Universities**

All alliances must maintain the minimum membership number of six (6) members and are considered active when they sign their charter agreement and purchase a \$150 activism kit. The activism kit and membership count show SAPIENT Being HQ and your school that your organization is serious about fighting for and protecting freedom of speech and expression.

These minimum requirements also make your alliance eligible for nominating and voting on one alliance representative for the USA to be elected to the SAPIENT Being Board of Directors for a one year term. This is a distinct honor for an alliance member to be the leader and spokesperson for SAPIENT Being college/university alliance members and organizations by taking part as one of the board of director members.

## **Become a World of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Journalist and Author**

The objectives of the WOWW Program is to return and uphold journalistic standards throughout all types of campus media that in turn preserve freedom of speech, enable, and develop viewpoint diversity, and

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encourage intellectual humility. Together with sapience, the end goal is to question the viewpoint orthodoxy of our students, administrators, and educators at our high school and college campuses—and change it.

This new program aims to provide a diverse opportunity for unpublished writers, student and graduate journalists, debate programs and sponsors, white paper researchers and authors of every discipline and background to contribute to any of the MADNESS titles and chapters published by Fratire Publishing and also be recognized for it. In essence, they become the new age journalistic warriors that Ensure, Enhance and Promote Freedom of Speech, Viewpoint Diversity, and Intellectual Humility in High School and College Campus Journalism and Media.

The constituency to be served will be all of America's high school, community college and university campuses, whether public or private, religious, or secular, and consist of students, administrators, and educators in every discipline and department, young, old, and middle age. It also includes outreach to their education associations and organizations.

### **Vision Statement**

The World Of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Program upholds journalistic standards throughout all types of campus media that ensures and promotes viewpoint diversity of articles content without fear of self-censure and being denied freedom of expression.

### **Mission Statement**

Publish weekly WOWW newsletters for high school, community college and university level journalism programs, news media, and local news outlets to restore a more civil and trustworthy media environment that also informs students and faculty of the benefits and goals of the WOWW Program.

### **Membership Opportunities**

Help create 50 subpages on the Fratire Publishing website for 50 viewpoint diverse topics. The TOC for each will provide an opportunity for unpublished writers, student and graduate journalists, debate programs

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and sponsors, white paper researchers and authors of every discipline and background to contribute to and/or utilize the content for/from the 50 MADNESS titles and chapters published by Fratire Publishing and be recognized and/or benefit from it.

Becoming a WOWW lifetime member is a one-time \$25 fee that includes 25% discount on all of the 50 MADNESS series of reference books. They're also a valuable resource for authors, student papers, theses, journalists, researchers, grant makers, public policy, debates, fact/fake news checking, classroom topics and news reports seeking diverse and alternative subject matter. More information can be found in the [WOWW Program Handbook](#).

These books can by the spark for inspiring students, academic, and researchers to address the hottest issues and topics facing America and the world. The WOWW venue permits writing warriors to fight back and reverse the prevalent fake news bias in mainstream journalism, social media, and illiberal establishments that in principle and practice are antithetical to an intellectually vibrant campus and academic culture.

### **The SAPIENT Being is a Champion of Viewpoint Diversity and Intellectual Humility**

The SAPIENT Being is a champion of viewpoint diversity and intellectual humility and a home for independent minded thinkers to thrive, prosper and be nourished by freedom of thought and expression and rewarded with sapience. It also believes there is an urgent call to civility and community regarding the fundamental principles of the First Amendment and this calling is essential to the security of individual rights and perpetuity of free government.

### **Our Objective is to Make Free Speech Again On Campus**

The SAPIENT Being's primary goal is to return free speech to college campuses (and high schools too) by assessing and revising (as needed) each school's free speech policy by creating opportunities for open dialogue and self-examination that ensures first amendment rights for freedom of speech and expression are fully enforced. We are a non-profit, non-partisan, non-religious, and non-sectarian organization that subscribes to

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only one ideology; which is human sapience (wisdom); and welcome with open minds, arms and hearts the believers and practitioners from all ideologies, faiths and walks of life.

### **Our Purpose is to Ensure and Fight for First Amendment Rights**

This is a perfect opportunity for consensus building between liberal and conservative leaning students to come together and openly debate the hottest and most contentious issues facing America and the world today. The SAPIENT Being also provides a great venue and resource center for moderates and independent minded students who want to hear both sides of an issue, from any topic, without intimidation. We accomplish this by following the highest standards of civil discourse and debating formats that respect other's ideas, premises, and principles without attacking their character with malice and prejudice.

### **Our Goal is to Create Open Dialogue, Empathy and Viewpoint Diversity**

The only known cure for confirmation bias is engaging with other people who see things differently. Only they can find reasons why you might be wrong. Only they can help you improve your thinking. Therefore, an orthodox university cannot make you smarter, it can only confirm the prejudices you brought with you. A heterodox university, in contrast, elevates everyone's ability to reason and sets students up with more realistic expectations about the world they will enter after commencement.

## **What Are You Waiting For? Let's Get Started**

Hopefully, this book was a breath of fresh air and enlightening and your journey from chapter to chapter has made you more sapient and aware of the serious issues before us. If it has, your journey towards becoming a sapient being is only beginning. If it hasn't, you're still our future and please make it count!

The gradual erosion of freedom of speech and expression, intellectual and academic humility, and viewpoint and research diversity has been happening for far too long on our college campuses. It's time for sapient beings to reverse these trends and ensure our students participate in the

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marketplace of ideas, counter the current viewpoint orthodoxy, and become freedom of speech warriors without fear, intimidation, and reprisal.

If you have any questions or require additional info about becoming a member of the WOWW or SAPIENT Being, starting a SAPIENT Being organization on your campus, or participating in the WOWW Program, or anything else, please contact the SAPIENT Being HQ at (951) 638-5562 or at [sapientbeing@att.net](mailto:sapientbeing@att.net) or visit the website at [www.sapientbeing.org](http://www.sapientbeing.org).

If you have an interest in reading more from Corey Lee Wilson, please check out his MADNESS series of books at 're



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## Appendix

### **FOUNDATION FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IN EDUCATION (FIRE) PROGRAMS:**

#### **College Free Speech Rankings 2020 (by FIRE & RealClearEducation):**

<https://www.thefire.org/research/publications/student-surveys/2020-college-free-speech-rankings/2020-college-free-speech-rankings-full-text/?vc=tvmPxm3xYe6NRq2WqZLXuA4vcwN6z8HbLSgR88BTAN#executive-summary>

**Misc. Programs:** <https://www.thefire.org>; <https://www.thefire.org/about-us/programs/>

- Adopting the Chicago Statement
- Disinvitation Report 2014
- FIRE Faculty Network
- FIRE Student Network
- High School Outreach Project
- Individual Rights Defense Program
- Legislative and Policy Project
- Litigation Project
- Policy Reform Project
- Procedural Advocacy Project
- Public Awareness Project
- Spotlight on Speech Codes 2019
- Targeted Advocacy Project

#### **Model Freedom of Expression Resolution Based on University of Chicago**

**Statement:** <https://www.thefire.org/model-freedom-of-expression-resolution-based-on-university-of-chicago-statement/>

### **HETERODOX ACADEMY (HxA) & PROGRAMS:** <https://heterodoxacademy.org>

- All Minus One: John Stuart Mill's Ideas on Free Speech, Illustrated
- Campus Expression Survey
- Guide to-Colleges
- Half Hour of Heterodoxy
- The OpenMind Platform
- Viewpoint Diversity Experience

### **PRAGER U & VIDEOS:** <https://www.prageru.com/>

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- Prager U Five-Minute Videos Library: <https://www.prageru.com/series/5-minute-videos/>
- PragerU Takes Legal Action Against Google and YouTube for Discrimination: <https://www.prageru.com/press-release/prageru-takes-legal-action-against-google-and-youtube-for-discrimination/>
- Andrew Klavan's definition of fake news:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOZ0irgLwxU>

### **TEMPLETON FOUNDATION PROGRAMS:**

<https://www.templeton.org/news/strategic-priority-qa-intellectual-humility>

- The Joy of Being Wrong – John Templeton Foundation:  
<https://youtu.be/mRXNUx4cua0>

### **SAPIENT BEING PROGRAMS:**

- **Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC) Program:**  
<https://www.sapientbeing.org/programs>
- **World of Writing Warriors (WOWW) Program:**  
<https://www.sapientbeing.org/programs>

# The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

## Glossary

**Academy** – Is an institution of secondary education, higher learning, research, or honorary membership. Academia is the worldwide group composed of professors and researchers at institutes of higher learning.

**Capitalism** – An economic system characterized by private or corporate ownership of capital goods, by investments that are determined by private decision, and by prices, production, and the distribution of goods that are determined mainly by competition in a free market

**Chicago Statement** – Refers to the free speech policy statement produced by the Committee on Freedom of Expression at the University of Chicago in 2014, with “articulating the University’s overarching commitment to free, robust, and uninhibited debate and deliberation among all members of the University’s community.”

**Civic Literacy** – The knowledge and skills to participate effectively in civic life through knowing how to stay informed, understanding governmental processes, and knowing how to exercise the rights and obligations of citizenship at local, state, national, and global levels.

**Civil Discourse** – Requires respect of the other participants, such as the reader. It neither diminishes the other's moral worth, nor questions their good judgment; it avoids hostility, direct antagonism, or excessive persuasion; it requires modesty and an appreciation for the other participant's experiences.

**Communism** – A theory advocating elimination of private property and a system in which goods are owned in common and are available to all as needed

**Constructive Disagreement** – Occurs when people who don’t see eye-to-eye are committed to exploring an issue together, alive to their own fallibility and the limits of their knowledge—and open to learning something from others who see things differently than they do.

**Critical Theory** – Is a social theory oriented toward critiquing and changing society as a whole. It differs from traditional theory, which focuses only on understanding or explaining society. Critical theories aim to dig beneath the surface of social life and uncover the assumptions that keep human beings from a full and true understanding of how the world works.

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**Cultural Relativism** – Cultural relativism is the idea that a person's beliefs, values, and practices should be understood based on that person's own culture, rather than be judged against the criteria of another.

**Democracy** – A government by the people; especially : rule of the majority b : a government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections; a political unit that has a democratic government.

**Equality of Outcomes** – It means that given the same opportunity and privileges two people should end up in the same position or at least equal position. But equality of opportunity does not promise equality in the outcome. People have different levels of skill and put different amounts of effort into work they do.

**Fake News** – A broad term that collectively includes bias manifested in many different ways in mainstream journalism, social media, and illiberal establishments that in principle and practice are antithetical to an intellectually vibrant and viewpoint diverse sapient being mindset. Per Andrew Klavan's edited definition at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOZ0irgLwxU>.

**Fascism** – A political philosophy, movement, or regime (as that of the Fascisti) that exalts nation and often race above the individual and that stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition; a tendency toward or actual exercise of strong autocratic or dictatorial control.

**Frankfurt School** – The Frankfurt School's biggest intellectual creation was Critical Theory, an approach to cultural analysis that focuses on criticizing existing social structures. It's founding members included Max Horkheimer, Theodor Adorno, Erich Fromm, Walter Benjamin, Jürgen Habermas, and Herbert Marcuse.

**Heckler's Veto** – In American free speech, a heckler's veto is a situation in which a party who disagrees with a speaker's message is able to unilaterally trigger events that result in the speaker being silenced.

**Hypersensitivity** – Symptoms of hypersensitivity include being highly sensitive to physical (via sound, sight, touch, or smell) and or emotional stimuli and the tendency to be easily overwhelmed by too much information.

**Idiocracy** – An idiocracy is a disparaging term for a society run by or made up of idiots (or people perceived as such). Idiocracy is also the title of 2006 satirical film that depicts a future in which humanity has become dumb.

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**Illiberalism** – In popular usage, the word is used to describe an attitude that is close-minded, intolerant, and bigoted.

**Intellectual Humility** – A mindset that encompasses empathy, trust, and curiosity, viewpoint diversity gives rise to engaged and civil debate, constructive disagreement, and shared progress towards truth.

**Intellectual Dark Web (IDW)** – Is a loosely defined informal group of commentators who oppose what they believe to be the dominance of identity politics, political correctness, partisan politics, and cancel culture in higher education and the news media.

**Intersectionality** – A theoretical framework for understanding how aspects of one's social and political identities might combine to create unique modes of discrimination.

**Libertarian** – An advocate of the doctrine of free will; a person who upholds the principles of individual liberty especially of thought and action; a member of a political party advocating libertarian principles.

**Marcuse, Herbert** – A German-American philosopher, sociologist, and political theorist, associated with the Frankfurt School of Critical Theory. Author of the *One-Dimensional Man: Studies in the Ideology of Advanced Industrial Society*, a 1964 best seller primarily known by the "power of negative thinking" became the standard for revolutionary speech in the movement he called the "Great Refusal." Marcuse distinguished between repressive tolerance, a form of tolerance that favors the already powerful and suppresses the less powerful, and a liberating tolerance, a form of tolerance that discriminates in favor of the weak and restrains the strong.

**Marxism** – The political, economic, and social principles and policies advocated by Marx and a theory and practice of socialism including the labor theory of value, dialectical materialism, the class struggle, and dictatorship of the proletariat until the establishment of a classless society.

**Multiculturalism** – The view that cultures, races, and ethnicities, particularly those of minority groups, deserve special acknowledgement of their differences within a dominant political culture.

**Nietzschean** – A will to power with overflowing strength, both of mind and body, who must discharge this strength or perish, is the Nietzschean ideal.

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**Open Inquiry** – Is the ability to ask questions and share ideas without risk of censure.

**Political Correctness** – A term used to describe language, policies, or measures that are intended to avoid offense or disadvantage to members of particular groups in society.

**Postmodernism** – Is an intellectual stance or a mode of discourse that rejects the possibility of reliable knowledge, denies the existence of a universal, stable reality, and frames aesthetics and beauty as arbitrary and subjective.

**Progressivism** – A political philosophy in support of social reform based on the idea of progress in which advancements in science, technology, economic development, and social organization are vital to improve the human condition.

**Republic** – A government having a chief of state who is not a monarch and who in modern times is usually a president; a political unit (as a nation) having such a form of government; a government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officers and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law.

**Sapience** – Also known as wisdom, is the ability to think and act using knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense and insight. Sapience is associated with attributes such as intelligence, enlightenment, unbiased judgment, compassion, experiential self-knowledge, self-actualization, and virtues such as ethics and benevolence.

**Scientific Method** – A way of investigating a phenomenon that's based on the collective analysis and into interpretation of evidence to determine the most probable explanation. The five basic steps in scientific method: 1) statement of the problem, 2) collection of facts, 3) formulating a hypothesis, 4) making further inferences, and 5) verifying the inferences.

**Social Justice** – A political and philosophical theory which asserts that there are dimensions to the concept of justice beyond those embodied in the principles of civil or criminal law, economic supply and demand, or traditional moral frameworks.

**Socialism** – Any various economic and political theories advocating collective or governmental ownership and administration of the means of production and distribution of goods. A system of society or group living in which there is no private property. A system or condition of society in which the means of production are owned and controlled by the state. A stage of society in Marxist

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theory transitional between capitalism and communism and distinguished by unequal distribution of goods and pay according to work done.

**Tyranny of Feelings** – A recurring problem in contemporary discourse is the tyranny of emotion over reason as a guide to behavior. Its simplest, crudest form is the insistence in certain dialogues that if one feels offended, then that emotion should be honored and not questioned.

**Untruth of Emotional Reasoning** – Always trust your feelings.

**Untruth of Fragility** – What doesn't kill you makes you weaker.

**Untruth of Us Versus Them** – Life is a battle between good and evil people.

**Viewpoint Diversity** – Viewpoint diversity occurs when members of a group or community approach problems or questions from a range of perspectives.

**Virtue Signaling** – Is the conspicuous communication of amoral values and good deeds. The term has negative connotations as it is commonly used to denote virtuous actions and statements are motivated by a desire for rank and satisfaction.

**Woke** – Is a political term that refers to a perceived awareness of issues concerning social justice and racial justice. It derives from the African-American Vernacular English expression "stay woke", whose grammatical aspect refers to a continuing awareness of these issues.



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# The S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being

## Author Bio



Corey Lee Wilson was raised an atheist by his liberal *Playboy* Bunny mother, has three Anglo-Hispanic siblings, a brother who died of AIDS, baptized a Protestant by his conservative grandparents, attended temple with his Jewish foster parents, baptized again as a Catholic for his first Filipina wife, attends Buddhist ceremonies with his second Thai wife, became an agnostic on his own free will for most of his life, and is a lifetime independent voter.

Corey felt the sting of intellectual humility by repeating the 4<sup>th</sup> grade and attended eighteen different schools before putting himself through college at Mt. San Antonio College and Cal Poly Pomona University (while on triple secrete probation). Named Who's Who of American College Students in 1984, he received a BS in Economics and won his fraternity's most prestigious undergraduate honor, the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity's Shideler Award, both in 1985. In 2020, he became a member of the Heterodox Academy.

As a satirist and fraternity man, Corey started Fratire Publishing in 2012 and transformed the fiction "fratire" genre to a respectable and viewpoint diverse non-fiction genre promoting practical knowledge and wisdom to help everyday people navigate safely through the many hazards of life. In 2018, he founded the SAPIENT Being to help promote freedom of speech, viewpoint diversity, intellectual

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humility and most importantly advance sapience in America's students and campuses.

The SAPIENT Being has two programs, the Make Free Speech Again On Campus (MFSAOC) and World of Writing Warriors (WOWW) to promote its mission and vision of sapience. The WOWW program plans to self-publish 50 *MADNESS* non-fiction textbooks in partnership with Fratire Publishing over the span of the 2020 decade in alliance with the MFSAOC program to start 50 chapters on America's high school and college campuses by 2030.

If you're interested in the MFSAOC Program and starting a S.A.P.I.E.N.T. Being club, chapter, or alliance please go to <https://www.SapientBeing.org/start-a-chapter>, e-mail [SapientBeing@att.net](mailto:SapientBeing@att.net), or call (951) 638-5562 for more information.

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Hopefully, this book was enlightening and your journey through it made you aware of the issues and challenges ahead of us. If it has, your journey towards becoming a sapient being has begun. If it hasn't, there's no better time to start than now. Come join us in creating a society advancing personal intelligence and enlightenment now together (S.A.P.I.E.N.T.) and become a sapient being.

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on Campus



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