



About the IOPA Strategy - [objectivepolicyassessment.org]

Trustworthy sources of policy assessment insights are always important. While there are enough important policies to create 'room' for several organizations committed to objectivity and diversity of perspective, no existing organizations come close to bending over backwards to assure it. IOPA will. A research organization totally committed to objectivity and diversity of perspective is especially important now, in *these times of unprecedented polarization, and time management challenges*. Policymakers typically cannot take the time to survey several respectable research organizations to see an issue whole. It can be very important to have a single respected source of different perspectives. For the policies IOPA assesses, IOPA aims to be that single respected source of the important perspectives; being insightful and inciteful.

Because there are no unbiased individuals, IOPA's commitment to objectivity and diversity of perspective will begin with an up-to-date public posting of IOPA Principal Investigators' grounds for bias (particular perspectives), including memberships and publications that could signal such bias, or any basis for a particular perspective. Before IOPA studies are published, they will be subjected to external, blind review, whenever possible, by someone(s) known to hold a different perspective than the IOPA author. That review *may* yield revisions and an IOPA author reply that contests reviewer comments. Those items (policy assessment-comment-reply) are posted together to an online public conversation forum. The IOPA website will contain a more detailed description of the IOPA policy for assuring maximum objectivity and diversity of perspective.

Since no organization can adequately address all of the important policy issues, IOPA hopes to 'infect' other research organizations; that is, persuade them to adopt IOPA's objectivity and diversity of perspective policies, or better yet, improve upon the IOPA policy. And IOPA will provide a 'Good-Housekeeping-Seal' equivalent certification of the practices of others that credibly claim to discourage bias, warn of potential bias, and provide diverse perspectives. IOPA will evaluate requests for the certification, or declare worthiness/unworthiness of the certification on its own. IOPA is committed to assessment of important, controversial policies, anti-bias, pro-diversity-of-perspective, outreach, and accountability.