

Thanks so much for taking the time to speak with me. I promise I won't take up too much of your day! As I said in my email, my colleague, Kristin Goss at Duke, and I are trying to understand how foundations are meeting the challenges presented by the new administration. We're not looking for any particular point of view. But it's an unusual time and we've heard lots of conflicting opinions about the role of foundations in today's environment.

This is for a scholarly research project and our results will be published in academic journals. We won't use your name or identify your foundation in any way. So anything you tell us is confidential. But we would like to be able to use quotations and paraphrase information you provide, excluding of course any material that might make you or your foundation identifiable. Would that be alright?

Q 1. I've looked at your web site and I think I have an understanding of what your foundation does. Now that we are nine or so months into the Trump administration, I'm interested in whether you feel like the programs you fund are being negatively affected or by the administration, positively affected by the administration, or, not really being affected at all?

[If R does not elaborate on negative/positive effects, prompt him/her to do so.]

PER ANSWER ABOVE, EITHER

Q2a, if negative That's really interesting. Could you tell me if you have had the chance to do any kind of strategizing in light of the possibility that the new administration could harm programs or constituencies that are working to enhance.

PROBE: Is the Foundation working with other foundations or other kinds of organizations to push back against these changes? [If necessary, see if the coalition is new and if it is formal or informal.]

Q2b, if positive That's really interesting. Is the Foundation working with the administration or with other foundations to push these proposals or priorities forward?

If neutral, skip to Q. 4

Q3 (excluding neutrals). Has any of this caused you to change your strategic plan or ongoing funding priorities? [If necessary, prompt to see if foundation is doubling down on existing programs, or adding new ones, or both.]

Q4. Have you or other leaders at your foundation taken any actions, *beyond funding*, in response to the election? For example, speaking out through the media, signing a petition, joining or withdrawing from a government commission, etc.

[Prompt R to elaborate, regardless of answer]: Could you tell us about any deliberations you may have had about whether to speak out publicly – that is, the pros and/or cons of doing so?

Q5. A final question and then I'll let you get back to your day job. We've been monitoring the nation's largest foundations and the debate in the foundation press about the role of foundations in today's environment. Some foundations have pledged money to advocacy efforts to stop Trump. Others have been noticeably silent even though many of their programs are being harmed by Trump. Is it the role of foundations to engage in advocacy to fight for or against a president? Or in general terms should foundations stay away from advocacy before government?

Q6. Thanks so much. This has been immensely helpful. Is there anything I missed, anything you'd like to add?