

# Draft of Observer Column Sparks Strong Social Media Response

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The *Observer*, APS's membership magazine, found itself in an unusual position this week when a draft of an upcoming Presidential Guest Column began [circulating on Facebook and Twitter](#). The opinion piece, written by APS Past President Susan T. Fiske at the invitation of current APS President Susan Goldin-Meadow, decries the unmoderated criticism of researchers on social media.

The piece, submitted for publication in the magazine's November issue and still in the editing phase, has generated a strong response on Twitter and Facebook, with many criticizing both Fiske and the *Observer* for its tone and content.

APS encourages its members to air differing viewpoints on issues of importance to the field of psychological science, and the *Observer* provides a forum for those deliberations, Goldin-Meadow notes.

"Susan Fiske is a distinguished leader in the field and I invited her to share her opinion for an upcoming edition of the magazine," she says. "It's unfortunate that many on social media view her remarks as an attack on open science, when her goal is simply to remind us that scientists sometimes use social media in destructive ways. APS fully expects and welcomes discussion around the issues she raises."

Those wishing to share their opinions on this particular matter are invited to submit comments in the space below. Alternatively, letters can be sent to [apsobserver@psychologicalscience.org](mailto:apsobserver@psychologicalscience.org). We ask that your comments include your full name and affiliation.