

SIG Report by Jana Bickel

In March I handled a complaint. Someone complained about the Investment SIG, that instead of talking about investments, the group spoke about how to get Trump re-elected. I told him I would see what I could find out and maybe go to the next meeting.

I researched the issue. I contacted Robin Crawford, Communications Officer to see if there was a national rule about discussion of politics in Mensa. She did not think there was such a rule but referred me to the national SIG coordinator whom I contacted but got no response. I checked the national website for any rules about discussing politics. I didn't find any. Then I checked the GLAAM By-laws and SIG rules and saw no reference to politics being taboo.

I thought at first I would attend the next SIG meeting, but since that wasn't feasible, I spoke to the SIG Coordinator, Fran Shankle. She admitted that the group had been together for some time and occasionally veered off into politics and she wasn't always able to get them back on topic. We discussed the complaint. I told her I could find no Mensa rule that said you couldn't discuss politics at a Mensa meeting but that I just wanted her to know I had a complaint. She recognized the person and said he was always welcome to come back but I don't think she felt she could promise there would never be any discussion of politics.

I reported back to the complainant. He was disappointed with my response, mostly because I hadn't gone to the meeting. But after talking to Fran I did not feel attending a meeting was necessary plus I really didn't want to hear about politics either. At this point I consider the issue closed.

I also updated the webpage and the SIG listing for LAMENTARY.