

## Conversation over Facebook Messenger

---

Rylie Gill

5/4/21, 6:34 PM



Good evening. I'm president of MSOE Right to Life, who put up the Black Baby Lives Matter display today in Werwath mall. Was this your signage that your organization posted on our signs? If so, it needs to be understood that interfering with another orgs display and consequently talking away from the displays purpose is unacceptable at MSOE (even with newer orgs).



Please feel free to set up your own display, but please don't continue to interfere with other org's displays. Thanks!



If this is not your doing, please disregard this message.

Hello Riley,

Thank you for reaching out to us. As a student organization, our goal is to expand political discourse on campus and as such we saw your display as a fantastic opportunity to get a conversation moving. We believe that our signage did not detract from your message - nothing was covered and quite frankly it was removed

quickly and easily after being put up.

We maintain that students should be able to have some back and forth and expression of opinions, and that is supported in the MSOE Code of Conduct. Specifically in Article 17, "Students have the right, accorded to all persons by the Constitution, to freedom of speech, peaceable assembly, petition and association. Students and student organizations may examine and discuss all questions of interest to them, and express opinions publicly as well as privately. They may support causes by lawful means that do not disrupt the operation of the university, or organizations accorded use of university facilities. "

Our message did not disrupt the operation of the university nor was it intended to detract from your display. It simply invited students to talk about it. The display itself did not identify who put it up or where conversations could happen.

That said, we want to be professional and respectful with our conduct on campus and will express ourselves at our own displays and events in the future. Thank you for reaching out to us, and thank you for your work spreading political opinions on campus.

President John Bilkey and MSOE Libertarians



Again, I support freedom of speech and discourse on campus—there is nothing that allows your org, however, to interfere with other displays. I understand your intent—but your org did not do this in a correct manner. If you want to facilitate political communication on campus, I strongly suggest posting color posters in the CC near the elevators explaining your orgs intentions.



Regardless of my orgs stances on political issues—it is not my place to suggest that we communicate by directly interfering with your events and displays without permission for collaboration. Please consider this going forward.