

## **EIC Notes May 2020**

**John Kennedy**

**Editor-in-Chief**

This issue has five articles, which is another significant milestone for *AJPOR*. We hope to have 5-6 articles in each issue going forward. I would also like to point to another goal that we have for *AJPOR* – a mix of “timely” and “evergreen” articles. I consider timely articles to address current issues in public opinion. Evergreen articles might be timely, but more importantly, they build on extensive prior research and will likely contribute to further development of the topic. No bright line can be found between the two types and every article can contain some timely and evergreen information.

An example of an evergreen article is the “grit” article by Jihye Choi. Grit and its companion, “resilience,” have been extensively researched over the past 10 years. The article builds on the prior research and will contribute to further research on the topic. Researchers have examined grit in a number of populations and this article adds another population, further demonstrating the utility of the concept.

The “fake news” articles are more timely (unfortunately). Over the past four years, more researchers in more countries have intensively examined the effects of fake news on public opinion. Personally, I hope that fake news research fades away because fake news stops. But, what we learn from fake news research, such as the evolving methods to research the topic, can be used for subsequent research.

The point of my essay is to say that we envision that *AJPOR* will have a mix of timely and evergreen articles. We have invited scholars who are researching the COVID-19 pandemic to contribute to the August issue of *AJPOR* (timely articles) but we will also have articles on new public opinion research methods that will be more evergreen. I invite you to submit both types of articles for the next issue.

### **Biographical Note**

**John Kennedy** directed the Indiana University Center for Survey Research for 24 years. He also directed the University of Hartford Institute of Social Research for two years and was employed at the US Census Bureau for four years. He earned a PhD in sociology from the Pennsylvania State University. He has been involved in the development of a number of professional journals and was the founding editor of *Survey Practice*, an e-journal published by the American Association for Public Opinion Research. He has also been actively involved in professional research ethics including chairing Indiana University Social Behavioral IRB for 12 years and he served on two committees that revised the American Sociological Associations Code of Ethics. He teaches a graduate course in Survey Design.

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