

Diversity in the Discipline of Philosophy with High School Ethics Bowl

High School Ethics Bowl is the first exposure to philosophy for many high school students in Arkansas. This project will examine whether High School Ethics Bowls have the potential to promote diversity among students of philosophy. I will also analyze the cases, the structure of the bowl, and the participants' impressions of their experience presenting philosophical arguments in an academic setting to determine the ways in which High School Ethics Bowls do or do not provide an inclusive environment. I will also collect demographic data about the participants in the Arkansas 2019 High School Ethics Bowl and compare that with available data about the demographic diversity of college graduates with philosophy BAs and with philosophers working in the profession. This project can potentially help future Bowl organizers anticipate and mitigate barriers to participation for members of under-represented groups

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Katherine Roberts is a student at UA Little Rock and expected to graduate in Spring of 2020 with a BA in both Psychology and Philosophy. Katherine holds the Vice President position in the Socratic Society, a student-led organization that promotes philosophical community on campus, and is a member of Phi Sigma Tau, the International Honor Society in Philosophy. After graduation, Katherine plans to continue her education in Psychology, earning a PhD and becoming a professor.