

### **Handling editor comment-**

I noted both reviewers provided constructive guidance that creates a clear pathway for revising the manuscript. Reviewer 1 highlighted areas for improving clarity and completeness, including the need to explicitly state the study's problem statement, explain a model mentioned in the literature review, provide source support for methodological decisions, and clarify ethical considerations regarding participant involvement. Additionally, Reviewer 1 suggested specifying variables for future research and updating references to reflect more recent scholarship. Reviewer 2 focused on strengthening the manuscript's theoretical grounding and practical significance by recommending the addition of a theoretical framing, clarifying the purpose and contribution of modeling BSW students' activism, emphasizing key findings, and concluding with actionable implications for research and curriculum design. Reviewer 2 also suggested including a brief disclaimer regarding the study's origin as a faculty-supervised student project. Together, these comments provide a roadmap for enhancing the manuscript's rigor, clarity, and relevance to social work education.