

### **Review comment -3**

The manuscript is important for the scientific community because it offers valuable qualitative insights into how graduate students conceptualize social justice, contributing to the understanding and promotion of equity-oriented education in higher education contexts.

The introduction, literature review, and discussion sections are well written. However, the methodology section needs a major revision.

Introduction and the literature review are well written and are comprehensive. Methodology is suitable. However, the following points need to be addressed.

1. Research question should be at the end of literature review section.
2. Make the sample, procedure, and analysis new subtitles.
3. The sampling section describes who participated but not how they were selected. Please explain your sampling method.
4. While journaling prompts are listed, the methodology could elaborate on the length, frequency, and structure of journal entries and how reflections were guided.
5. Data analysis procedure should be more detailed. Indicate the coding process more precisely.
6. You should have some insight into the findings. Simply writing the quotes is not enough here.
7. Trustworthy effort is missing.
8. Positionality statement. Add a short paragraph acknowledging the instructors' positionality.