**Title of Study:**

Practitioner Perceptions Regarding Admission Practices Impact on Ethnic Diversity in Occupational Therapy

**Criteria for Participation:**

* Licensed occupational therapist (OT) or occupational therapy assistant (OTA)
* Attend an OT or OTA program within the United States

**Purpose of Study:**

The intent of this mixed methods study is to address the impact of the admission process and criteria effecting the diversification of clinicians within the occupational therapy profession. An explanatory sequential mixed methods design will be used, and it will involve collecting quantitative data first and then explaining results with in-depth qualitative data. In the first, quantitative phase of the study, data from a questionnaire will be collected from OT practitioners, consisting of OTs and OTAs who currently practice in Texas solicited through the Texas Occupational Therapy Association to test the critical race theory to assess how OT and OTA practitioners relate to the admissions process of OT and OTA programs. The second, qualitative phase will be conducted as a follow up to the quantitative results to help explain the quantitative results. In this exploratory follow up, the tentative plan is to explore the lived experiences of the admissions process of OT and OTA practitioners who currently practice in Texas (Creswell, 2014, p.134).

**Statement of Purpose (provided to participants):**

This survey is being administered to the general OT and OTA population in Texas to obtain perspectives of diversity within the occupational therapy profession viewed through the lens of those who have been through the admissions process. As diversity can be a broad topic, the researcher has developed the survey to gain general information regarding diversity in regards to ethnicity/race within the profession of occupational therapy as well as specific information in relation to the impact of diversity based on admissions practices within OT and OTA programs. Information obtained from the survey will provide the researcher with an overall view of admissions process within OT and OTA programs impact on diversity within the OT profession.

In addition, the survey will enable the researcher to obtain perspective participants for data collection from interviews. The survey will be anonymous, the researcher will seek interested participants from this survey who self-identify as interested in participating in the interview as indicated by the last question of the survey.

Completing the online survey will take 15-20 minutes. There are no known risks associated with participation in this study. There is no direct benefit, in the form of compensation, for participating in this study; however, your participation will help the researcher better understand lived experiences amongst occupational therapy professionals regarding the admissions process in occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant programs and the relation to diversity.

Your data will pose no risk to your privacy during the conduction of the study. The data collected from the study is for educational purposes and will be published in aggregated form. The study records and collected data will be kept secure and confidential. I would be happy to share the results and findings after the research has been concluded. After three years, the data will be destroyed.

Do not hesitate to ask questions about the study before participating or during the study. I can be contacted at 713-303-1841 or by email at kebotd@gmail.com. The Faculty Sponsor, Babette M. Eikenberg, Ed.D., may be contacted at eikenbbm@stthom.edu.