



Human Subjects Protection Review Committee

Project Description -- Quantitative

NAME: _____

TITLE OF STUDY: _____

1. Purpose: *Include a purpose statement here*

The purpose of this study is to learn more about play therapists' confidence in solving ethical and legal challenges in their clinical practice.

- a. Number and Description of Participants: *Include number and description of participants. If participants are at an agency other than the University of Holy Cross, include a letter (on letterhead) authorizing you to distribute questionnaires at that site, signed by a person in authority at that site.*

I will survey 85-130 members of the Association for Play Therapy. Participants may be provisionally or independently licensed as mental health providers. Participants may be Registered Play Therapists (RPT), School-Based Registered Play Therapists (SB-RPT), or Registered Play Therapist-Supervisors (RPT-S), or they may be under supervision toward one of these credentials. I will not have a letter of authorization until I receive HSRB approval and contact the Association for Play Therapy to seek permission to conduct my study.

- b. Materials: (describe and attach copy)

Include description of questionnaires, interventions, etc. Attach a copy of all questionnaires.

I will utilize Qualtrics to ask participants to complete the General Self-Efficacy Scale (GSES), the Ethical and Legal Issues in Counseling Self-Efficacy Scale (ELICSES), and demographic questions. The GSES measures general self-efficacy, and is 10 questions. The ELICSES measures Ethical and Legal Self-Efficacy, and is 23 questions.

- c. Procedure:

Include how you are going to get people to complete questionnaires, participate in interventions, etc. Include what you are going to tell them about the study.

Once I have obtained approval from the University of Holy Cross Human Subjects Review Board (HSRB), I will forward a summary of the proposed study and a copy of the HSRB approval to APT. Once APT has approved my study and I have received the email list, I will send participants a brief overview of my study, request their participation, link to the study, and thank them for their time. The study will be hosted on Qualtrics and will include an informed consent. I will anticipate a 10% return of surveys. In round 1, I will ask 1,000 individuals to complete the survey in hopes of obtaining the minimum number of participants needed for this study. If I am unable to obtain enough completed and usable surveys, I will send more requests to systematically selected email addresses.

II. Protection

a. Privacy:

Will people answer anonymously? If no, how will you make sure that you respect their privacy?

People will answer anonymously.

b. Informed Consent:

What will you tell participants beforehand about the research?

Hello! My name is _____ and I am a doctoral student at the University of Holy Cross in New Orleans, Louisiana. I am requesting your participation in my research study aimed at exploring ethical and legal self-efficacy in play therapists. The participants in this study must be over the age of 18 years old and must hold a graduate degree in a mental health discipline. Participants must also either hold or be under supervision toward a credential with the Association for Play Therapy. This survey should take you approximately 10 minutes to complete using Qualtrix, an online survey system, and will ask questions related to ethical and legal issues and general self-efficacy. Participation in this study is anonymous, and holds minimal risk. If you become upset while participating, you can call the free national crisis hotline at 988. Please contact me with any questions or concerns at _____@uhcno.edu. Thank you in advance for completing the survey.

Informed Consent

By clicking the link below to complete the survey, you acknowledge you have read the information above and that you are agreeing to participate in the study.

(insert the link here)

c. Risks/Unforeseen Consequences/Protections

Include any risks and how you will handle the situation if this happens. For example, if you upset someone, will you refer them to the counseling center, the counselor on site, or

somewhere else?

While the risks are minimal to this study, I have instructed participants to call the crisis line at 988 if they become unsettled during the survey. It is possible, but not probable, that a participant may feel upset at their level of confidence in resolving professional challenges. I also included my contact information so that participants can ask questions or share concerns.

d. Benefits

Include benefits to respondents for participating in this study. Extra credit is optional, and not sufficient. For example, might they think more about some important topic if they answer the questions?

This study will raise awareness of a gap in the literature within the field and hopefully help participants to think more deeply about this important subject.

Researcher Signature

Date

NOTE: Save using your name, such as Jane.Doe.HumanSubjects

**DUE: Monday 6:00 p.m. before the Wednesday noon
meeting**

Submit electronically to:

Michaela Hartline, Ph.D., LPC
Board Certified Counselor
Co-Chair, UHCNO Human Subjects Protection Review Committee
O: (504) 398-2233
mhartline@uhcno.edu

Survey Packet

Ethical and Legal Issues in Counseling Self-Efficacy Scale (ELICSES)

The items below describe different ethical and legal issues that regularly confront counselors in their practice. In the right columns, please rate how confident you are in your ability to address the specified ethical and legal issue. Rate your degree of confidence by choosing a number from 0 to 100 using the given scale. Please only choose one number per response item.

1. Distinguish when it is appropriate to report a case of abuse.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

2. Maintain wellness to support my own counselor functionality.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

3. Determine whether a client and counselor interaction is a boundary violation.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

4. Recognize when it is appropriate to report a case of neglect.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

5. Diagnose a presenting concern with client and/or student.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

6. Define ethical and legal terms (e.g., subpoena, due process, & confidentiality).

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

7. Recognize signs of abuse and/or neglect.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

8. Respond to potentially suicidal clients and/or students.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

9. Interpret a formal diagnosis of a mental and/or emotional disorder.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

10. Take appropriate actions regarding potentially suicidal clients.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

11. Circumvent negative dual relationships.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

12. Describe the steps to take when facing an ethical dilemma.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

13. Demonstrate knowledge of civil rights laws regarding clients and/or students.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

14. Explain the professional role of a counselor.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

15. Develop appropriate behaviors to support counselor wellness.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

16. Comprehend discrimination laws and ethics as they apply to my clients and/or students.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

17. Interpret the federal acts or laws to clients and/or students as they pertain to a presenting issue or situation.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

18. Resolve an ethical dilemma.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

19. Identify possible symptoms of abuse and/or neglect.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

20. Recognize possible feelings of burnout within myself.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

21. Recognize appropriate multiple relationships.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

22. Implement and report assessments effectively.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

23. Respond to a subpoena for records.

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

General Self-Efficacy Scale (GSES)

	Not at all true	Barely true	Moderately true	Exactly true
1. I can always manage to solve difficult problems if I try hard enough.	1	2	3	4
2. If someone opposes me, I can find means and ways to get what I want.	1	2	3	4
3. It is easy for me to stick to my aims and accomplish my goals.	1	2	3	4
4. I am confident that I could deal efficiently with unexpected events.	1	2	3	4
5. Thanks to my resourcefulness, I know how to handle unforeseen situations.	1	2	3	4
6. I can solve most problems if I invest the necessary effort.	1	2	3	4
7. I can remain calm when facing	1	2	3	4

difficulties because I can rely on my coping abilities.				
8. When I am confronted with a problem, I can usually find several solutions.	1	2	3	4
9. If I am in a bind, I can usually think of something to do.	1	2	3	4
10. No matter what comes my way, I'm usually able to handle it.	1	2	3	4

Demographic Questions

1. What is the level of the highest degree you have earned?
 - a. Master's
 - b. Educational Specialist (EdS)
 - c. Doctorate (PhD, EdD, PsyD, MD, etc.)
 - d. Other (please describe): _____
2. How many years ago did you complete your last graduate degree associated with your license (Master's in Counseling, Master's in Social Work, Master's in Marriage and Family Therapy, Master's in Psychology, Doctorate in Psychology, etc.)? If less than one year, enter zero.
3. How many years have you been practicing play therapy? If less than one year, enter zero.
4. Are you credentialed by the Association for Play Therapy, or under supervision toward a credential with the Association for Play Therapy?

- a. RPT
 - b. RPT-S
 - c. SB-RPT
 - d. SB-RPT-S
 - e. Under active supervision towards a play therapy credential
 - f. Not under active supervision, but practicing play therapy
 - g. Other (please describe):
5. In the past three years, approximately how many continuing education hours of training have you completed in law and ethics specifically related to play therapy? If none, please enter zero.
6. What is your primary practice setting?
 - a. Community mental health agency
 - b. Private Practice
 - c. School
 - d. In-home agency
 - e. Hospital
 - f. Other (please describe): _____
7. Approximately what percentage of your current caseload utilizes play therapy with children ages 2-12, including collateral work with parents, caregivers, teachers, and other professionals (example 25%, 50%, 70%, 100%)? If none, enter zero.
8. In what year were you born?
9. What is your gender?
 - a. Male

- b. Female
- c. Transgender Male
- d. Transgender Female
- e. Nonbinary
- f. Other (please describe): _____
- g. Prefer not to Respond