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## BACKGROUND

Justice Based Occupational Therapy (JBOT) assembled an international network of OTs and key stakeholders to promote justice reform. The goals of JBOT are to:

- Explore the role of occupational therapy in justice-based practice, teaching, and research, identifying which information is critical for sharing with a wider audience
- Disseminate resources to articulate the role of occupational therapy in justice-based practice (Jaegers et al., 2020a).

In early 2020, we identified four needed actions: **advocacy/policy, education, resources, and research to advance occupational justice.** In this study we sought to compile activities related to occupational justice during 2020 -2021 to describe actions taken.

## DESIGN

- Descriptive study design
- Using qualitative approach JBOT defined constructs for coding artifacts into the four main action categories:
  - Advocacy/policy
  - Education
  - Resources
  - Resource



<https://www.brunel.ac.uk/law/news-and-events/news/Statement-of-solidarity-and-support-for-Ukraine>

**CONCLUSION:** We found *forward momentum* of justice-related advocacy/policy, education, resources, and research and the need for exploration of sustainability. A powerful influence on occupational therapy has been exhibited in one year by way of needed actions identified by JBOT, however, wider spread dissemination is needed for **maximizing impact.**

## METHODS

Inclusion topics from March 2020-March 2021 identified in:

- OT journals
- Association activities,
- Educational opportunities, and
- Online outreach

Artifacts were gathered through discussion in JBOT network meetings (n=9), through social media networks, literature searches, and online searches.

## RESULTS

- The four focus areas of JBOT were substantially represented within JBOT and the OT community in the form of 56 artifacts. Solutions (n=26), Concerns (n=17) and other feedback were suggested.
- Findings indicate the **overarching theme of occupational justice is becoming more prominent in legislation, practice, and education.**
  - Example action steps included:
    - Combating health disparities
    - Advocating for BIPOC representation in academia
    - Incorporating occupational justice into OT curriculum
    - Funding research to identify the hardships that practitioners, students, and academics face regarding systemic injustices.

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**SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY.**  
 — EST. 1818 —

## Examples of Artifacts

### Advocacy & Policy

**WFOT Statement on Systemic Racism**

The World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) condemns systemic racism and stands in solidarity with the global Black Lives Matter movement. The Statement is also available in Arabic, German and Spanish.

Systemic racism exists. Systemic racism is an abuse of human rights and actions need to be louder than words. Condemning racism is not enough, systemic racism needs to be addressed as a global priority. Occupational therapists, assistants, and students must be committed to freedom and justice in their own communities, and as professional global citizens.

### Education



AOTA Presents *Be Heard- We're Listening Session: "Addressing Diversity, Equity, and*



Process for the Approval of Education Programmes  
 updated October 2020

### Research



**Occupation, injustice, and anti-Black racism in the United States of America**

Ryan Lavalley & Khalilah Robinson Johnson

**ABSTRACT:** In the summer of 2020, the death of George Floyd – yet another unarmed Black man killed at the hands of police – thrust race and racism to the forefront of public attention in the United States. Across the country, demonstrations and protests mobilized to end police brutality, one mechanism of systemic racism in this country's history and present. As this paper explores, occupation has played a role in the systemic racism against Black people in the United States. In recent years, occupational scientists have critiqued their assumptions regarding the qualities and effects of occupation. The following examination contributes to the growing body of critical literature and considers the occupation can be a vehicle for justice as much as justice. By investigating the construction of race and the dissemination of racism, including its propagation through everyday living, the role of occupation in community formation and development is more fully understood. In pursuing this goal, we hope to reveal the real and often unacknowledged history of racism in the United States that must be recognized and confronted to move toward incorporation, healing, and social transformation. This inspiration uncovers powerful moments which occupation and everyday living have provided through which racism was constructed and calls upon occupational scholars to be reflective and critical in their research and practice in order to optimally support the people they serve.

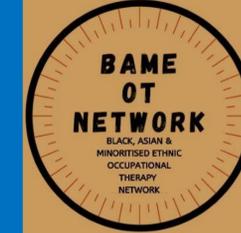
**OTPotential**

Hot Topics in OT (2020)

By Sarah Lynn O'Rourke, January 15, 2020

**HOT TOPICS IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

### Resources



**BAMEOTUK Presents: Let's talk Freedom To Speak up**

**Racial Equity in Occupational Science: A Virtual Conversation for Strategy-Building**

with event speakers:  
 Dr. Krystal's Ann and Elizabeth  
 Associate Professor, University of Northern California  
 Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy, University of Illinois  
 Dr. David Thomas  
 Associate Professor and Director of Academic Programs  
 Dr. Jaime Muñoz  
 Associate Professor and Department Chair  
 Occupational Science

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2:30 - 5:00 PM EDT**  
 FREE FOR ALL TO ATTEND. \$20 FOR THE ONLINE WORKSHOP. REGISTRATION WILL OPEN BY SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

**Gender and Sexuality Workshop**

Follow this organizer to stay informed on future events

LSBU Occupational Therapy Society  
 Event creator

The Coalition of Occupational Therapy Advocates for Diversity presents...

**CO TAD IGNITE**

SERIES IV  
**Call to Action for Disability Inclusion in Occupational Therapy**

Barriers & Challenges of People with Disabilities in the OT Profession

Moved to Feb. 11  
 Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021 from 6 - 8 p.m. CST

More information and a link to register are available at [www.cotad.org](http://www.cotad.org)

Jaegers, L. A., Dieleman, C., Dillon, M. B., Rogers, S., Muñoz, J. & Barney, K. F. (2020). Justice-based occupational therapy initiative: Advancing occupational justice in criminal justice systems. *Annals of International Occupational Therapy*. DOI: 10.3928/24761222-20200309-02  
 Jaegers, L.A., Muñoz, J., Washington, S., Rogers, S., Skinner, E., Dieleman, C., White, J. A., Haworth, C., Shea, C.-K., Connors, B., Millsap, M., Young, C., West-Bruce, S., Hennessy, A., Nelson, M., Dillon, M. B., Daaleman, C., Barney, K. F. (2020b, June 16). Justice-based Occupational Therapy Response to Occupational Therapy Statements on Justice and Racism. *JBOT*, 2(2). <https://www.slu.edu/misssion-identity/initiatives/transformativ-justice/pdfsimages/jbot-newsletter-vol2-issue2.pdf>