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## **Predictors of Social Change Leadership Values in Entry Level Occupational Therapy Students**

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Greater awareness of occupational therapy's distinct value as a health care profession that improves health and quality of life through positive and cost effective outcomes, affords the profession critical opportunities to impact health care at local, national, and global levels. It is imperative that entry level practitioners develop social change leadership values to effect positive social change in health policy, accessibility, and provider models in constantly evolving healthcare environments. The development of these values will increase the number of social change agents in the profession for the purposes of advocacy for occupational therapy and the clients that we serve. This quantitative research study examined the development of social change leadership values in entry level occupational therapy students throughout the United States based on scores from the Socially Responsible Leadership Scale (SRLS-r2) and influences of past involvement in leadership activities. Results substantiated that involvement in leadership programming had the greatest influence on the development of social change leadership values. As seminal research on leadership development of occupational therapy students, this research has implications for influencing the focus of occupational therapy educational curriculum and emerging leaders' development programs with a focus on the development of social change leadership values.

Objectives:

1. Describe the Social Change Model of Leadership Development
2. Discuss methodology and findings of a study on the development of social change leadership values in entry level occupational therapy students in the United States
3. Report results and implications for future practice in the realm of education and leadership programming