

Dear Participant,

This letter is a request for you to take part in a research project to examine the relationships among internalized heterosexism, shame proneness, and disclosure in supervision for sexual minority supervisees. This project is being conducted by Christian Carey, M.A. in the Department of Counseling and Learning Sciences at West Virginia University under the supervision of Dr. Lisa F. Platt, an assistant professor in the College of Education and Human Services. Your participation in this project is greatly appreciated and will take approximately 15-20 minutes to fill out the linked questionnaire.

If you decide to participate, you will be asked to answer a variety of questions examining internalized heterosexism, shame proneness, and disclosure. Your involvement in this project will be kept as confidential as legally possible. All data will be reported in the aggregate. **You must identify as a mental health clinician currently in supervision, as actively providing supervised therapy at a clinical site within the U.S., as 18 years of age or older, as a sexual minority (not heterosexual), and as a binary, cis-gender individual (male or female, non-transgender)** to participate. I will not ask for any information that should lead back to your identity as a participant within this survey, but once the survey is completed, and you meet the criteria stated above in bold, a link to a different form is provided for your contact information to receive a **\$5 Amazon gift card**. This is done to separate your responses from the limited identifying information.

Your participation is completely voluntary. You may skip any question that you do not wish to answer, and you may discontinue the survey at any time. Your relationship with the university will not be affected if you decide either not to participate or to withdraw. West Virginia University's Institutional Review Board's acknowledgment of this project is on file.

In the event that you become distressed while completing the survey, please end the survey immediately and contact **The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Treatment Referral Helpline** – **1-877-SAMHSA7 (1-877-726-4727)** for general information on mental health and locate treatment services in your area. Additionally, support can be access through the **GLBT National Help Center (<http://www.glbtnationalhelpcenter.org/>) at 888-843-4564** and **NAMI (<https://www.nami.org/Your-Journey/Identity-and-Cultural-Dimensions/LGBTQI>)** provides other online resources.

I hope that you will participate in this research project to help understand the experiences of sexual minority supervisees. Our presence is of value to the field, and I hope this study continues to improve the supervision experience for future sexual minority clinicians. Thank you very much for your time. Should you have any questions about this letter or the research project, please feel free to contact Christian Carey by e-mail at ccarey7@mix.wvu.edu, or Dr. Lisa Platt at (304) 293-2176 or Lisa.Platt@mail.wvu.edu

Thank you for your time and help with this project. You can begin the survey at this link: https://wvu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6nZyiYhxBr0GpaC

Sincerely,
Christian Carey
Doctoral Candidate, Counseling Psychology
West Virginia University