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A Texas State Plan and Guidelines for the Education of the Gifted and Talented: Is There Evidence of Discrimination Toward Minority Children?

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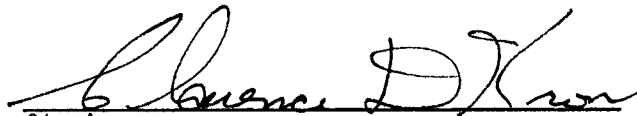



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THE TEXAS STATE PLAN AND GUIDELINES FOR THE EDUCATION OF
THE GIFTED AND TALENTED: IS THERE EVIDENCE OF
DISCRIMINATION TOWARD MINORITY CHILDREN?

by

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RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT

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ABSTRACT

This paper addresses The Texas State Plan and Guidelines for the Education of the Gifted and Talented which was developed by the Texas Education Agency in 1980 to assist local school districts in planning and implementing programs for the gifted. The purpose of the paper is to address the plan and guidelines and determine whether or not they tend to lead to discrimination against the minority populations within schools. It examines five major areas of concern: the local definition of gifted and talented, the biases and attitudes of members of the community and educators in the school system, the criteria selected for identifying gifted children in the district, the validity and reliability of the testing measures selected by the local district, and the funding of such programs. The paper then attempts to address how The Texas State Plan addresses these issues, as well as how it fails to address them.