

**INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
(IPV) AMONG LESBIAN, GAY,
BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER,
QUEER+ (LGBTQ+)**

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AGENDA

The “So What”- Why This Is Important

Myths/Misconceptions

Abusive Tactics

Challenges/Barriers And The Impact

Importance As Providers And Staff

Key Takeaways

Resources

Questions



PROCESSING ACTIVITY:

WHAT'S YOUR GENDER STORY





**WHY IS THIS
IMPORTANT?**

LGBTQ POPULATION

UNITED STATES

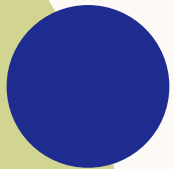
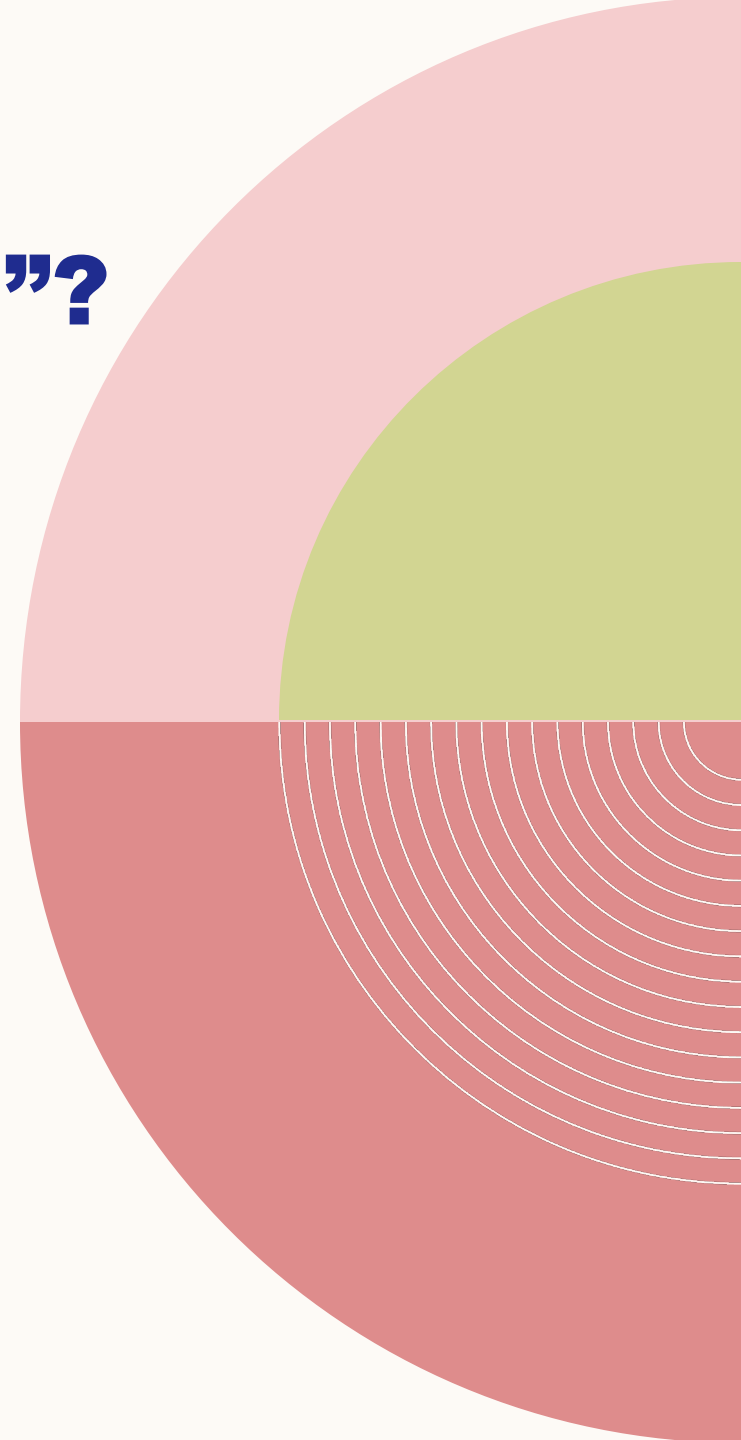
- GALLUP: a global and American analytics organization (2022)
 - **7.1%** of U.S. adults identify as LGBT
 - 4% bisexual, 1% lesbian, 1.5% gay, 0.7% transgender, 0.3% other of the U.S. population
 - Of LGBTQ respondents, 57% identified as bisexual, 21% as gay, 14% as lesbian, 10% as transgender and 4% as other
 - More than 1 in 5 (21%) of GenZ adults (18-25y/o) identify as LGBTQ vs. Millennials (26-41y/o) at 10.5%, GenX (42-57y/o) at 4.2%, Baby Boomers (58-76y/o) at less than 3%, and Traditionalists (77+y/o) at 0.8%

MILITARY SPECIFIC

- Council on Foreign Relations (2018)
 - Approx. 1.3mil currently serving in U.S. armed forces
- RAND Corporation health survey (2018)
 - First direct estimate of the military's LGBT population, even though LGB people have been allowed to serve openly for seven years
 - **6.1 %** self-identified as LGBT
 - **0.6%** identified as transgender
 - Navy had the highest concentration of LGBT people- **9.1%**
 - Numbers are likely very underreported, given that surveys required self-identification
- Center for American Progress analysis from U.S. Census Bureau (2021)
 - Approx. **79k** LGBT currently serving in the armed forces
 - Est. 1mil LGBT veterans- facing higher levels of economic insecurity, housing instability, and mental health concerns than non-LGBT counterparts (DADT- dishonorable d/c barriers)

WHY THE SUDDEN RISE “MYTH”?

- The underlying prevalence of LGBTQIA+ has always been there, but society has shifted to allow such individuals to be more open about their identity
 - In the 1950’s many research studies designed to grant anonymity found that approx. 10% of the population would fall under the LGBTQIA+ as defined today
 - These findings were consistent in the US and Europe
- How researched conduct surveys has changed
 - E.g. “Are you gay?” has been replaced by “Do you have same sex attraction?”; including terms such as “gender nonconforming”; etc.
- Increasing awareness that sexual orientation and gender identity are not categorical variables, but occur along a continuum



MYTHS/MISCONCEPTIONS REGARDING IPV AND LGBTQ+

- IPV is only about men hurting women in heterosexual relationships

“Abuse is not about violence; it’s about control. You can be just as controlling of someone if you are small – as if you’re large. It’s about using violence or any other means of gaining and maintaining control.”

– Beth Leventhal, executive director of The Network/La Red in Boston

- IPV doesn’t occur in LGBTQ+ relationships
- Women cannot have IPV against one another
- Women cannot rape women
- Women cannot rape men

*“Domestic violence is framed as something about male/female relationships, derived from sexism, not from a larger framework of oppressions. I hear all the time, maybe queer relationship violence is there, but it can’t be as bad or frequent as in abusive straight relationships. **Even if it is named, it is minimized.**”*

- Survivor, [Raising Our Voices: Queer Asian Women’s Response to Relationship Violence](#)

VICTIMIZATION PREVALENCE WITHIN LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

- LGBTQ+ experience domestic and sexual violence at comparable rates (slightly higher in some sub-groups) to non-LGBTQ+ people
 - additional marginalized identities (i.e. women of color, undocumented immigrants, etc. experience higher rates/at greater risk of experiencing IPV)
- LGBTQ+:
 - 1 in 4 to 1 in 3 same-sex relationships has experienced IPV
- Heterosexual women:
 - 1 in 4 heterosexual women has experienced IPV in her lifetime
- Variation of prevalence rates and types of IPV within the LGBTQ+ subgroups

VICTIMIZATION PREVALENCE WITHIN LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY CONT.

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), and the
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Intimate
Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) - (2018):

- Rape, physical violence and/or stalking by intimate partner in their lifetime
 - lesbians: **43.8%**
 - bisexual women: **61.1%**
 - heterosexual women: **35%**

 - gay men: **26%**
 - bisexual men: **37.3%**
 - heterosexual men: **29%**
- Rape: bisexual women experience sexual violence at rates **2x** higher than heterosexual women
 - bisexual women: **22%** (roughly 1 in 5)
 - heterosexual women: **9%** (roughly 1 in 10)

VICTIMIZATION PREVALENCE WITHIN LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY CONT.

- Groups within the LGBTQ+ community are disproportionately impacted by IPV
 - Black LGBTQ+ people- more likely to experience IPV than individuals of other races in the LGBTQ+ community
 - White LGBTQ+ people- more likely to experience sexual violence
 - LGBTQ+ on public assistance- more likely to experience IPV
 - Bisexual individuals- more likely to experience sexual violence compared to those who do not identify as bisexual
 - Transgender individuals- more likely to experience threats/intimidation, harassment and police violence in a relationship, compared to other LGBTQ individuals
 - physical abuse:
 - transgender: 34.6%
 - gay or lesbian: 14%
 - more likely to experience IPV in public

VICTIMIZATION PREVALENCE WITHIN LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY CONT.

- U.S. Transgender Survey and the National Transgender Discrimination Survey (2015):
 - Transgender individuals experience disproportionate rates of violence, particularly transgender people of color (POC)
 - Transgender/Non-binary IPV:
 - 54%- reported some form of IPV, including acts involving coercive control and physical harm
 - 47%- reported sexual assault in their lifetime
 - 10%- (1 in 10) reported sexual assault within the past year
 - Transgender IPV among POC:
 - 53%- reported sexual assault in their lifetime
 - 13%- reported sexual assault within the past year
 - On average, at least 22 transgender and gender non-conforming people have been victims of fatal violence per year in the past 7 years- majority being Black transgender women (experiencing a violent killing rate roughly 5x that of the general public)
 - LGBTQ+ people, especially transgender, bisexual or in the Black or Latinx community- more likely to live in poverty, lack health insurance, and without access to paid leave benefits

LGBTQ+ YOUTH AND DATING VIOLENCE

CDC's Youth Risk Behavior System (YRBS)- (2017):

- Non-LGBTQ+ youth:
 - physical- 7%
 - sexual- 8%
- LGBTQ+ youth:
 - physical- 18%
 - sexual- 16%
- Bisexual youth:
 - physical- 18%
 - sexual- 17%
- Transgender youth:
 - physical- 20%
 - sexual- 12%
- LGBTQ+ youth experiencing physical dating violence (by race):
 - Black- 19%
 - Native American- 20%
 - Asian- 13%
 - Latinx- 16%
 - White, non-LGBTQ+- 6%
- LGBTQ+ youth experiencing sexual dating violence (by race):
 - Black- 14%
 - Native American- 10%
 - Asian- 21%
 - Latinx- 17%
 - White, non-LGBTQ+- 8%
- LGBTQ+ youth of color- at increased risk of experiencing physical and sexual dating violence compared to non-LGBTQ+, white youth

ABUSIVE TACTICS

- Similar patterns of abuse between heterosexual and same-sex or queer+ relationships
- Patterns of abuse include:
 - a cycle of physical, emotional, psychological mistreatment
 - creating feelings of isolation, fear, and guilt

ABUSIVE TACTICS SPECIFIC TO LGBTQ+

- Unique power and control dynamics are present in LGBTQ+ relationships
- Notable distinctions in patterns of abuse/abusive tactics:
 - identity abuse (IA)
 - study of 734 sexual minority adults: women (53.1%); men (27.4%); TGNC (19.3%)
 - participants identified: queer or pansexual (38.7%); gay (23.6%); lesbian (13.6%)
 - survey included measure of IA, physical, sexual and psychological abuse
 - nearly 1/5 (16.8%) experienced IA in past year, 40.1% in adulthood
 - women experienced greater exposure to IA in adulthood than men
 - TGNC reported higher rates of IA in adulthood in past year compared to cisgender
 - odds of queer or bisexual participants reporting IA in adulthood were almost 3x higher than gay participants, and 2x higher than lesbian participants
 - “outing”
 - accusing victim of bringing shame to the LGBTQ+ community/not “protecting” the community
 - threat to take away children (similar; however, a distinction due to possible lack of parental rights)

ABUSIVE TACTICS SPECIFIC TO TRANSGENDER INDIVIDUALS

Specific forms of abuse among Transgender include a partner:

- using offensive pronouns (i.e. “it” or the not preferred pronouns)
- ridiculing transgender partner’s body and/or appearance
- telling transgender partner they aren’t a “real man” or “real woman”
- ridiculing transgender partner’s identity as “bisexual”, “trans”, “femme”, “butch”, “gender queer”, etc.

UNIQUE BARRIERS/CHALLENGES REGARDING LGBTQ+ AND IPV

- Unintended “outing”
- Discrimination- (i.e. by reporting agencies- police, medical and services providers)
- Harassment- prior experiences of physical/psychological trauma (i.e bullying, hate crimes)
- Lack of culturally responsive services that are LGBTQ+ specific/friendly
- Focus of the traditional model of heterosexual relationships
- Challenges in screening for IPV
- Legal system- labeling as “mutual”; less likely to prosecute, over-incarceration
- Homophobia/Transphobia- blaming someone’s identity and “lifestyle”
- Lack of support from non-LGBTQ+ survivors
- Lack of appropriate training
- Fear of reinforcing negative stereotypes- “inherently dysfunctional”
- Lack of LGBTQ+ inclusive violence prevention efforts and healthy relationship programming

IMPACT OF UNIQUE BARRIERS/CHALLENGES

National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP)- data collected from 22 U.S. states:

- 2011:
 - **61.1%** of LGBTQ+ survivors reported being denied access to shelter, an increase from 2010 (44/6%)
 - police arrested survivors or both individuals in **28.4%** of incidents involving the police, an increase from 2010 (21.9%)
- 2012:
 - Fewer than **5%** of LGBTQ+ survivors of IPV sought orders of protection
- 2017:
 - male same-sex relationships, only **26%** of men called the police for help, even after experiencing near-fatal violence
 - **45%** of LGBTQ+ survivors of IPV do not report to police because they believe they will not be helped

IMPACT OF UNIQUE BARRIERS/CHALLENGES CONT.

U.S. Transgender Survey (USTS):

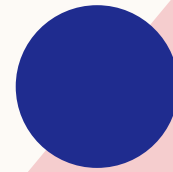
- 2015:
 - Transgender people of color experienced deeper/broader forms of discrimination than white USTS respondents (**1.5x greater**)
 - Black transgender women experience even higher rates of all types of violence, including police violence, criminalization, unemployment, poor health care (**transmisogynoir**)
 - Black transgender people report to experience higher rates of IPV; however, report less comfort reaching out to police, medical providers, and shelters



IMPORTANCE AS A PROVIDER AND STAFF

- Continued learning and education; be your own educator
- Cultural competency and cultural humility
- Awareness and knowledge of LGBTQ+ inclusive language
- Awareness and knowledge of LGBTQ+ specific abusive tactics
- Know LGBTQ+ specific resources and services available
- Understanding of unique barriers/challenges when working with or referring to other resources/services
- Check your biases at the door
- Know the guidelines and standards of care regarding TGNC individuals
- Know when outside of your scope and being comfortable seeking guidance
- Explore your own gender identity and sexuality

RESOURCES



GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS OF CARE

- **Defense Health Agency Procedural Instruction (DHA-PI)**
 - Guidelines for Gender-Affirming Health Care of Transgender and Gender-Diverse Active and Reserve Component Service Members
 - <https://health.mil/Reference-Center/DHA-Publications/2022/11/14/DHA-PI-1025-02>
- **APA Practice Guidelines**
 - Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming People
 - <https://www.apa.org/practice/guidelines/transgender.pdf>
- **The World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH)**
 - Standards of Care for the Health of Transsexual, Transgender, and Gender Nonconforming People 7th Ed.
 - www.wpath.org/publications/soc

LEADING ORGANIZATIONS FOR LGBTQ+ AND IPV

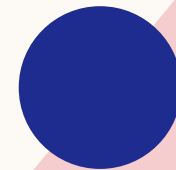
- FORGE (forge-forward.org)
- National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP)
- The Network/La Red
- The Northwest Network

IPV RESOURCES & SUPPORT SERVICES FOR LGBTQ+

- Blackburn Center: Hotline 1-888-832-2272 or 1-724-836-1122
- Fenway's Violence Recovery Program: 617-927-6250; fenwayhealth.org/care/behavioral-health/violence-recovery
- FORGE: Trans-specific anti-violence resources; forge-forward.org
- Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project Hotline: 1-800-832-1901
- GLBT National Help Center: Hotline 1-800-246-PRIDE or Online Chat at <http://www.volunteerlogin.org/chat/>
- Love is Respect Hotline: 1-866-331-9474 (24/7) or Text "loveis" 22522
- National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs: www.avp.org
- National LGBTQ Institute on IPV: LGBTQIPV.org
- National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE (24/7) or
 - Online Counseling at <http://ohl.rain.org/online/>
- The Anti-Violence Project: Hotline 212-714-1124; Bilingual (24/7)

LGBTQ MILITARY-SPECIFIC RESOURCES

- The Behavioral Health of Minority Active Duty Service Members (Sponsored by PHCoE)
https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR4247.htmlThe Behavioral Health of Minority Active Duty Service Members article on the [rand.org website](https://www.rand.org)
- LGBTQI+ Health & Well-being from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
<https://www.hhs.gov/programs/topic-sites/lgbtqi/index.html>LGBTQI+ Health & Well-being on the [HHS.gov website](https://www.hhs.gov)
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex (LGBTQI+) from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) <https://www.samhsa.gov/behavioral-health-equity/lgbtqi>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex (LGBTQI+) on the [SMHSA website](https://www.samhsa.gov)
- LGBT Resources from MyNavy HR <https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/21st-Century-Sailor/LGBT-Resources/LGBT-Resources> on [MyNavyHR website](https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil)
- Legal and Financial Consideration for Lesbian and Gay Service Members from Military OneSource
<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/legal/other-legal-issues/legal-and-financial-considerations-for-lesbian-and-gay-service-members>Legal and Financial Considerations for Lesbian and Gay Service Members on the [Military OneSource website](https://www.militaryonesource.mil)
- LGBTQ in the Military: A Brief History, Current Policies and Safety from Military One Source
<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/military-life-cycle/friends-extended-family/lgbtq-in-the-military>LGBTQ in the Military: A Brief History, Current Policies and Safety on the [Military OneSource website](https://www.militaryonesource.mil)
- LGBT Service Members and Veterans from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
<https://www.benefits.va.gov/persona/lgbt.asp>



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THANK YOU

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*Email for additional media, crisis and hotline
support resources

QUESTIONS?



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