LGBTQ2S+ Homeless Youth Sex Trafficking Victims (Sexually Exploited Youth)

Sarah Kent, One-n-Ten
Homeless Resource Navigator
Homeless Housing Case Manager
Exploited Victims Advocate

Research from Kimberly Hogan, MSW, MA ASU Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research

ASU School of Social Work
Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research

ASU School of Social Work
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

one.n.ten
Today’s Youth. Tomorrow’s Future.
Intersectionality
YOUSOUP Recipe

Ingredients:

**base & broth**
- race
- ethnicity
- gender
- sexuality
- disability status

**early additions**
- socioeconomic status
- geographic location
- education
- family structure

**optional**
- hobbies & passions
- religion & faith
- career
- political beliefs

**secret ingredients**
- personal experiences
- changes to other ingredients
- hidden identities
- misperception of ingredients
LGBTQ Competency
I really have no clue.
I was just guessing random letters.
Is it Dutch?

A GROUP OF PEOPLE
- Lesbian
- Gay
- Bisexual
- Transgender
- Queer or Questioning

LGBTQ

Acronym referring to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer or Questioning.

Acronym used to designate a community of people whose sexual or gender identities can create shared political and social concerns.

Different identities within “LGBTQ”.

Specific needs and concerns related to each individual identity.
Gender Pronouns

Please note that these are not the only pronouns. There are an infinite number of pronouns as new ones emerge in our language. Always ask someone for their pronouns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjective</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Possessive</th>
<th>Reflexive</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>Her</td>
<td>Hers</td>
<td>Herself</td>
<td>She is speaking. I listened to her. The backpack is hers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
<td>Him</td>
<td>His</td>
<td>Himself</td>
<td>He is speaking. I listened to him. The backpack is his.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They</td>
<td>Them</td>
<td>Theirs</td>
<td>Themself</td>
<td>They are speaking. I listened to them. The backpack is theirs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ze</td>
<td>Hir/Zir</td>
<td>Hirs/Zirs</td>
<td>Hirself/Zirself</td>
<td>Ze is speaking. I listened to hir. The backpack is zirs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, go to transstudent.org/graphics
Definitions

Gender Identity
How an individual defines their gender

Gender Expression
How an individual shows their gender to others

Sexuality
Based on attraction to others, separate from gender
Definitions

**Trans**gender
Trans = across

**Cis**gender
Cis = same

Someone whose gender identity does **not** match the gender they were assigned at birth

Someone whose gender identity does **does** match the gender they were assigned at birth
The Gender Unicorn

Gender Identity
- Female/Woman/Girl
- Male/Man/Boy
- Other Gender(s)

Gender Expression/Presentation
- Feminine
- Masculine
- Other

Sex Assigned at Birth
- Female
- Male
- Other/Intersex

Sexually Attracted To
- Women
- Men
- Other Gender(s)

Romantically/Emotionally Attracted To
- Women
- Men
- Other Gender(s)

To learn more, go to: www.transstudent.org/gender

Design by Landyn Pan

Graphic by: TSER (Trans Student Educational Resources)
Trans*/Transgender
Someone who does not identify with their sex assigned at birth

Transfeminine/Transmasculine
Someone who identifies more female than male or more male than female

Trans Man/Trans Woman
Someone was female at birth but identifies as male/someone who was male at birth but identifies as female

Agender
Someone who does not identify with a gender

Two-Spirit
Someone who fills one of the many mixed-gender roles prevalent in Native American communities

Multigender
Someone who identifies with more than one gender (e.g., bigender)

Gender Fluid
Someone whose gender changes

Genderqueer
Someone who does not identify within the gender binary

Identities not under the Trans* Umbrella:

Cisgender
Someone who is not trans*

Drag Performer
Someone who wears flamboyant clothes for entertainment value (can be trans*)

Crossdresser
Someone who wears clothes associated with the opposite gender (can be trans*)

Intersex
The presence of a less common combination of features that generally distinguishes male and female (can be trans*)

For more information, go to
www.transstudent.org/graphics
Two Spirit: A Brief History
80% of trans students felt unsafe at school because of their gender expression.

58.7% of gender non-conforming students experienced verbal harassment in the past year because of their gender expression, compared to 29% of their peers.

49% of trans people reported physical abuse in a 2007 survey.

50% of trans people have been raped or assaulted by a romantic partner.

30% of trans women have been incarcerated.

41% of trans people have attempted suicide.

Trans women have a 1 in 12 chance of being murdered...

...or a 1 in 8 chance for a trans woman of color.
Queer Youth of Color

1 in 3 LGBTQ people identify themselves as people of color.

- 48% of LGBTQ students of color experienced verbal harassment because of both their sexual orientation and their race or ethnicity.
- 15% have been physically harassed or assaulted based on both of these aspects of their identity.
- 13% more likely for Black LGBTQ youth to be sent to detention or suspended than non-Black LGBTQ youth.
- 79% of LGBTQ youth of color reported that they had interactions with security or law enforcement, compared to 63% of white LGBTQ youth.

College completion rates:
- LGBTQ: 42%
- Non-LGBTQ: 59%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 17%
- Black: 25%

20-40% of all homeless youth are LGBTQ.

Among them:
- 44% identify as Black
- 26% identify as Latino

For more information, go to TransStudent.org/Graphics.

Map TransStudent Educational Resources

Movement Advancement Project TSER
TWO SPIRITS
LGBTQ2S+ Homelessness
HOMELESS YOUTH

- Chronically or intermittently homeless.
- Living in transitional shelter, or temporary situations such as "couch surfing".
- Living in hotels.
- On the streets.
- Abandoned houses or other unsafe/unstable housing situations.

Sources: (National Healthcare for the Homeless Council, 2014; Woods, Samples, Harris, & Boston Happens Program Collaborators, 2003)
HOMELESS LGBTQ YOUTH

An estimated 320,000 to 400,000 LGBTQ youth face homelessness in the United States each year.

LGBTQ youth experience many hardships, but perhaps one of the biggest is homelessness. 42% of homeless agencies do not address LGBTQ issues despite these elevated rates of homelessness.

40% of homeless youth are LGBTQ.

14.4 The average age that lesbian and gay youth in New York become homeless.

13.5 The average age that transgender youth in New York become homeless.

68% of homeless LGBTQ youth have experienced family rejection.

54% have experienced family abuse.

Nearly 1 in 3 transgender people have been turned away from shelters.

$53,665 The estimated cost to incarcerate a youth for one year.

$5,887 The estimated cost to permanently move a homeless youth off the streets and prevent them from becoming incarcerated.

15% of homeless shelters reported that helping homeless LGBTQ youth is “not central to their mission.”

Take action at: transstudent.org/homelessness

Design by Landyn Pan
What are the risk factors for homelessness?

Substance Abuse  Mental Health  LGBTQ  History of Trauma  Child Welfare Involvement

Sources: (Cauce et al., 2000; Doyle Jr., 2007; Kruks, 1991; Lankenau et al., Tyler et al., 2001; Whitbeck et al., 2010)
1 in 6* endangered runaways are likely sex trafficking victims.

*1 in 6 endangered runaways reported to NCMEC in 2014 were likely sex trafficking victims.

Source: National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
Sex Trafficking

HELP ME
- According to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, sex trafficking is defined as “a situation in which a commercial sex act is introduced by FORCE, FRAUD, or COERCION, or in which the person introduced to perform such an act has NOT attained 18 years of age”.

- **ALWAYS** sex trafficking when under age 18 and there is an exchange.

- Males, females, and transgender persons can be victims of sex trafficking.
Most often classified as survival sex:

*The exchange of sex to meet subsistence needs.*

As items of value, they meet the criteria established by the 2000 Trafficking Victims Protection Act for a commercial exchange.

Sources: (Bailey, Carlin, & Ennett 1998; Greene, Ennett, & Ringwalt, 1999)
DISPROPORTIONATE RATE

LGBTQ youth: more vulnerable

Greater risk of victimization

Unsafe sexual practices

UP TO 40% HOMELESS YOUTH POPULATION

UP TO 7% GENERAL YOUTH POPULATION

LGBT NOT LGBT
TRAFFICKERS USE

→ VIOLENCE

→ FEAR

→ THREATS

→ INTIMIDATION

TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE AND MEET DEMAND
- Reasons for LGBTQ Youth Homelessness

- #1 Forced out / Ran Away from home

Sources: True Colors Fund (authorizing organization for Serving Our Youth Study 2015)
Surviving the Streets of New York: Experiences of LGBTQ Youth, YMSM, and YWSW Engaged in Survival Sex (2015)

- Based on interviews with 283 youth, ages 13-21 years old, in New York City
- Focus on LGBTQ youth; young men who have sex with men (YMSM); and young women who have sex with women (YWSW) who get involved in the commercial sex market in order to meet basic survival needs, such as food or shelter.
- The experiences of youth engaged in survival sex are not static

Administration for Children and Families Street Outreach Program
– Data Collection Study Final Report (April 2016)

• 656 interviews of young people ages 14-21 years old in 11 cities.

• 20% bisexual
  • 9.9% gay or lesbian
  • 4.1% something else

• Most common reason for youth becoming homeless for the first time was being asked to leave by a parent or caregiver (51.2%)

• LGBT youth were significantly more likely to report trading sex for food, money, shelter, drugs, or protection than their heterosexual peers (50% vs. 28.8%; p=.000).
LGBTQ Research Questions

1. In a sample of homeless/runaway young adults (18-25 years), how many identified as LGBTQ?

2. Of the homeless/runaway young adults in the sample that identified as LGBTQ, how many reported being sex trafficked in their lifetimes?

3. Do the LGBTQ homeless/runaway young adult who reported a history of sex trafficking differ on their life experiences when compared with non-sex trafficked LGBTQ homeless/runaway young adults?
RESERVATION
National Center for Transgender Equality
and the U.S. Transgender Survey
The 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey (USTS) is the largest survey examining the experiences of transgender people in the United States, with 27,715 respondents nationwide.
This report focuses on the unique experiences of the 319 respondents who identified as American Indian or Alaska Native people.
57% of American Indian and Alaska Native respondents have experienced homelessness at some point in their lives.

21% experienced homelessness in the past year because of being transgender.
21% of American Indian and Alaska Native respondents have lost a job because of being transgender.
Nearly one-quarter (23%) of American Indian and Alaska Native respondents participated in sex work for income.
Examining the composition of those who have done sex work, transgender women represent nearly one-half (43%) of American Indian and Alaska Native respondents who have done sex work for money in their lifetimes.
transgender men account for a large proportion (27%) of those who have done sex work.
HOUSING
Arizona does not prohibit housing discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

EMPLOYMENT
Arizona does not prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

PUBLIC ACcomMODATIONS
Arizona does not prohibit discrimination in public accommodations based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING
Arizona does not have a law that addresses harassment and/or bullying of students based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

EDUCATION
Arizona does not have a law that addresses discrimination against students based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

TRANSGENDER HEALTHCARE
Arizona has neither a ban on insurance exclusions for transgender healthcare nor does it provide transgender-inclusive health benefits to state employees.
Human Trafficking

Search

Trafficking in Tribal Nations: the impact of sex trafficking
Native women experience violent victimization at a higher rate than any other U.S. population.

Congressional findings are that Native American and Alaska Native women are raped 34.1%, more than 1 in 3, will be raped in their lifetime, 64%, more than 6 in 10, will be physically assaulted.

Native women are stalked more than twice the rate of other women. Native women are murdered at more than ten times the national average.

Non-Indians commit 88% of violent crimes against Native women.
NATIVE WOMEN TALK SEX TRAFFICKING
YOUTH EXPERIENCES SURVEY (YES) 2017:
EXPLOREING THE SEX TRAFFICKING EXPERIENCES OF ARIZONA'S HOMELESS AND RUNAWAY YOUNG ADULTS
Methodology

- 4\textsuperscript{th} year of a cross-sectional, descriptive study using a sampling design of all homeless young adults available.
- 2 week data collection period in August 2017.
- 187 surveys were completed from 4 agencies in Arizona serving homeless young adults ages 18-25 years old
- 35 removed from sample – did not report sexual identity
  - 152 total sample
  - Anonymous surveys were completed by youth in transitional housing, drop-in centers, and street outreach.

- Participants received a $5 gift card.
The Survey
Questions that cover:

- Substance use history
- Demographic information
- Negative lifetime experiences
- Lifetime strengths
- Mental health history
- Medical history
- History of self-harm; risky behavior
- Current housing situation
- Family connectedness
- Sexual exploitation experiences
- Technology use in exploitation experiences
Sample Questions

Have you ever been compelled, forced, or coerced to perform a sexual act, including sexual intercourse, oral or anal contact for: money, food, clothing, drugs, protection, or a place to stay?

Do you currently have a person who encourages/pressures/forces you to exchange sexual acts for money, drugs, food, a place to stay, clothing or protection?

In the past, has anyone encouraged/pressured/forced you to exchange sexual acts for money, drugs, food, place to stay, clothing or protection?

Have you ever been afraid to leave or quit this situation due to fear of violence or other threats to harm you or your family?
Total Participants \((N = 187)\)

Participants by Agency:
- UMOM: Tumbleweed: 70 (37%) respondents
- Our Family Services: 82 (44%) respondents
- One•n•ten: 31 (17%) respondents
- Native American Connections: 4 (2%) respondents

Non-conforming included respondents who identified as the following: transgender \((n = 9, 4.5\%)\) other \((1, 2.5\%)\)

Gender Identity:
- Male \((n = 92, 49\%)\)
- Female \((n = 76, 41\%)\)
- Non-conforming \((n = 10, 7\%)\)
Reported

LGBTQ 51%  
(n = 82)

Bisexual 36%  (n = 28)  
Asexual 24%  (n = 19)  
Pansexual 14% (n = 11)  
Gay 6%       (n = 9)     
Lesbian 5%   (n = 4)     
Transsexual/Heterosexual 5% (n = 4)  
Other 3%     (n = 2)     
Demisexual 1% (n = 1)

Heterosexual 49%  
(n = 78)
Findings | LGBTQ Ethnicity (N=74)

The most prevalent races/ethnicities reported were:

- White/Caucasian (31, 42%)
- Black/African American (9, 12%)
- Hispanic/Latina/Latino (14, 19%)
Findings | Sex Trafficking

Of the 152 young adults who reported their sexual orientation:

56 (37%) reported having been sex trafficked.

22 (39.3%) reported their sexual orientation as Heterosexual

34 (60.7%) reported their sexual orientation as LGBTQ
Sex Trafficked LGBTQ Life Experiences

LGBTQ sex trafficked youth (n = 34) compelled, forced or coerced to perform a sexual act for...

- Money: 66%
- Place to stay: 45%
- Food: 36%
- Drugs: 30%
- Clothing: 24%
- Protection: 21%
Sex Trafficked LGBTQ Life Experiences

LGBTQ Sex Trafficked youth were significantly more likely to report a history

• A Mental Health:
  • Depression
  • Schizophrenia
  • Oppositional Defiant Disorder
LGBTQ youth who had been sex trafficked were significantly more likely to report negative lifetime experiences of:

- Emotional Abuse by a Parent / Guardian
- Bullied
Implications

- Agency awareness of increased risk of sexual exploitation for homeless LGBTQ young adults
- Train staff to create a welcoming space for LGBTQ young adults
- Targeted interventions for homeless LGBTQ young adults
- Clinical training and curriculum development for trauma-informed care and trauma-focused treatment
Creating an Inclusive Space

- Call on your community partners for training, education, and tools.
- Observe LGBTQ+ agency spaces.
- Ongoing trainings, in-service training.
- Evaluate policy and procedures regarding anti-discrimination, client files, and housing.
Safety Planning Strategies

- Complete safety planning, regardless of any “active safety concerns,” acknowledging that for LGBTQ+ youth, safety is an ongoing issue.

- Consider using a person-centered, harm-reduction model for those identified as victims of trafficking who are still in the life.

- Treat a safety plan as a live document, encourage staff to modify, change, and update as rapport grows and situations may change.

- **Safety planning should focus on:**
  - How an individual defines safety.
  - Identifying potential areas of danger (people, places, situations).
  - Outline prevention and intervention techniques.
For both trafficking victims and LGBTQ+ individuals, safety planning should also address potential safety concerns in the community.

LGBTQ+ youth are at a greater risk for discrimination, abuse, and victimization, so preventive conversations should be identified.

Safety planning should identify these risks and seek to inform individuals of their rights, safe spaces for reporting, and how to report a crime.

**Clients should be aware of local and state laws.**
- Rights as victims.
- Discrimination protection within the workplace.
- Housing laws.
Partnerships with LGBTQ+ Stakeholders

- Partnerships create:
  - Opportunities for cross-training.
  - Ability to leverage both agencies’ services.
- To provide a greater impact on training and service delivery, encourage LGBTQ+ agency participation in:
  - Task forces.
  - Victim service communities.
  - Large-scale trainings.
Implications - Child Welfare

• Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act

• Talk to the team (CFT’s, Adoption/Licensing, DCS workers)
  • Strategize
  • Think prevention
  • Be honest!
Focus on pathways into sex trafficking for homeless young LGBTQ adults

Explore the time order of LGBTQ homelessness and sex trafficking experiences

Evaluate innovative treatments for LGBTQ youth who have been sex trafficked
Activity Time!
Safe spaces are settings where any young person can relax and be fully self-expressed, without fear of being made to feel uncomfortable, unwanted, or unsafe on account of biological sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, race/ethnicity, cultural background, age, or physical, mental ability, and socioeconomic status.

It is a place where the rules guard each person's self-respect and strongly encourage everyone to respect others.
“I understood your hope came not from some belief in the triumph of good or the kindness of politicians and bureaucrats. Your hope came from within; something inside you harbored and nourished a spark that had not been squelched and would always burn inside you and those you were able to touch. I came to believe that light inside came from the pride of knowing you were part of a long line in history that could survive.”

— Jewelle Gomez, Radical Hope: Letters of Love and Dissent in Dangerous Times
one.n.ten
Today’s Youth. Tomorrow’s Future.
Need Help?

National Human Trafficking Hotline
1-888-373-7888, TTY: 711, Text: 233733

suicidepreventionlifeline.org
1-800-273-8255

Translifeline.org (877) 565-8860

Transspectrum tsaz.org

Native American Connections nativeconnections.org
(602) 254-3247

sextraffickinghelp.com

onenten.org
LGBTQ + Trafficking Support Group
Sex trafficking support group for LGBTQ+ youth ages 18-24

Have you ever had to exchange sex for food or a place to stay?

Thursdays, 1 p.m.
starting Thursday, February 14, 2019

Group location: One-n-Ten
1101 North Central Ave., Suite 202 - Phoenix

Behavioral Health Intake required before participating in group

- Intake appointments available Monday-Friday at NATIVE HEALTH, 4041 N. Central Avenue, Bldg. C - Phoenix.
- Call (602) 279-5262 and ask to schedule a Behavioral Health Intake for the group at One-n-Ten. Walk-in appointments available.
- Intake appointments take two hours. Please arrive 30 minutes early to complete the necessary documents.

List of required documents to bring to intake:

☑ Patient's Identification
☑ Health Insurance or AHCCCS Identification
☑ Please bring three current paycheck stubs if applying for NATIVE HEALTH Sliding Fee Scale

For more information call Amanda at (602) 279-5262, ext. 3534.
References

-Human Trafficking Hotline
-The Field Center for Children’s Policy, Practice & Research at the University of Pennsylvania and Loyola University (New Orleans) Modern Slavery Research Project (MSRP) Covenant House
-ASU School of Social Work and the office of sex trafficking intervention YES Survey
-Adolescent Reproductive & Sexual Health Education Program through Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine New York, NY
-National Center For Transgender Equality- US -Transgender Survey
-Human Rights Campaign
-Human Trafficking Search
-Trans Student Equality Resources
-National Center for missing and Exploited Children
-2018 Homeless Youth Provider Survey
Thank you.

Questions?

www.sextraffickinghelp.com