

TUCSON

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES: IMPLICATIONS OF GENDER AND SEXUAL IDENTITY RESEARCH WITH UNSTABLY HOUSED LGBTQ+ YOUNG ADULTS

COURTNEY WATERS, MPH, MS; CLAUDIA POWELL, M.ED., KEITH BENTELE, PHD UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA, SOUTHWEST INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN

- The ANCHOR Project (2014-2017) provided trauma-informed, culturally responsive services to unstably housed young adults who identified with LGBTQ+ communities
- Helped participants achieve health and wellness in multiple facets of their lives
- Third iteration of programs designed to serve the LGBTQ+ community in Southern Arizona over the past 15 years
- Accurately depicting gender identity and sexual orientation is more complex than checking a box
- Traditional data collection tools reinforce a binary system and assume straight cisgender identity, thereby excluding members ANCH 🛞 R

of the LGBTQ+ community

148 LGBTQ+-identified participants enrolled in ANCHOR's evaluation study The Supplemental Questionnaire affirmed and explored participants' understandings of: gender identity; sexual orientation;

gender transition; the experience of coming out to family members; and pride and shame around LGBTQ+ identity





Conder Ide	ntity*	Percent	57%	• (n=94) of	The	nes arour	nd transit	
Woman		35.5	particip		Unsure,	Desired	Insurance	Pain f
Man		49.4	experie discom	enced fort with the	want to know more	changes,	coverage, financial	inabili
Transgender		29.5	biologi	cal sex or	KIIOW IIIOITE	steps needed	barriers	transi as des
Female-to-Male		14.5		they were ed at birth	No changes	desired, transit	tion is more th	an phys
Male-to-Female		16.3	avergine					. ,
Genderqueer		15.7			Types or a	spects of	gender ti	ransi
Two-Spirit		14.5		% (n=64)	⁴⁵ 41% 40			
Questioning		4.2	or asp	egun a type ect of	35	30%	32%	
Different term		10.8	transiti		30 25		24%	
89% (n=84) felt <u>mismatch</u> between th birth gender and how 10.4	eir assigne they felt ins	ed with	a different one assigr	0) <u>identified</u> gender than ned at birth	5 0 Social	Hormonal Leg Current Situation	al Surgical	Somet
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<u>mismatch</u> between th birth gender and how t	eir assigne they felt ins	ed with side the age age	a different one assign 13.4 Pride	gender than hed at birth 5 • and share	o Social ne around	Current Situation LGBTQ id	al Surgical Future Plans	Somet
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mismatch between the birth gender and how 10.4	eir assigne they felt ins Aver Percen 12.7	ed with side the age age	a different one assign 13.4 Pride 83% (n=124) were glad	gender than hed at birth 5 5 e and shar 81% (n=120) were proud	social Social me around 78% (n=115) saw themselves as	Current Situation Current Situation LGBTQ id (n=48) felt so bad at	sal Surgical • Future Plans entity 23% (n=34) wished	Somet else
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when participants were first aware that they were LGBQ 11.2 7 year gap

Suggested citation: Waters, C., Powell, C., & Bentele, K. (2020, April). Challenges and opportunities: Implications of gender and sexual identity research with unstably housed LGBTQ+ young adults. Presented at Women in Data Science-Tucson 2020, Virtual Conference.

when family member learned about your sexual and/or gender identity 18.3

FULL

ACCEPTANCE ACCEPTANCE

MOSTLY

SLIGHTLY

MORE

ACCEPTANCE

NEUTRAL

First Learned Current

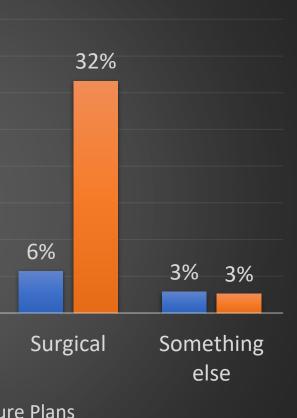
SLIGHTLY

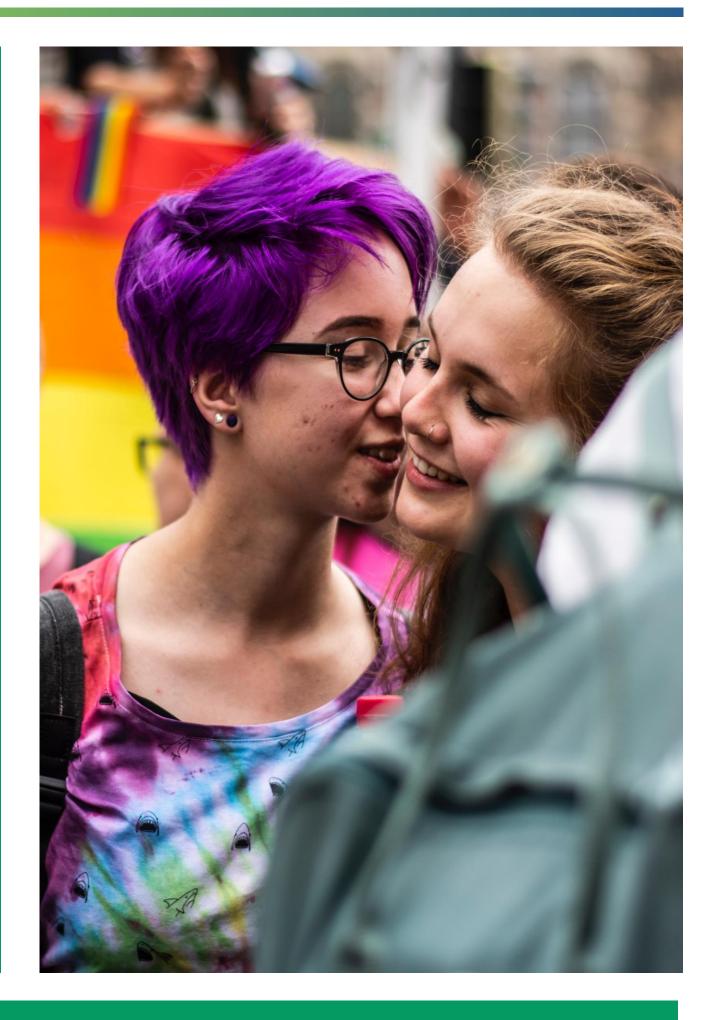
MORE

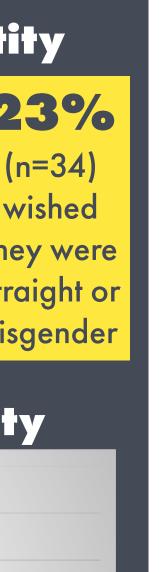
REJECTION

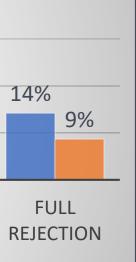


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MOSTLY

REJECTION

- About 16% of participants felt discomfort around their gender but did not identify with a different gender.
 - This underscores the limiting nature of binary systems.
- Understanding perceptions of transition is important for fostering access to affirming services and care.
- Resources for helping people navigate their sexual and gender identities should be available at a young age, as well as access to supportive communities.
- LGBTQ+ pride can be harnessed as a protective factor.
- Family members' response to LGBTQ+ identity was more positive over time.
 - A better understanding of the factors influencing this shift is needed, as this may foster hope for individuals who face initial rejection.