the OUTLOOK study
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Why is the OutLook Study Important?
Canada is arguably one of the most advanced countries in terms of human rights, yet...

→ Discrimination persists
  - Explicit (ATG), implicit (Bill C-16)

→ Create community change
  - Assess, and address needs
    - Develop community services

ATG (Attitude Towards Gays)
“If you are gay, don’t [approach] me, I’ll kill you”
What is the OutLook Study?

OutLook assesses:
• levels of harassment, discrimination and victimization;
• outness, safety, isolation, inclusion;
• health and mental health care experiences
• predictors of mental health and health care utilization
• Largest study of its kind in Canada
Study Design & Methods
Methods

❖ community, public health, and academic stakeholders

❖ Online survey measuring:
  ❖ social inclusion
  ❖ community involvement
  ❖ victimization & discrimination
  ❖ social isolation
  ❖ coming out challenges
  ❖ safety issues
  ❖ mental health and health care access
Recruitment

- Extensive community-based and online recruitment to diverse groups of LGBTQ individuals in Waterloo Region
- 16 years old +
- Self-identification

Total $N = 526$
Total Survey Response: 526 participants

112 (21%) TRANSGENDER
14%: LESBIAN
19%: BISEXUAL
41%: GAY

51% MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

AGE of PARTICIPANTS (average = 31)

- 37% 16-24
- 33% 25-34
- 18% 35-44
- 12% 45+

326 (62%) Reported to be students
Population breakdown

City of Residence

- 47%
- 34%
- 14%
- 5%

- Cambridge
- Waterloo
- Kitchener
- Other

14% of Respondents reported to have been born in a country other than Canada.

16% Identified as Racialized (incl. mixed race & Indigenous)

30% Married or Common Law
Victimization and Community Safety among LGBTQ People in Waterloo Region

For this fact sheet, OutLook worked in collaboration with Breaking the Silence, a Rainbow Community Council (RCC) working group concerned with hate crimes, violence and feelings of safety experienced by Waterloo Region's LGBTQ community members. We hope that our fact sheets are helpful in your work to create change.
VICTIMIZATION

Over 90% said growing up they heard that people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans were abnormal.

- 73% were made fun of, or called names, because of gender identity
- 71% were made fun of, or called names, because of sexual orientation
- 26% were hit or beaten up because of their gender identity
- 10% were hit or beaten up because of their sexual orientation

42% had to move away from their family or friends because of their GENDER IDENTITY

30% had to move away from their family or friends because of their SEXUAL ORIENTATION

86% of trans respondents have tried to pass as non-trans

92% of respondents have pretended to be heterosexual
PLACES PEOPLE AVOID

Trans people fear harassment in malls/clothing stores (38%) and at the gym (38%)

Cisgender people fear harassment in clubs or social clubs (18%) and at the gym (15%)

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25% cisgender people avoid places of worship
57% transgender people avoid public washrooms

PLACES WHERE PEOPLE FEEL SAFE

64% cisgender and 57% transgender feel safe in libraries

Trans people feel safe on social media/online spaces (40%) and in public spaces (37%)

Cisgender people feel safe in grocery stores/pharmacies (59%) and in malls/clothing stores (59%)

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65% have been objectified or fetishized

59% worry about growing old alone

73% fear they will die young

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21% experienced some form of police harassment because of their gender identity.

16% experienced some form of police harassment because of their sexual orientation.

- 25% reported physical violence and/or sexual assault
- 17% reported fully resolved
- 16% reported harassment or intimidation
- 18% reported fully resolved
COMMUNITY

61% cisgender 77% transgender feel it is important to be a member of an LGBTQ organization. Over 90% say there is a need for LGBTQ friendly spaces to socialize in Waterloo Region. 42% cisgender 31% transgender report strong sense of community belongingness.

Likely to attend LGBTQ support group: 52% cisgender, 39% transgender.
Likely to attend LGBTQ-safe community centre: 75% cisgender, 57% transgender.
Likely to attend Pride events: 80% cisgender, 78% transgender.

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HOW LGBTQ PEOPLE CONNECT

FACE TO FACE
73% cisgender
79% transgender

Facebook
62% cisgender
72% transgender

LGBTQ+ organizations
28% cisgender
47% transgender

Online dating
35% cisgender
25% transgender

LGBTQ bars
26% cisgender
26% transgender

YouTube videos
20% cisgender
35% transgender

Location based apps
31% cisgender
15% transgender

Twitter
20% cisgender
23% transgender

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Questions?
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