

New Trans Youth Research

Transgender Youth: Invisible and Vulnerable

<http://www.csusm.edu/gsr/irb/irbforms/transyouth.pdf>

This study used three focus groups to explore factors that affect the experiences of youth (ages 15 to 21) who identify as transgender. The focus groups were designed to probe transgender youths' experiences of vulnerability in the areas of health and mental health. This involved their exposure to risks, discrimination, marginalization, and their access to supportive resources. Three themes emerged from an analysis of the groups' conversations. The themes centered on gender identity and gender presentation, sexuality and sexual orientation, and vulnerability and health issues. Most youth reported feeling they were transgender at puberty, and they experienced negative reactions to their gender atypical behaviors, as well as confusion between their gender identity and sexual orientation. Youth noted four problems related to their vulnerability in health-related areas: the lack of safe environments, poor access to physical health services, inadequate resources to address their mental health concerns, and a lack of continuity of caregiving by their families and communities. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Haworth Document Delivery Service: 1-800-HAWORTH. E-mail address: <docdelivery@haworthpress.com> Website: <http://www.HaworthPress.com>! 2006 by The Haworth Press, Inc. All rights reserved.]*

Overlooked, misunderstood and at-risk: Exploring the lives and HIV risk of ethnic minority male-to-female transgender youth

[http://howardbrown.org/uploadedFiles/New and Events/Garofalo IAH Article.pdf](http://howardbrown.org/uploadedFiles/New_and_Events/Garofalo_IAH_Article.pdf)

These findings suggest that MTF transgender youth of color have many unmet needs and are at extreme risk of acquiring HIV. Future research is needed to better understand this adolescent subgroup and to develop targeted broad-based interventions that reduce risky behaviors.

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Transgender Youth and Life-Threatening Behaviors

<http://www.genderspectrum.org/images/stories/SLTB2007TGYouth.pdf>

Sexual minority status is a key risk factor for suicide among lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth; however, it has not been studied among transgender youth. Fifty-five transgender youth reported on their life-threatening behaviors. Nearly half of the sample reported having seriously thought about taking their lives and one quarter reported suicide attempts. Factors significantly related to having made a suicide attempt included suicidal ideation related to transgender identity; experiences of past parental verbal and physical abuse; and lower body esteem, especially weight satisfaction and thoughts of how others evaluate the youths' bodies. Sexual minority status is a key risk factor for life-threatening behaviors among transgender youth.

Who, What, Where, When, and Why: Demographic and Ecological Factors Contributing to Hostile School Climate for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth

<http://mcclellandinstitute.arizona.edu/PDFs/JYA%20LGBT%20Youth%20in%20Context/Demographic%20and%20Ecological%20Factors%20Contributing%20to%20Hostile%20School%20Climate%20for%20LGBT%20Youth.pdf>

This study examines how locational (region and locale), community-level (school district poverty and adult educational attainment), and school district-level (district size and ratios of students to key school personnel) variables are related to indicators of hostile school climate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth. Indicators of hostile climate included frequency of homophobic remarks and victimization regarding sexual orientation and gender expression. We used data from a national survey of LGBT secondary school students (N = 5,420; 57.6% female; 65.5% White; mean age = 15.9). Results from regression analyses demonstrated that LGBT youth in rural communities and communities with lower adult educational attainment may face particularly hostile school climates. School district characteristics contributed little to the variation in LGBT youth's experiences. Findings highlight the importance of considering the multiple contexts that LGBT youth inhabit, particularly as they pertain to educational experiences.

TRANSGENDER YOUTH, ADOLESCENT DECISIONMAKING, AND *ROPER V. SIMMONS*

<http://uclalawreview.org/pdf/56-3-4.pdf>

Transgender youth who seek access to hormones encounter a number of barriers that frustrate their ability to express their gender identity and exacerbate the effects of the overwhelming levels of discrimination and harassment they face on a daily basis. Because the parents of transgender youth are often hostile or absent, the parental consent requirement imposed by informed consent laws adds to these barriers. In some states, transgender youth can overcome the obstacles imposed by the parental consent requirement by invoking the mature minor doctrine, which allows physicians to provide medical services without parental consent to adolescents who are sufficiently mature to make the decision. Thus, in this context youth benefit when the law recognizes their decision making capacity. In the criminal justice context, in contrast, youth are more likely to benefit when the law recognizes the limits of their decision making capacity. When the U.S. Supreme Court invalidated the juvenile death penalty in *Roper v. Simmons*, for example, it relied in part on a view of adolescents as less mature and therefore less culpable than adults. The *Roper* Court emphasized three areas of difference between adolescents and adults: impulsivity, susceptibility to peer pressure, and incomplete character formation.

This Comment evaluates the implications of the *Roper* Court's view of adolescence in the context of transgender youth seeking access to hormones by invoking the mature minor doctrine. A careful, context-specific analysis of the adolescent characteristics identified by the *Roper* Court shows that, rather than posing a conceptual barrier, the decision supports a presumption in favor of allowing transgender youth to obtain hormones without parental consent.

Healthcare Preferences of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Youth

<http://download.journals.elsevierhealth.com/pdfs/journals/1054-139X/PIIS1054139X09000962.pdf>

Youth placed as much importance on provider qualities and interpersonal skills as provider knowledge and experience, and placed little importance on a provider's gender and sexual orientation. Youth indicated the importance of providers addressing not only health risks, but also wellness and health promotion, and to do so within the context of home and family. Subgroup analyses underscore the need for greater sensitivity to both cultural and developmental differences among LGBTQ youth. These results provide a foundation for further research about healthcare services and delivery

systems for youth, training initiatives for healthcare providers, and the role of utilizing the Internet for health research purposes to access and recruit hard-to-reach youth.

Growing Up Transgender

http://www.transcentralpa.org/content/downloads/Growing_Up_Trans_Pt1_March08.pdf

PART 1

As transgender identities become increasingly visible, those who work with and those who love trans youth seek resources to understand what it means to grow up “trans.” With little to guide us, adults may fall back on outdated theories or confuse transgender and gay identities. This article offers an introduction to current research and theory behind transgender identity formation, and suggests a framework for understanding gender that moves beyond a rigid binary system.

PART 2

http://www.actforyouth.net/resources/rf/rf_trans-resilience_0908.pdf

In Part 2 we turn our focus to the vulnerabilities our society imposes on trans youth, and how adults and community institutions can help to shape healthy environments for (and with) trans youth. While research on the needs of transgender youth currently lacks depth, we assert that by promoting cultural competence, safety, and resilience, communities can better protect and support their trans children.

Transgender Across the Curriculum: A Psychology for Inclusion

<http://bernard.pitzer.edu/~hfairchi/pdf/psychology/Case%282009%29TransgenderPsych.pdf>

Neumann (2005) called for an analysis of marginalization and inclusion of lesbian, gay, and bisexual students in psychology. As psychology instructors begin to infuse such content, the curriculum still overwhelmingly neglects the transgender community. This invisibility of transgender people within psychology courses allows for perpetuation of myths, stereotypes, and oppression of this particular population. Transgender inclusion requires efforts to eliminate bias in the classroom, such as derogatory comments and jokes, as well as faculty self-education with regard to the appropriate terminology for transgender subgroups. By infusing relevant transgender

content into lectures and reading materials, instructors contribute to normalizing transgender issues for an inclusive curriculum.

Books on Trans Youth

Helping Your Transgender Teen: A Guide for Parents

http://www.amazon.com/Helping-Your-Transgender-Teen-Parents/dp/069201229X/ref=sr_1_11?ie=UTF8&qid=1305735643&sr=8-11

If you are the parent of a transgender teen, this book will help you understand what your child is feeling and experiencing. Irwin Krieger is a clinical social worker with many years of experience helping transgender teens. This book brings you the insights gained from his work with these teenagers and their families. According to the author, "Today's teens have access to a wealth of information on the internet. Teenagers who are wondering about gender identity soon find out what it means to be transgender or transsexual. Parents, on the other hand, know little about this topic. When a teenager declares he or she is transgender, parents fear that their child is confused and is choosing a life fraught with danger. I wrote this book to help parents of transgender teens gain an understanding of this complex subject." "Helping Your Transgender Teen" begins with the basic information you and your family need. The central chapters of the book address the fears and concerns most parents of transgender teens share. The final chapters guide you through the steps you can take to discover what is best for your child. Although written for parents, this book is also useful for pediatricians, therapists, educators and others who work with teenagers and young adults. "Helping Your Transgender Teen" provides answers to many of your questions about adolescent gender identity.

Transgender Explained For Those Who Are Not

http://www.amazon.com/Transgender-Explained-Those-Who-Are/dp/1449029574/ref=sr_1_9?ie=UTF8&qid=1305735643&sr=8-9

Joanne Herman, a transgender woman who read everything in sight to understand her own gender incongruity, has been helping others with her non-complicated explanations of transgender for almost a decade. Now she has written down her explanations for all to read in Transgender Explained For Those Who Are Not. Organized by topic into short, easy-to-read chapters, Transgender Explained is perfect for parents, relatives, colleagues, friends, allies and even journalists who want to quickly get up to speed on what it means to be transgender.

The Full Spectrum: A New Generation of Writing About Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, and Other Identities

http://www.amazon.com/Full-Spectrum-Generation-Transgender-Questioning/dp/0375832904/ref=tmm_pap_title_0?ie=UTF8&qid=1305735643&sr=8-8

Grade 8 Up—Using works submitted anonymously through the Web site the authors created in conjunction with the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), Levithan and Merrell have selected 40 essays, mini-autobiographies, poems, and photographs that chronicle the lives of 21st-century young people, ages 13 to 23. The handsomely dense package includes real-life stories about coming out, falling in and out of love, mistaken identities, families and friends, misplaced affection, confronting homophobia, and more. A female-to-male transsexual teen describes a first trip into the men's restroom. A young man recalls his close relationship with a trash-talking, pot-smoking, horror-movie-loving burnout, illustrating the blurry lines that exist between romance and friendship. While nearly half of the installments tell the stories of young gay men, a sizable chunk is devoted to lesbians, and more than half a dozen pieces are about transgendered youth. While many of the stories recall memories of isolation, others delve into a young person's awareness and involvement in a queer community. As a whole, the collection is comprehensive, complex, and the perfect title to put into the hands of teens who approach the information desk asking for real stories about coming out and coming to terms with anything remotely GLBTQ.—*Hillias J. Martin, New York Public Library*

Transparent: Love, Family, and Living the T with Transgender Teenagers

http://www.amazon.com/Transparent-Family-Living-Transgender-Teenagers/dp/B004JZWOAG/ref=sr_1_6?ie=UTF8&qid=1305735643&sr=8-6

In this gripping, illuminating and deeply moving portrait of transgender teens in Los Angeles, the smallest incidents reverberate sharply. Beam, volunteering at a support center for trans teens, helps a young woman named Christina make changes on her driver's license: her name from Eduardo and the gender from male to female. The DMV clerk adamantly refuses to make the adjustment and only acquiesces after the humiliated Christina has a meltdown and Beam, pretending to be an ACLU lawyer, demands a supervisor. Christina is one of several, mostly minority, male-to-female transgender women to whom Beam becomes attached. Their group interactions—including fights, friendships and daily struggles to survive—form the center of the book. Though these women's lives are difficult—when Christina is beaten during an attempted rape, she has to lie to the police about being transgender—there are also moments of quick wit. As Beam morphs from parent to therapist, chum, cheerleader and legal adviser, she seamlessly blends memoir, reportage and advocacy. The result is a vivid and fiercely empathetic narrative that juxtaposes dead-on portraits of these young women with clearly articulated fury at a culture that's not only fearful of anyone who deviates from traditional gender roles but treats minorities and the poor with contempt.

Social Work Practice with Transgender and Gender Variant Youth

http://www.amazon.com/Social-Practice-Transgender-Gender-Variant/dp/0415994829/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1305735643&sr=8-3

Through personal narratives and case studies, this fully updated second edition explores the childhood and adolescent experiences of transgendered persons. Addressing the

differences between male-to-female (MTF) and female-to-male (FTM) individuals and identifying the specific challenges of transgender persons from diverse races, cultures, and religious backgrounds, this compelling book offers suggestions that will help social workers and the youths' families learn more about the reality of transgender persons' lives. Some of the areas discussed include:

- individual practice
- group work practice
- family-centered practice
- internal and external stress factors
- a new discussion of the legal issues that trans and gender variant youth face
- a new chapter on focusing on a recommendations for clinical treatment.

Containing invaluable information on a topic that is not widely discussed or written about, the second edition of *Social Work Practice with Transgender and Gender Variant Youth* discredits negative stereotypes surrounding these youths and offers you insight into their experiences. Additionally, the chapters openly address questions that practitioners may have about gender identity as well as offer concrete and practical recommendations about competent and positive practice with this population. It will interest academics and social service practitioners seeking to know more and work effectively with transgender and gender variant youth.

The Transgender Child: A Handbook for Families and Professionals

http://www.amazon.com/Transgender-Child-Handbook-Families-Professionals/dp/1573443182/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1305735643&sr=8-1

WILL HAVE LINK TO REVIEW ON THIS SHORTLY, Remind me!

Gay, Lesbian, And Transgender Issues In Education: Programs, Policies, And Practice (Haworth Series in Gltb Community and Youth Studies)

http://www.amazon.com/Gay-Lesbian-Transgender-Issues-Education/dp/1560235233/ref=sr_1_12?ie=UTF8&qid=1305735643&sr=8-12

Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Issues in Education explores:

- transgender college students
- bullying and homophobia
- research on LGBT studies in education
- teaching elementary preservice teachers
- multicultural school-based programs for HIV education serving transgender youth
- successes and deficiencies of gay-straight alliances
- race and youth programs in urban high schools

- growing up lesbian in Australia, New Zealand, and the United States
- growing up gay in Japan and China

Transgender History

http://www.amazon.com/Transgender-History-Studies-Susan-Stryker/dp/158005224X/ref=sr_1_14?ie=UTF8&qid=1305735643&sr=8-14

Covering American transgender history from the mid-twentieth century to today, *Transgender History* takes a chronological approach to the subject of transgender history, with each chapter covering major movements, writings, and events. Chapters cover the transsexual and transvestite communities in the years following World War II; trans radicalism and social change, which spanned from 1966 with the publication of *The Transsexual Phenomenon*, and lasted through the early 1970s; the mid-'70s to 1990—the era of identity politics and the changes witnessed in trans circles through these years; and the gender issues witnessed through the '90s and '00s.

Other Resources

<http://www.genderodysseyfamily.org/>

Gender Odyssey Family is an annual conference for families who are working to navigate the day-to-day realities of raising a gender non-conforming or transgender child. As one of the only opportunities in the country to find valuable resources, information and networking opportunities, Gender Odyssey Family provides real tools to support and encourage your child's gender self-discovery.