

Sexual Violence Against and Among the Trans and Nonbinary Student Population

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I. *SEXUAL VIOLENCE*

In the following, I will (I) summarize the current literature, (II) elucidate some trans and nonbinary self-understandings, (III) give recommendations for the university, and (IV) conclude with uplifting final remarks. On college and university campuses, sexual violence, both within and outside of relational contexts, is reported at high rates (Du Mont, 2012; Hoxmeier, 2016; Martin-Storey et al., 2018). Due to the common practice of aggregating trans and/or nonbinary individuals and LGBTQ+ sexual minorities into a single category, the literature on the subject contains significant gaps as to the victimization of trans and nonbinary individuals alone (Hoxmeier, 2016). Conversely, trans and nonbinary individuals are also often excluded from studies of sexual minority individuals given that trans and nonbinary identities are not sexual orientations. What literature does exist clearly demonstrates that both sexual and non-sexual violence committed against students who identify as trans and/or nonbinary is reported at significantly higher rates compared to students who identify as cisgender (Hoxmeier, 2016; Langenderfer-Magruder, 2015; Martin-Storey et al., 2018; Whitfield et al., 2018). Significantly, the landmark Transgender Discrimination Survey found that trans and nonbinary students of color "experienced higher rates of harassment and violence across the board" (Grant, Mottet, and Tanis, 2011).

Trans and nonbinary students are far more likely than their cisgender peers to experience intimate partner violence and specifically sexual abuse (Hoxmeier, 2016). A study on dating violence in LGBTQ+ individuals found that "across the board, the few transgender youth in the sample reported some of the highest victimization rates of physical dating violence, psychological dating abuse, cyber dating abuse, and sexual coercion; however, they also reported the highest perpetration rates of physical dating violence, cyber dating abuse, and sexual coercion" (Dank, Lachman, Zweig and Yahner, 2014). This is an important reminder that although much violence is committed *against* the trans and nonbinary community there also exist

perpetrators *within* the community. Discounting such abusers does mitigation efforts a great disservice.

The ill-effects of the discrimination, harassment, and violence that trans and nonbinary individuals experience are significant. A 2017 study of incoming first-year transgender students from across the U.S., 52.1% reported their emotional health as either below average or in the lowest 10% relative to their peers (Stolzenberg and Hughes, 2017). Of those surveyed, 47.2% reported feeling depressed frequently as compared to the national sample's rate of 9.5% (Stolzenberg and Hughes, 2017). As one author writes, "Sexual harassment, whether it is physical or verbal, is a serious problem that can lead to extreme depression, guilt, dropping out of school, self-harm, and even suicide attempts" (Hutton, 2016). The aforementioned Transgender Discrimination Survey found that of the students who were surveyed "more than half (51%) [...] who were harassed, physically or sexually assaulted, or expelled because of their gender identity/expression reported having attempted suicide. (Grant, Mottet, and Tanis, 2011).

Even with such limited data, it is clear that steps must be taken to reduce the endemic sexual violence faced by trans and nonbinary students. Unfortunately, there is no silver bullet for ending sexual violence on college and university campuses. There are, however, many fronts upon which to move to effectively work towards reducing its prevalence. According to one study, "Strategies to prevent violence among transgender students may benefit when housed in the context of more general strategies to change campus climates to be more inclusive and accepting of these minority students" (Hoxmeier, 2016). In this light, the recommendations given here span a variety of on-campus spaces.

II. *TRANS AND NONBINARY SELF-UNDERSTANDINGS*

The trans and nonbinary community encompasses broad and diverse populations of individuals whose needs are as manifold as any other heterogeneous community of people. Trans and nonbinary identities are ones that transverse, transgress, and/or transcend the Western gender binary of woman/man. Some people identify as both trans and nonbinary. Gender identity and expression are profoundly individualized aspects of oneself and can vary vastly from person to person. There are no limitations on how gender identity and expression may or may not manifest. The experience of being trans and/or nonbinary is different for every individual, but there are some common features often shared across experiences.

Trans individuals may find that their gender identity does not match the gender they were assigned at birth. To resolve this variance, some trans individuals may take steps to transition to their true gender. The steps of this transition may include changing their name, their appearance, their behavior, and their bodies through medical procedures like hormone replacement therapy and surgery. Not every trans person desires or has access to such medicine, and many trans people never engage with any form of medical intervention. Trans people who forgo medicalization are still the gender they identify as, regardless of their “medical status.”

Nonbinary individuals identify as existing between or beyond the Western gender binary. They may identify as neither men nor women but as somewhere in the middle, as both, as an entirely different gender, or as someone without any gender at all. There are many different nonbinary identities, each as legitimate as the next. Some nonbinary people may use medical interventions to achieve a body that matches their gender identity and expression. Nonbinary people may use pronouns other than she/her/hers or he/him/his, such as they/them/theirs or e/em/eir.

Not all of those whose gender identity and expression transverses, transgresses, or transcends the binary always identify as trans and/or nonbinary. Yet these individuals' experiences must also be considered when assessing the needs of those whose gender identity and expression defies so-called traditional gender norms. Such identities may or may not include two-spirit, genderqueer, agender, bigender, genderfluid, masc- or femme-of-center, third gender, and gender non-conforming, among others. Those who identify as any number of these identities may also identify as trans and/or nonbinary. For the purposes of this report, however, the phrase “trans and nonbinary” will be used as a placeholder for all those whose gender(s) transcend, transgress, or transverse the binary.

Trans and nonbinary individuals should be treated as routine and integral as those who identify with the binary. The accommodations necessary for the thriving of trans and nonbinary persons should likewise be handled with the dignity and equanimity that should be afforded to all. Members of marginalized groups deserve a safe, nurturing, and inclusive environment regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, religion, etc as much as any other student. As gender is a construct that we all engage with, to presume that one particular subset of gender roles or another should be centered as normal is to do everyone a disservice. Brandeis, as

a place of cultivation for the next generation, must be aware of this and take action on behalf of its diverse young people.

III. *RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESPONDING TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE*

The following recommendations derive from both the literature reviewed and my lived experience as a nonbinary graduate student here at Brandeis. I have divided recommendations into seven sections: Discrimination; Health Resources; Mental Health Resources; Housing; Safe Spaces; and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training. This is by no means a comprehensive list of recommendations nor do the recommendations themselves fully cover their individual topics. These are but a limited selection of examples of actions that the administration could and should take. I particularly urge that those reading this report peruse the articles found in the included bibliography for further data and suggestions.

It is impossible to understand the prevention of sexual violence without also grasping the full reality and needs of the community comprising trans, nonbinary, and other related identities. Understanding the greater enmeshment within which trans, nonbinary, and those non-trans identities which lie between or outside the binary students navigate can help to prevent sexual violence, which, however, must occur within a broader context of preventing discrimination of other types. Colleges and universities must educate themselves on the larger patterns of discrimination, bullying, harassment, aggressions, and microaggressions in order to combat this endemic problem effectively. They must stay abreast on the complex and ever-changing research and alter their prevention and response efforts accordingly.

Discrimination

Due to the general lack of legal protections for trans and nonbinary individuals in the United States, most notably at the federal level, schools should implement a non-discrimination policy that protects trans and nonbinary individuals from all forms of discrimination. It is extremely important to note that “people of color in general fare worse than white participants across the board, with African American transgender respondents faring worse than all others in many areas examined” (Grant, Mottet, and Tanis 2011). In light of this data, it is important that universities take an intersectional approach to implementing policy regarding trans and nonbinary students.

The forms of discrimination leveled at trans and nonbinary students can differ from the forms of bullying, harassment, and unmet needs that cisgender students face. The unique forms of discrimination that trans and nonbinary students can experience include misgendering (including the refusal to use correct pronouns, referring to them with inappropriately gendered language, etc.); deadnaming (calling a trans individual by their birth name rather than their chosen name); lack of gender neutral bathrooms or policy disallowing trans students from using the bathroom that matches their gender identity; refusing access to locker/changing rooms that match trans students' gender; the absence of private, gender neutral locker/changing rooms for students who identify as nonbinary or who feel unsafe in binaristic locker/changing rooms; and a lack of diversity and inclusion training incorporating the topic of trans and nonbinary individuals. To the uninformed, many of these actions and policy gaps would not be considered despite their serious impact upon trans and nonbinary students' college experience and ability to fully participate in college life.

The school should require (non-fetishizing/exoticizing/sexualizing) diversity and sensitivity training as an element of the freshman orientation, which will be further discussed below. Schools should create or continue the use of preferred name and gender identity fields on forms and standardize the asking for preferred names by instructors/professors and encourage the asking of personal pronouns by everyone so as to eliminate the uncomfortable targeting of trans and nonbinary individuals. The school should hold and promote trans-specific events and foster trans groups and clubs. Finally, the school should ensure that there exists and that they encourage a dialogue between the school and its trans and nonbinary population. The most important act of inclusivity is the asking of what a community requires to flourish, what needs are currently unmet, and then listening to and acting upon the responses. Happily, Brandeis intends to conduct such a "listening and brainstorming session" next semester (Fall 2019).

Health Resources

As the literature demonstrates, the violence perpetrated against trans individuals is associated with a variety of negative health outcomes. Thus, it is important that campuses are equipped to handle the unique needs of trans and nonbinary students. In addition to trauma and postassault care provided by trained trans-sensitive counselors, campuses should be cognizant of more general health resources necessary for some trans students. These include hormone replacement

therapy (HRT) and gender confirmation surgery (GCS), among other procedures. It is salient to point out, as already done above, that not all trans students will require these services, but this in no way should impact their provision. Instead, it is important to remember that the “transsexual transition narrative,” as Pauline Park names it, is only true for a relatively small proportion of the trans community. Nevertheless, schools should consider stocking hormones at health clinic pharmacies, as well as ensuring that the insurance offered to students covers HRT, GCS, and related medical procedures and surgeries. Brandeis, thankfully, does already cover HRT and GCS through its student insurance.

Mental Health Resources

The high level of sexual victimization that trans students experience poses significant negative health risks, specifically those involving mental health. It is important that schools not only provide free mental health resources but that such resources are equipped to handle trans-specific concerns. In a study of 392 trans individuals aged 18 or older, it was found that 32% had previously attempted suicide (Clements-Nolle, Marx, and Katz, 2006). This is in comparison to the 0.6% of U.S. adults, aged 18 or older, who are estimated to attempt suicide at least once in their lives (“National Survey on Drug Use and Mental Health,” 2017). While direct causality could not be made explicit from the data gathered, a link between victimization and suicide attempts was drawn in the study, with the authors stating: “We found that attempted suicide was significantly more prevalent among individuals who reported symptoms of depression, substance abuse, and a history of forced sex. [...] The high prevalence of gender-based prejudice experienced by MTF and FTM transgender persons in our study and its’ association with attempted suicide suggest an immediate need for strategies to increase societal acceptance of transgender populations” (Clements-Nolle, Marx, and Katz, 2006).

This need for better mental health care for trans and nonbinary individuals can be effectively handled through the hiring of counselors, psychiatrists, and therapists sensitive to LGBTQIA+ issues. This past semester (Spring 2019), Brandeis’s Gender and Sexuality Center did just that with the hiring of social worker, Landen Motyka, who specializes in LGBTQIA+ matters. This is an important step in the right direction, particularly considering the already limited mental health resources available to students at Brandeis. To continue this work, I recommend that Brandeis proceed to expand the mental health resources available to all its

students and to persist in hiring therapists, psychiatrists, and counselors sensitive to LGBTQIA+ topics. Specifically, I recommend that Brandeis make an effort to hire mental health professionals from the LGBTQIA+ community. Based in my own experience, the effectiveness of having a member of one's community as one's clinician cannot be overstated.

Housing

Universities tend to assign housing based on the gender a student was assigned at birth (Hutton, 2016). Brandeis's housing, however, is largely mixed gender, meaning, for the most part, students' gender identity does not play a role in their housing assignment. Additionally, Brandeis has gender-inclusive housing available for all its students.

Safe Spaces

Safe spaces are an important resource for many students on school campuses. Commendably, Brandeis already has a designated LGBTQIA+ safe space on campus: the Gender and Sexuality Center. But safety in spaces need not be restricted to safe spaces alone. Employing "visual indicators and other signs of transpositive attitudes" that "can convey a transgender-friendly atmosphere" (Mizock and Lewis, 2008) is a cost-effective, low-effort, yet extremely valuable mode of providing psychic safety to trans and nonbinary students on campus. Examples of such visual indicators include the trans pride flag, the rainbow flag, signs stating transpositive messages, and even supportive trans memes, among other things.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training

One significant area that Brandeis should focus on is the inclusion of diversity, equity, and inclusion training for all members of its body. The following bullet points aim to give an overview as to which aspects of trans and nonbinary life should be included in such training.

- The trans and nonbinary community must be understood as heterogenous; not as a singular but a cluster of gender identities and expressions.
- Self-education must be emphasized. The role of educator should never be placed on the trans and/or nonbinary student. Those in authority positions must be cognizant of the multiplicitous reality of the trans and nonbinary populations present at Brandeis. Without

a proper grasp of what it means to be trans and/or nonbinary, those in roles of support will be unable to provide the critical resources that trans and nonbinary students need.

- The heightened risk of (sexual) violence that trans and nonbinary students face must be emphasized. As the primary purpose of this report is to help make recommendations in helping eliminate sexual violence against and among trans and nonbinary students, this element of training cannot be overstressed. The trans and nonbinary populations are uniquely susceptible to sexual violence
- The discriminatory reality faced by trans and nonbinary students, particularly trans and nonbinary students of color, must be discussed. The fact that trans and nonbinary students fare worse in almost every significant area of our socioeconomic world plays no small part in trans and nonbinary students' experience of sexual violence.
- Trans and nonbinary student community must also not be ennobled as having no faults. Perpetrators within the trans and nonbinary populations do exist. To discount such assailants would do our aim to prevent further (sexual) violence an enormous disservice.
- Using the correct pronouns for each student is a very important step towards providing inclusionary language for the trans and nonbinary student population. Being misgendered is a distinctly disorienting and often dysphoric experience for trans and nonbinary students.
- While I personally would recommend the asking of pronouns by all, there are problems with such a practice, as it may unfairly "out" trans and nonbinary students. This is a topic that needs significantly more discussion. I recommend that this be brought up next semester (Fall 2019) during Brandeis's "listening and brainstorming" event and implementing whatever the general consensus is. Listening before gendering is certainly a good strategy if you are unsure what a person's pronouns are and wish to be respectful.
- Due to the prevalence of the "transsexual transition narrative," I must stress the grotesque disrespect of asking a trans or nonbinary student regarding their "surgery status." Just as one would never ask anyone about their genitalia, so should the same basic courtesy be followed with regards to trans and nonbinary students.

- Based on my experience and after discussions with fellow trans and nonbinary students, I believe that the trans and nonbinary student population may be more likely to report sexual violence committed against them should Brandeis take further steps towards making its campus welcoming and nurturing specifically of trans and nonbinary students. Without the assurance that the university cares or is willing to take steps on their behalf, the trans and nonbinary community may be far less likely to come forward to report their experiences with sexual violence and instead suffer the ill-effects on their own.
- While I have no unique bystander intervention strategies to offer with regards to trans and nonbinary students, I must stress that the myths surrounding trans and nonbinary students must be dispelled to ensure that proper action is taken on their behalf. Such myths may include that trans and nonbinary students are intrinsically “more sexual” than other students, that they engage in sexual activity more frequently and with less care than other students, or that because they are trans and/or nonbinary that they “asking for it.” These are both disgusting and damaging myths that are not just mere fabrications but instead are intentionally designed and used to permit the sexual violence experienced by trans and nonbinary students. Calling out such myths and other anti-trans comments/jokes/etc. is one significant bystander intervention strategies that will help foster a more accepting and inclusive environment for trans and nonbinary people.
- Trans and nonbinary identities have nothing to do with sexuality. Confusing the two is problematic. A trans and/or nonbinary person can have any sexual orientation, just as any cisgender person can have any sexual orientation. There is no connection between being trans and/or nonbinary and also being LGBTQ+.
- Not all trans people wish to disclose their gender history. Respect this decision. Relatedly, do not assume someone’s gender history. To presume that trans and nonbinary identity is always visually legible can have serious ramifications. Speculating about a student’s possible trans and/or nonbinary status is disrespectful and can dangerously out trans and nonbinary students who would prefer to disclose that information on a case-by-case basis.

- Finally, learn to value every gender identity and expression. Diversity is a key ingredient in the college experience and any attempt to erase an entire population of people would have devastating results not just for trans and nonbinary students but also for the Brandeis community as a whole.

IV. FINAL REMARKS

Brandeis University has made significant and meaningful strides in providing its trans and nonbinary student populations with a safe and nurturing learning environment. From the Gender and Sexuality Center to the ongoing process of furnishing gender neutral restrooms, Brandeis has made it clear that it cares deeply about creating a climate of acceptance and inclusion. The recommendations in this report are meant to help further this process of formulating policy to allow trans and nonbinary students to most authentically and fully be themselves on campus. The issue of sexual violence is one fraught with complications and all manner of constant setbacks. There is, unfortunately, no panacea for sexual violence. In the case of trans and nonbinary students, this is even more salient. The discrimination and hatred trans and nonbinary individuals face on a daily basis makes preventing their victimization that much more difficult. It is only through producing a physically and psychologically safer and more inclusive environment.

This report paints a very negative picture regarding what it means to be trans or nonbinary, but this is not the whole story. Trans and nonbinary students show incredible resilience in the face of a daily onslaught against their very existence. Despite high levels of harassment, bullying and violence in school, many respondents were able to obtain an education by returning to school (Grant, Mottet, and Tanis, 2011). Although fewer 18 to 24-year-olds were currently in school compared to the general population, respondents returned to school in large numbers at later ages, with 22% of those aged 25-44 found to be currently in school, as compared to 7% of the general population (Grant, Mottet, and Tanis, 2011). Trans and nonbinary students are more likely to receive merit-aid, with 60.7% doing so as compared to 51.6% of the national sample (Stoltzenberg and Huges, 2017). Trans and nonbinary college students tend to actively seek resources and construct support networks in order to address their emotional and social needs, including 74.6% intentionally seeking out therapy of their own initiative (Stoltzenberg and Huges, 2017). Transgender students also spend more time engaging with

social networks than the national average. They are about 14 percentage points (60.1% vs. 45.9%) more likely than first-year students overall to socialize with friends frequently, and about 13 percentage points (39.7% vs. 26.3%) more likely to participate in online social networks for six or more hours per week (Stoltzenberg and Huges, 2017). This is particularly impressive given that most LGBTQ+ support groups are predominated by cisgender individuals.

Trans and nonbinary students exercise a great deal of agency in meeting their individual needs. They are more likely than their peers to take action in order to overcome the barriers they face, with, for example, 76% of trans people who desire HRT having been able to receive it (Grant, Mottet, and Tanis, 2011). Nearly half of the trans and nonbinary student sample surveyed by one study reported having engaged in some type of activism within the year prior to college entry (47.4%), which is more than double the percentage (20.8%) of students in the national sample who reported having done so (Stoltzenberg and Huges, 2017). Such findings reveal that trans and nonbinary students are impressively self-sufficient, politically conscious, and resourceful. Brandeis should take these encouraging facts to heart and seek out trans and nonbinary students' voices to continue to help formulate policy that will impact such a vibrant and significant community.

Bibliography

[All abstracts from article author(s) except where noted. Minor editing has occurred for clarity.]

Barrett, Betty Jo, and Daphne Vanessa Sheridan. "Partner Violence in Transgender Communities: What Helping Professionals Need to Know." *Journal of GLBT Family Studies* 13 (2017) 137–62.

In recent decades, there has been an increase in scholarly attention devoted to the study of intimate partner violence (IPV) within rainbow communities. While a growing body of scholarship now informs our understanding of the experiences of gay, lesbian, and bisexual men and women with IPV, comparatively less is known about IPV within transgender communities. Drawing on the published literature on transgender intimate relationships, this article seeks to provide practitioners with a foundational understanding of IPV in the lives of transgender people. Specifically, we will examine (a) methodological, political, and social barriers to the creation of knowledge about transgender IPV; (b) the familial and relationship contexts of IPV within transgender communities; (c) the prevalence of IPV experienced by transgender survivors; (d) the dynamics of IPV perpetrated against and/or by transgender persons; (e) the problematic use of the "trans panic" defense by perpetrators of IPV in legal contexts; and (f) recommendations for supporting transgender survivors of IPV in ways that are trans-inclusive and trans-positive.

Bettcher, Talia Mae. "Evil Deceivers and Make-Believers: On Transphobic Violence and the Politics of Illusion." *Hypatia* 22 (2007) 43–65.

This essay examines the stereotype that transgender people are "deceivers" and the stereotype's role in promoting and excusing transphobic violence. The stereotype derives from a contrast between gender presentation (appearance) and sexed body (concealed reality). Because gender presentation represents genital status, Bettcher argues, people who "misalign" the two are viewed as deceivers. The author shows how this system of gender presentation as genital representation is part of larger sexist and racist systems of violence and oppression.

Clements-Nolle, Kristen, Rani Marx, and Mitchell Katz. "Attempted Suicide Among Transgender Persons: The Influence of Gender-Based Discrimination and Victimization." *Journal of Homosexuality* 51, no. 3 (October 11, 2006): 53–69.

To determine the independent predictors of attempted suicide among transgender persons we interviewed 392 male-to-female (MTF) and 123 female-to-male (FTM) individuals. Participants were recruited through targeted sampling, respondent-driven sampling, and agency referrals in San Francisco. The prevalence of attempted suicide was 32% (95% CI = 28% to 36%). In multivariate logistic regression analysis younger age (<25 years), depression, a history of substance abuse treatment, a history of forced sex, gender-based discrimination, and gender-based victimization were independently associated with attempted suicide. Suicide prevention interventions for transgender persons are urgently needed, particularly for young people. Medical, mental health, and social service providers should address depression, substance abuse,

and forced sex in an attempt to reduce suicidal behaviors among transgender persons. In addition, increasing societal acceptance of the transgender community and decreasing gender-based prejudice may help prevent suicide in this highly stigmatized population.

Dank, Meredith, Pamela Lachman, Janine M. Zweig, and Jennifer Yahner. "Dating Violence Experiences of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth." *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* 43 (2014) 846–57.

Media attention and the literature on lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth overwhelmingly focus on violence involving hate crimes and bullying, while ignoring the fact that vulnerable youth also may be at increased risk of violence in their dating relationships. In this study, we examine physical, psychological, sexual, and cyber dating violence experiences among lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth—as compared to those of heterosexual youth, and we explore variations in the likelihood of help-seeking behavior and the presence of particular risk factors among both types of dating violence victims. A total of 5,647 youth (51 % female, 74 % White) from 10 schools participated in a cross-sectional anonymous survey, of which 3,745 reported currently being in a dating relationship or having been in one during the prior year. Results indicated that lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth are at higher risk for all types of dating violence victimization (and nearly all types of dating violence perpetration), compared to heterosexual youth. Further, when looking at gender identity, transgender and female youth are at highest risk of most types of victimization, and are the most likely perpetrators of all forms of dating violence but sexual coercion, which begs further exploration. The findings support the development of dating violence prevention programs that specifically target the needs and vulnerabilities of lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth, in addition to those of female and transgender youth.

DiFulvio, Gloria T. "Experiencing Violence and Enacting Resilience: The Case Story of a Transgender Youth." *Violence Against Women* 21 (2015) 1385–1405.

Research about victimization among sexual minority youth has focused on documenting the prevalence and consequences of such experiences. Lacking in the literature is an in-depth exploration of the social context of both risk and resilience in the face of violence. This is especially true for transgender youth who are largely absent from the dominant discourse. This case story provides an example of how one transgender youth interpreted and adaptively responded to the discrimination and prejudice she encountered. Katie's story illustrates the *process* of resilience. Despite the adversity she has faced, she shares stories of pride and strength in a culture that considers her as "other."

Du Mont, Janice, Laura Chertkow, Sheila Macdonald, Eriola Asllani, Deidre Bainbridge, Nomi Rotbard, and Marsha M. Cohen. "Factors Associated With the Sexual Assault of Students: An Exploratory Study of Victims Treated at Hospital-Based Sexual Assault Treatment Centers." *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 27 (2012) 3723–3738.

Research suggests that students experience high levels of sexual assault, but studies addressing how they differ in their experiences from other sexual assault victims are virtually nonexistent. To address this gap, information was collected from consecutive individuals, aged 16 years or older, presenting to one of 7 hospital-based sexual assault treatment centers in Ontario from 2005 to 2007. Of the 882 victims seen during the study period, 32% were students.

Relative to other sexual assault victims, students were more likely to be aged 16 to 18 years and 19 to 24 years versus 25 years and older. They were more likely to be living alone, with family of origin, a partner or spouse, or a nonrelative than on the street or in a shelter or institution. They were also more likely to report having consumed over-the-counter medication in the 72 hours prior to examination. Student victims were less likely than nonstudent victims to report having a disability and having used street drugs. Implications for research, education, and practice are discussed. [The sample included one transgender individual. MH]

Edwards, Katie M., and Kateryna M. Sylaska. "The Perpetration of Intimate Partner Violence among LGBTQ College Youth: The Role of Minority Stress." *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* 42 (2013) 1721–1731.

Preliminary research suggests that partner violence is a problem among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ) college youth. However, there is no study to date with college youth on the factors associated with perpetration of same-sex partner violence, which is needed to inform prevention efforts specific to this population. Thus, the purpose of the current study was to assess how facets of minority stress (i.e., sexual-orientation-related victimization, sexual minority stigma, internalized homonegativity, sexual identity concealment) relate to physical, sexual, and psychological partner violence perpetration among LGBTQ college youth (N = 391; 49 % identified as men; 72 % Caucasian; M age: 20.77 years). At the bivariate level, physical perpetration was related to identity concealment and internalized homonegativity; sexual perpetration was related to internalized homonegativity; and psychological perpetration was related to sexual-orientation-related victimization. However, at the multivariate level (after controlling for concurrent victimization), psychological perpetration was unrelated to minority stress variables, whereas physical and sexual perpetration were both related to internalized homonegativity; physical perpetration was also related to identity concealment. These results underscore the utility of understanding partner violence among LGBTQ youth through a minority stress framework. Moreover, the current study highlights the need for a better understanding of factors that mediate and moderate the relationship between minority stress and partner violence perpetration among LGBTQ youth in order to inform prevention and intervention efforts.

Factor, Rhonda J. and Esther D. Rothblum. "A Study of Transgender Adults and Their Non-Transgender Siblings on Demographic Characteristics, Social Support, and Experiences of Violence." *Journal of LGBT Health Research* 3 (2007) 11–30.

A national sample of 295 transgender adults and their nontransgender siblings were surveyed about demographics, perceptions of social support, and violence, harassment, and discrimination. Transwomen were older than the other 4 groups. Transwomen, transmen, and genderqueers were more highly educated than nontransgender sisters and nontransgender brothers, but did not have a corresponding higher income. Other demographic differences between groups were found in religion, geographic mobility, relationship status, and sexual orientation. Transgender people were more likely to experience harassment and discrimination than nontransgender sisters and nontransgender brothers. All transgender people perceived less social support from family than nontransgender sisters. This is the first study to compare trans people to nontrans siblings as a comparison group.

Gillum, Tameka L. "Adolescent Dating Violence Experiences Among Sexual Minority Youth and Implications for Subsequent Relationship Quality." *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal* 34 (2017) 137–145.

Research reveals a disturbingly high prevalence of dating violence among American youth. However, until recently, this research has not tended to focus on sexual minority youth. This is of concern as numerous studies have shown that individuals who experience such violence are at increased risk for adverse mental and physical health outcomes, including increased risk of HIV infection among LGBTQ populations. Research findings also indicate that individuals who are victimized as adolescents are at increased risk for victimization during their young adult years. The current study assessed adolescent and current dating violence among a sample (N = 109) of college-age sexual minority (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning) youth. Data were collected through use of a structured, close-ended questionnaire that contained measures of demographic characteristics and dating violence experiences. Descriptive analyses are presented that identify prevalence rates and associations between adolescent and current dating violence. High rates of all forms of violence were identified during both adolescence and college years. In addition, relationships between adolescent and college age dating violence were identified. Results point to a high rate of dating violence among this population and a need for services targeting this uniquely vulnerable population to reduce risk of related health consequences and risk behaviors and subsequent relationship violence.

Goodmark, Leigh S. "Transgender People, Intimate Partner Abuse, and the Legal System." *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review* 48 (2013) 54.

The unique experiences of transgender persons subjected to abuse have not been the focus of legal scholarship; instead, the experiences of transgender people are often subsumed in the broader discourse around domestic violence in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community. This dearth of legal scholarship is not surprising given how little research of any kind exists on how transgender people experience intimate partner abuse. This is the first law review article to concentrate specifically on intimate partner abuse and the transgender community. The Article begins by discussing the difficulties of engaging in scholarship around this topic, noting the lack of a shared language and knowledge base for discussing intimate partner abuse in the transgender community. The Article then documents the barriers confronting transgender people seeking relief from intimate partner abuse, situates those barriers in the broader context of the structural and institutional violence and discrimination that are so prevalent in the lives of transgender people, and examines closely the inadequacy of the legal system to address the needs of transgender people subjected to abuse. This part of the Article is informed by the observations and insights of legal professionals working with transgender people subjected to intimate partner abuse, as well as the narratives of transgender people who have engaged the legal system. The Article then examines the gendered nature of intimate partner abuse against transgender people, arguing that such abuse can be understood not only through the lens of the patriarchal narrative of the battered women's movement, but also as a means of policing gender norms and affirming gender identity. The Article questions whether the legal system, which is the most developed and best funded response to domestic violence in the United States, can ever function as the cornerstone of an effective response to intimate partner abuse for

transgender people. The Article concludes that we cannot create effective systemic responses to intimate partner abuse without understanding the particular needs of discrete groups of individuals subjected to abuse—like transgender people.

Graham, Louis F. “Navigating Community Institutions: Black Transgender Women’s Experiences in Schools, the Criminal Justice System, and Churches.” *Sexuality Research and Social Policy* 11 (2014) 274–287.

Young transgender women, especially those of color, are negatively impacted by suicidality, HIV, residential instability, survival sex work, and other challenges. This study used an oral narrative approach to collect life histories of 10 young black transwomen between 18 and 24 years of age residing in Detroit, Michigan. This study used grounded theory analysis to explore institutional violence, discrimination, and harassment (VDH). Participants described their experiences navigating three community institutions (schools, the criminal justice system, and churches) and broader society. Results highlight VDH through gender policing at school, sexual victimization in the criminal justice system, and negative judgment of gender variation in faith-based institutions. Participants reference the essential role of support systems, including other transgender individuals, in both their gender identity development and the navigation of institutions. Significant policy intervention is needed to protect and support transwomen, and prevent VDH perpetuated against them. Across all institutions, policy and practice interventions can focus on use of transgender appropriate and sensitive language, prevention of physical and sexual assaults, and anti-discrimination measures. Specific policy recommendations and future research directions are outlined.

Grant, Jaime M., Lisa A. Mottet, Justin Tanis, Jack Harrison, Jody L. Herman, and Mara Keisling. *Injustice at Every Turn: A Report of the National Transgender Discrimination Survey*. Washington: National Center for Transgender Equality and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 2011.

This report provides information on discrimination in every major area of life — including housing, employment, health and health care, education, public accommodation, family life, criminal justice and government identity documents. In virtually every setting, the data underscores the urgent need for policymakers and community leaders to change their business-as-usual approach and confront the devastating consequences of anti-transgender bias.

Guadalupe-Diaz, Xavier L., and Amanda Koontz Anthony. “Discrediting Identity Work: Understandings of Intimate Partner Violence by Transgender Survivors.” *Deviant Behavior* 38 (2017) 1–16.

This study explores how individuals can actively work to discredit identity work. We examine eighteen transgender victims’ accounts of intimate partner violence (IPV), providing insight into how abusers undermine victims’ constructions of self-concepts. Our findings illustrate two primary strategies of discrediting identity work: altercasting and targeting sign-vehicles, including controlling through props. Empirically examining the accounts of transgender IPV victims’ experiences contributes to addressing a serious gap in research on transgender IPV victims, while expanding theoretical understandings of processes of discrediting identity work within the context of abusive intimate relationships.

Heintz, Adam Jackson, and Rita M. Melendez. "Intimate Partner Violence and HIV/STD Risk Among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Individuals." *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 21 (2006) 193–208.

To date, there has been little research examining HIV/STD risk among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals who are in abusive relationships. This article uses data collected from a community-based organization that provides counseling for LGBT victims of intimate partner violence (IPV). A total of 58 clients completed the survey, which inquired as to sexual violence and difficulties negotiating safer sex with their abusive partners. A large percentage of participants reported being forced by their partners to have sex (41%). Many stated that they felt unsafe to ask their abusive partners to use safer sex protection or that they feared their partners' response to safer sex (28%). In addition, many participants experienced sexual (19%), physical (21%), and/or verbal abuse (32%) as a direct consequence of asking their partner to use safer sex protection. Training counselors on issues of sexuality and safer sex will benefit victims of IPV.

Hoxmeier, Jill C. "Sexual Assault and Relationship Abuse Victimization of Transgender Undergraduate Students in a National Sample." *Violence and Gender* 3 (2016) 202–207.

College students report high rates of sexual assault and relationship abuse victimization, which is associated with a wide range of negative health outcomes. The purpose of this study was to examine students' reported sexual assault and relationship abuse victimization among male, female, and transgender undergraduate students, using data from the Fall 2014 National College Health Assessment. Just over 9% of participants (n = 1805) reported having experienced nonconsensual sexual touching, nearly 4% (n = 767) experienced an attempted sexual penetration, and just over 2% experienced completed sexual penetration in the previous 12 months. Chi-square analysis showed that students' gender was significantly related to nonconsensual sexual touch, attempted penetration, and completed penetration. Logistic regression showed that female and transgender students had significantly greater odds of reporting nonconsensual sexual touch (OR = 3.5 and 4.1, respectively), attempted penetration (OR = 4.4 and 5.3, respectively), and completed penetration (OR = 4.05 and 4.9, respectively) compared with male students. Regarding relationship abuse, just over 8% (n=1622) of students reported emotional abuse, whereas just under 2% (n=378) reported physical abuse, and just over 2% (n = 426) reported sexual abuse by romantic partner. Chi-square analyses showed that students' gender was significantly related to emotional and sexual abuse, but not physical abuse victimization. Logistic regression showed that female and transgender students had significantly greater odds of reporting victimization of relationship emotional abuse (OR = 1.9 and 1.7, respectively) and sexual abuse (OR 2.5 and 6.1, respectively) compared with male students, but not physical abuse. The findings suggest that transgender students, in addition to female students, are vulnerable to a range of victimization, and prevention efforts should consider their needs in outreach and programming efforts to better serve this population.

Jauk, Daniela. "Invisible Lives, Silenced Violence: Transphobic Gender Violence in Global Perspective." In *Gendered Perspectives on Conflict and Violence: Part A (Advances in Gender Research, Volume 18A)*. Ed. Marcia Texler Segal and Vasilikie Demos. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing Limited, 2013, 111–36.

Purpose: In this chapter, I use the issue of violence against transgender individuals to explore the (limited) meanings of gender within the context of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in the United Nations (UN). *Design/methodology/approach:* Using constructivist grounded theory and institutional ethnography I bring together field research from two ethnographic qualitative research projects I have been pursuing from 2008 to 2012; I studied transgender communities in the US and the CSW through their annual meetings in the New York Headquarters of the UN. *Findings:* I first demonstrate the severity of transphobic violence as a global public health problem. I proceed to report highlights of global LGBT activism, such as the Yogyakarta Principles and the latest developments within the Human Rights Council of the UN for the first time addressing global LGBT violence in 2011. I then examine the silencing of transgender experiences in the CSW by exploring the contested use of the term gender over the last two decades of intergovernmental negotiations. *Originality/value:* This study highlights the need to broaden the conceptualization of violence and gender violence which has important theoretical and policy implications. Linking micro experiences of violent victimization in local trans-communities to the macro context of gender violence in global gender equality policy development is crucial to the advancement of human rights.

Kidd, J.D., & Witten, T.M. “Transgender and Transsexual Identities: The Next Strange Fruit—Hate Crimes, Violence and Genocide Against the Global Trans-Communities.” *Journal of Hate Studies* 6 (2007) 31–63.

In this paper, we review the literature on global transgender hate crimes, violence, and abuse. We point out that it is possible to infer that this problem is not localized to the United States but rather, represents a global pandemic of focused prejudice. We point out that it can be viewed not only as an extremely serious and immediate public health problem, but also as genocide against a consistently invisibilized minority population. We provide concrete examples from the researchers’ field studies as well as from the published literature.

Langenderfer-Magruder, Lisa, N. Eugene Walls, Darren L. Whitfield, Samantha M. Brown, and Cory M. Barrett. “Partner Violence Victimization Among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Youth: Associations Among Risk Factors.” *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal* 33 (2016) 55–68.

Literature shows that youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ) experience high rates of victimization across various contexts, though there is little research specific to partner violence victimization. Given the deleterious effects of partner violence seen in both youth generally and LGBTQ adults, it is imperative to investigate partner violence among LGBTQ youth. The authors investigated the prevalence of partner violence among a community sample of LGBTQ youth (N = 140) and examined potential correlates of said violence. Approximately half of the participants had ever experienced some form of partner violence. Rates of ever experiencing partner violence were approximately 2.5 times higher for youth who had binge drank in the past month or ever experienced familial abuse and nearly three times higher for youth who had experienced an episode of homelessness in the past year. Implications for professionals who serve LGBTQ youth are discussed.

Lombardi, Emilia L., Riki Anne Wilchins, Dana Priesing, and Diana Malouf. "Gender Violence: Transgender Experiences with Violence and Discrimination." *Journal of Homosexuality* 42 (2002) 89–101.

There is a pervasive pattern of discrimination and prejudice against transgendered people within society. Both economic discrimination and experiencing violence could be the result of a larger social climate that severely sanctions people for not conforming to society's norms concerning gender; as such, both would be strongly associated with each other. Questionnaires were distributed to people either through events or through volunteers, and made available upon the World Wide Web. A sample of 402 cases was collected over the span of 12 months (April 1996-April 1997). We found that over half the people within this sample experienced some form of harassment or violence within their lifetime, with a quarter experiencing a violent incident. Further investigation found that experiencing economic discrimination because one is transgendered had the strongest association with experiencing a transgender related violent incident. Economic discrimination was related to transgendered people's experience with violence. Therefore, both hate crimes legislation and employment protections are needed for transgendered individuals.

Lorenzetti, Liza, Lana Wells, Carmen H. Logie, and Tonya Callaghan. "Understanding and Preventing Domestic Violence in the Lives of Gender and Sexually Diverse Persons." *The Canadian Journal of Human Sexuality* 26 (2017) 175–185.

A climate of structural violence, built on heteronormativity, heterosexism and sexual stigma shapes the lives of gender and sexually diverse (GSD) persons. This reality creates the social conditions within which interpersonal and intimate partner relationships are established, and within which domestic violence can occur. This article argues that a climate of structural violence against GSD persons creates specific risk factors for domestic violence victimization and unique barriers to receiving safe, appropriate and accessible services and supports act as obstacles to healthy intimate relationships. We purport that GSD persons experience additional risk factors such as heteronormativity, heterosexism, sexual stigma; traditional gender and sexuality norms; early stigma and homophobic harassment; social exclusion and isolation; and lack of appropriate domestic violence prevention services and supports which enhance the risk for domestic violence within GSD intimate relationships and limits the potential of prevention efforts. They emphasize that domestic violence will not be eradicated using a solely heteronormative interventionist approach and that the inclusion of a primary prevention approach that takes account of these additional risk factors is necessary to stop the violence before it starts.

Love, Gillian, Grazia De Michele, Christina Giakoumidaki, Eva Herrera Sánchez, MaryFrances Lukera, and Valentina Cartei. "Improving Access to Sexual Violence Support for Marginalised Individuals: Findings from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans* and the Black and Minority Ethnic Communities." *Critical and Radical Social Work* 5 (2017) 163–179.

Statistics suggest that survivors of sexual violence from black and minority ethnic (BME) and lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans* (LGBT) communities are less likely to access specialist support than other members of the general population. This article highlights the specific barriers that these communities face in accessing support services and how they could be addressed by these services, using data from a case study conducted in the city of Brighton and Hove, UK. It

also takes the original step of comparing questionnaire and interview data from survivors with questionnaire and interview data from practitioners working with the BME and LGBT communities. Recommendations are identified for sexual violence services and social workers working with these survivors that are missing from the existing literature. These include a critique of the empowerment discourse commonly employed by support services, the use of intersectional feminist theory to inform practice and recommendations for ‘community-embedded’ support services.

Lubitow, Amy, JaDee Carathers, Maura Kelly, and Miriam Abelson. “Transmobilities: Mobility, Harassment, and Violence Experienced by Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Public Transit Riders in Portland, Oregon.” *Gender, Place & Culture* 24 (2017) 1398–1418.

This research endeavours to fill a conceptual gap in the social science literature on gender, public space, and urban mobilities by exploring how transgender and gender nonconforming individuals experience public transit. Although previous research has surveyed gender minorities about harassment and discrimination in a range of environments, little is known about the quality or content of these experiences. Drawing from 25 interviews with transgender and gender nonconforming individuals in Portland, Oregon, this article finds that gender minorities experience frequent harassment while engaging with the public transit system. We articulate the concept of transmobilities to describe the ways that transgender and gender nonconforming individuals experience a form of mobility that is altered, shaped, and informed by a broader cultural system that normalizes violence and harassment towards gender minorities. We conclude that gender minorities have unequal access to safe and accessible public transportation when harassment is widespread, normalized, and when policies prohibiting discrimination remain unenforced on urban public transit.

Martin-Storey, Alexa, Geneviève Paquette, Manon Bergeron, Jacinthe Dion, Isabelle Daigneault, Martine Hébert, and Sandrine Ricci. “Sexual Violence on Campus: Differences Across Gender and Sexual Minority Status.” *Journal of Adolescent Health* 62 (2018) 701–707.

Sexual violence is a pervasive problem on university campuses. Although previous work has documented greater vulnerability for sexual violence among sexual and gender minority students, little is known about contextual variation in vulnerability to this kind of violence. The goals of the current study were (1) to identify vulnerability among sexual and gender minority students with regard to sexual violence, and (2) to explore if the context of this violence differs across sexual and gender minority status. Undergraduate students (ages 18–24) from six francophone universities in Quebec, Canada (N = 4,264) completed online questionnaires regarding their experience of sexual violence, as well as the context of these acts (e.g., the gender of the perpetrator, the status of the perpetrator, and the location of the violence). They also provided information regarding their sexual and gender minority status. Binary logistic regressions were conducted to assess for variation in experiencing sexual violence across sexual and gender minority status. Transgender/nonbinary students generally reported higher levels of sexual violence than their cisgender peers, while variation occurred with regard to vulnerability across sexual identity subgroups. Few differences in context were observed across sexual minority identity. Transgender/nonbinary students were significantly more likely to report sexual violence in athletic contexts and during volunteering activities compared to their cisgender peers.

Findings highlight the higher levels of vulnerability for sexual violence among gender minority and some sexual minority university students. They also point to the contexts in which such violence occurs, suggesting specific strategies for prevention.

Mizock, Lauren, and Thomas Lewis. "Trauma in Transgender Populations: Risk, Resilience, and Clinical Care." *Journal of Emotional Abuse* 8 (2008) 335–54.

The transgender community is disproportionately affected by violence (Wilchins, Lombardi, Priesing, & Malouf, 1997). *Transphobia*—prejudice, discrimination, and gender-related violence due to negative attitudes toward transgender identity—may pose a risk factor for experiencing trauma in transgender individuals. Other risk and resiliency factors associated with experiencing traumatic violence among transgender populations are addressed in this article. Finally, culturally competent treatment suggestions are provided for clinicians working with transgender survivors of trauma in a clinical setting.

Moran, Leslie J., and Andrew N. Sharpe. "Violence, Identity and Policing: The Case of Violence against Transgender People." *Criminal Justice* 4 (2004) 395–417.

The call by transgender people for the police to take violence against them more seriously has some familiar attributes. In general it is a violence characterized as hate crime. Transgender activism has highlighted many problems, for example, under-reporting, lack of trust and confidence in policing, lack of police recognition, low detection rates, clear up rates and infrequent judicial determinations of guilt. This activism might be characterized as another instance of identity politics emerging within the field of policing and criminal justice. While we welcome its emergence some scholars have been critical of the impact of identity politics upon policing and criminal justice bodies, suggesting it promotes further social and community divisions. Although we share some of these concerns, in this article we argue that these problems are the effect of particular assumptions about the nature of identity. We offer an analysis of identity politics that seeks to challenge this position, as well as an analysis of empirical data of transgender experiences of violence and insecurity arising out of research undertaken in Sydney, Australia. Our analysis exposes the multiple and simultaneous operation of many different social and cultural divisions at work in the context of transgender identity. We explore the significance of this approach to identity for policing.

Potter, Sharyn J., Kim Fountain, and Jane G. Stapleton. "Addressing Sexual and Relationship Violence in the LGBT Community Using a Bystander Framework:" *Harvard Review of Psychiatry* 20 (2012) 201–208.

Sexual and relationship violence are two major public health issues that affect an alarming number of undergraduate students. As a result, many colleges and universities have protocols to serve victims of these forms of violence. Despite federal legislation stating that all students should have equitable experiences, current protocols and programs focus primarily on heterosexual students. College student victims of sexual and relationship violence who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender can face particular challenges, including disclosure of their sexual and gender orientations, and revictimization when seeking services. In recent years an increasing number of campuses have adopted bystander prevention strategies to address

sexual and relationship violence. These strategies seek to engage community members in the prevention of sexual and relationship violence by training them to identify and safely intervene in situations where sexual or relationship violence is about to occur, is occurring, or has occurred. In this article we review published bystander prevention strategies that focus on preventing sexual and relationship violence in the campus community, and discuss how bystander strategies are addressing or can address relationship and sexual violence in the LGBT community.

Reuter, Tyson R., Michael E. Newcomb, Sarah W. Whitton, and Brian Mustanski. "Intimate Partner Violence Victimization in LGBT Young Adults: Demographic Differences and Associations with Health Behaviors." *Psychology of Violence* 7 (2017) 101–109.

Objective: Intimate partner violence (IPV) is an important public health problem with high prevalence and serious costs. Although literature has largely focused on IPV among heterosexuals, studies have recently begun examining IPV in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) samples, with mounting evidence suggesting IPV may be more common among LGBT individuals than heterosexuals. Less research has examined the specific health consequences of IPV in this population, particularly across time and among young people, and it remains unclear whether experiences of IPV differ between subgroups within the LGBT population (e.g., race, gender identity, and sexual orientation). *Method:* An ethnically diverse sample of 172 LGBT young adults completed self-report measures of IPV, sexual behavior, mental health, and substance abuse at 2 time points (4- and 5-year follow-up) of an ongoing longitudinal study of LGBT youth. *Results:* IPV was experienced nonuniformly across demographic groups. Specifically, female, male-to-female transgender, and Black/African American young adults were at higher risk compared with those who identified as male, female-to-male transgender, and other races. Being a victim of IPV was associated with concurrent sexual risk taking and prospective mental health outcomes but was not associated with substance abuse. *Conclusions:* Demographic differences in IPV found in heterosexuals were replicated in this LGBT sample, though additional research is needed to clarify why traditional risk factors found in heterosexual young people may not translate to LGBT individuals. Studies examining the impact of IPV on negative outcomes and revictimization over time may guide our understanding of the immediate and delayed consequences of IPV for LGBT young people.

Reuter, Tyson R., Carla Sharp, and Jeff R. Temple. "An Exploratory Study of Teen Dating Violence in Sexual Minority Youth." *Partner Abuse* 6 (2015) 8–28.

Objective: Teen dating violence (TDV) represents a serious social problem in adolescence and is associated with a host of physical and emotional consequences. Despite advances in identification of risk factors, prevention efforts, and treatment, the TDV literature has overwhelmingly used samples that do not assess sexual orientation or assume heterosexuality. Although a few studies have explicitly examined dating violence among sexual minorities in adolescents, methodological issues limit the generalizability of these findings, and no study to date has examined patterns of dating violence over time in sexual minority youth. *Method:* An ethnically diverse sample of 782 adolescents completed self-report measures of dating violence, hostility, alcohol use, exposure to interparental violence, and sexual orientation. *Results:* Sexual minority adolescents reported higher rates of both TDV perpetration and

victimization, and this finding persisted across 2 years for perpetration but not victimization. Findings also revealed that traditional risk factors of TDV (i.e., alcohol use, exposure to interparental violence) were not associated with TDV for sexual minority youth, although sexual orientation itself emerged as a risk factor over and above covariates when considering severe (i.e., physical and sexual) dating violence perpetration. *Conclusions*: Sexual minorities may be at a greater risk for TDV than their heterosexual peers. Findings are discussed within the context of a minority stress model. Future research is needed to parse out factors specifically related to sexual orientation from a stressful or invalidating environment.

Rodríguez-Madera, Sheilla L., Mark Padilla, Nelson Varas-Díaz, Torsten Neilands, Ana C. Vasques Guzzi, Ericka J. Florenciani, and Alíxida Ramos-Pibernus. "Experiences of Violence Among Transgender Women in Puerto Rico: An Underestimated Problem." *Journal of Homosexuality* 64 (2017) 209–17.

Violence is a public health concern faced on a daily basis by transgender women. Literature has documented how it adversely affects quality of life and health and in some instances leads to homicide. Considering the lack of research documenting the experiences of violence among transgender women, the objective of this article was to explore manifestations of violence among this population in Puerto Rico. The data presented in this article are part of a larger study on transgender/transsexual health in Puerto Rico. For the purpose of this article we focus on the quantitative data analysis. Participants (N = 59 transgender women) were recruited via respondent driven sampling. Implications and specific recommendations are discussed in light of these findings.

Rymer, Sally, and Valentina Cartei. "Supporting Transgender Survivors of Sexual Violence: Learning from Users' Experiences." *Critical and Radical Social Work* 3 (2015) 155–164.

Transgender individuals are particularly vulnerable to sexual violence, yet many do not seek, or receive, adequate support following unwanted sexual experiences. This study explores the needs and experiences of transgender survivors when accessing sexual violence support services. The study examines the barriers that transgender survivors may face in accessing services and ways that organisations can reduce these barriers. Our findings provide valuable insights for sexual violence agencies and other providers about how to engage meaningfully with transgender survivors.

Seelman, Kristie L. "Unequal Treatment of Transgender Individuals in Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Programs." *Journal of Social Service Research* 41 (2015) 307–325.

Transgender people often face barriers in accessing culturally competent domestic violence and rape crisis services, yet few studies have used a national sample of transgender people to study this topic or examine differential rates of discrimination within this population. The National Transgender Discrimination Survey, conducted in 2008 to 2009 by the National Center for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, collected data about discrimination affecting transgender people across a variety of settings. The present study involves secondary data analysis of this data set to examine whether certain sociodemographic factors and psychosocial risks are significant predictors of unequal treatment of transgender

people in domestic violence programs (N D 2,438) and rape crisis centers (N D 2,424). For both settings, findings indicate that transgender individuals who are low-income and not U.S. citizens are more likely to experience unequal treatment based upon being transgender or gender-nonconforming. Within domestic violence programs, transgender people of color, those with disabilities, and those more frequently perceived to be transgender by others are more likely to experience unequal treatment. Psychosocial risk factors (suicidality, sex work history, and disconnection from family) predict unequal treatment in both settings. The article concludes by discussing implications for social service practitioners and future research.

Stolzenberg, Ellen Bara, and Bryce Hughes. “The Experiences of Incoming Transgender College Students.” *Liberal Education* 103 (2017) 38–43.

According to the National Transgender Discrimination Survey, transgender students in K-12 settings experience high rates of harassment (78 percent), physical assault (35 percent), and even sexual violence (12 percent). It is perhaps unsurprising, therefore, to learn from a separate study of transgender youth that “attending school was reported to be the most traumatic aspect of growing up.” (Encouragingly, studies of transgender youth have also found that supportive adults, especially teachers, play an important role in providing a sense of safety in school.)³ In response to the mounting evidence of discrimination, the Obama administration in May 2016 issued a “Dear Colleague” letter, authored jointly by the Departments of Justice and Education, extending sex discrimination protections to transgender students—an interpretation of Title IX that was reversed by the Trump administration in February 2017.

Many of these transgender students matriculate at colleges and universities across the country. What do we know about their background, experiences, and expectations? To explore this question, we conducted an analysis of data from the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Freshman Survey, which was modified in 2015 to allow students to indicate whether they identify as transgender. That change enabled us to disaggregate data for a sample of incoming first-year students consisting of 678 transgender students from 209 colleges and universities. We compared these data to the national norms for all incoming first-time, full-time college students—including the transgender students, who comprise less than one half of one percent of the total. To develop a holistic picture and to avoid a deficit framing, we took care in our analysis to present examples of experiences that demonstrate how transgender students exercise agency over their needs and their lives, in addition to examples of areas where these students fare worse than incoming students overall.

Stotzer, Rebecca L. “Violence against Transgender People: A Review of United States Data.” *Aggression and Violent Behavior* 14 (2009) 170–179.

Transgender people face many challenges in a society that is unforgiving of any system of gender that is not binary. However, there are three primary sources of data in the United States for discerning the rates and types of violence that transgender people face throughout their lives—self-report surveys and needs assessments, hot-line call and social service records, and police reports. Data from each of these sources are discussed in length, as well as some of the methodological issues for these types of data sources. All three sources indicate that violence against transgender people starts early in life, that transgender people are at risk for multiple types and incidences of violence, and that this threat lasts throughout their lives. In addition,

transgender people seem to have particularly high risk for sexual violence. Future research considerations, such as improving data collection efforts, are discussed.

Testa, Rylan J., Laura M. Sciacca, Florence Wang, Michael L. Hendricks, Peter Goldblum, Judith Bradford, and Bruce Bongar. "Effects of Violence on Transgender People." *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice* 43 (2012) 452–459.

While recent research on transgender populations has demonstrated high rates of experiencing violence, there has been little research attention to the mental health implications of these experiences. This study utilized data collected from the Virginia Transgender Health Initiative Survey (THIS) of transgender people (individuals who described their gender identity as different from their sex assigned at birth) collected from 2005–2006. Current study analyses were limited to two subgroups: trans women ($n = 179$) and trans men ($n = 92$). We hypothesized that, as in the general population, exposure to physical and sexual violence would be related to suicidal ideation, suicide attempts, and substance abuse. Both trans women and trans men in this sample were at high risk for physical and sexual violence, as well as suicidal ideation and suicide attempt. Logistic regression analyses indicated that among both trans women and trans men, those who had endured physical and/or sexual violence were significantly more likely than those who had not had such experiences to report a history of suicide attempt and multiple suicide attempts. In addition, among trans men, history of physical and sexual violence were each related to alcohol abuse. Among trans women, history of sexual violence was related to alcohol abuse and illicit substance use. Patterns of violence against transgender people were identified and are discussed, including frequent gender-related motivation for violence, low prevalence of reporting violence to police, and variety of perpetrators of violence. Clinical implications and recommendations are provided.

Walker, Julia K. "Investigating Trans People's Vulnerabilities to Intimate Partner Violence/Abuse." *Partner Abuse* 6 (2015) 107–125.

Traditionally recognized as "violence against women," the research literature on intimate partner violence/abuse (IPV/A; also known as *domestic violence*) continually neglects to incorporate subculture populations that do not fit societal understanding of typical victim/offender roles. More than 4 decades of research has expanded our knowledge of IPV/A in Western and developing countries across race, ethnicity, religion, and socioeconomic status. However, identifying the prevalence of IPV/A across all manner of relationships has been difficult. In particular, IPV/A within the transgender population has remained practically invisible. Although frequently recognized as an appendage of lesbian, gay, and bisexual populations, trans people are often overlooked in research because of their invisibility within society. Research that does exist is rarely generalizable because of sample size and selection. Therefore, research is required to assess how trans people are affected by IPV/A, what they understand IPV/A to be, what needs are trans-specific, and what help-seeking barriers exist. An analysis of the literature pertaining to trans people regarding IPV/A and other violence, health, and public relations as well as experiences with law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and judiciary in an attempt to identify any issues that could be relevant to trans people experiencing IPV/A is presented. Implications for practice and future research are discussed.

Weir, Cassandra, and Noëlla Piquette. "Counselling Transgender Individuals: Issues and Considerations." *Canadian Psychology/Psychologie Canadienne* 59 (2018) 252–261.

Transgender individuals represent a unique population whose voices are often lost within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) population. Being transgender challenges the assumptions that people may make regarding sex and gender as they do not adhere to a gender binary. Transgender individuals experience unique life challenges and are at risk for violence as well as mental health concerns, including suicide. With an increase in awareness regarding transgender individuals, as well as recent changes to policies and treatment, it is important that counsellors are aware of this population and the challenges they face. Transgender individuals are often combined with other sexual minorities; however, although they may identify as homosexual and experience homophobia, they also experience transphobia because of their gender identity. The potential for multiple forms of violence, combined with a lack of safe and appropriate supports, can lead to the potential for serious harm and damage among this population. Therefore, counsellors should work toward developing competencies and awareness in how to best serve this population. This article addresses many of the key issues and counselling recommendations.

Whitfield, Darren L., Robert W. S. Coulter, Lisa Langenderfer-Magruder, and Daniel Jacobson. "Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence Among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender College Students: The Intersection of Gender, Race, and Sexual Orientation." *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* (2018) 1–25.

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) college students experience disproportionate rates of intimate partner violence (IPV) compared with their heterosexual and cisgender counterparts. Some studies report rates of IPV among lesbian, gay, and bisexual college students as high as 50%, and 9 times greater among transgender students compared with their cisgender peers. Few studies have investigated the impact of intersectional identity on experiencing different types of IPV, such as emotional, physical, and sexual IPV. The present study utilized the National College Health Assessment–II from 2011 to 2013 ($n = 88,975$) to examine the differences in types of IPV among college students based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and the intersection of these two identities. Bivariate Rao–Scott chi-square and multilevel logistic regression was used to test the associations between sexual orientation, gender identity, and the intersection of these identities on multiple types of IPV. Adjusting for covariates and school clustering, LGBT college students had higher odds of reporting emotional IPV (adjusted odds ratios [AORs] = 1.34-1.99), physical IPV (AOR = 1.58-2.93), and sexual IPV (AOR = 1.41-6.18). Bisexual and transgender college students demonstrated the highest odds of reporting IPV based on sexual orientation and gender identity, respectively. Intersectional identities were not significantly associated with IPV. These findings demonstrate a need for clinicians working with college students to be aware of the disproportionate prevalence of IPV among LGBT individuals, particularly for those clients those who identify as bisexual and/or transgender and participate in continuing education related to these populations. Furthermore,

these findings illustrate the need for additional intersectional research with LGBT college students.

Wilson, Milo S. "Violence and Mental Health in the Transgender Community," Ph.D. diss., Ohio University, 2013.

Transgender individuals experience high rates of violence and minority stress. However, research examining violence, the psychological functioning associated with experiences of violence, and minority stress in the transgender community has been minimal. The objectives of this study were to provide a more nuanced characterization of transgender individuals' experiences of violence and psychological functioning in relation to those of cisgender individuals, and to understand transgender psychological functioning in the context of distal minority stress (violence) and proximal minority stress (stigma, identity concealment, and internalized transphobia). Participants included 342 (46%) transgender and 401 (54%) cisgender individuals who were 18 years of age or older. Participants completed self-report measures assessing demographic characteristics, violence (verbal, physical, and sexual), perceived gender identity-related stigma, identity concealment, and internalized transphobia, as well as depression, anxiety, PTSD symptomology, stress, self-harming thoughts and behaviors, alcohol use, and drug use. Results revealed that transgender and cisgender participants experienced similar prevalence rates and chronicity of violence across verbal, physical, and sexual violence. Transgender participants had higher scores across all symptom and self-harm measures. However, after controlling for significant covariates, gender did not have a significant effect on these outcome measures. Rather, sexual orientation and income emerged as robust correlates of psychological functioning. Cisgender participants reported higher levels of alcohol use and there were no differences in drug use between the two groups. When examining only transgender victims of violence, transgender participants with poorer psychological functioning more often identified as a sexual minority, had more chronic experiences of verbal and physical violence, and had more internalized identity negativity. Implications for research, policy, and clinical practice will be discussed.

Annotated Bibliography

Witten, Tarynn M., and A. Evan Eyler. "Hate Crimes and Violence against the Transgendered." *Peace Review* 11 (1999) 461–68.

This article argues that interpersonal violence and abuse against transsexual and transgendered persons represents a form of gender terrorism. The underlying motivation for this terrorism is the maintenance of a social system in which males dominate females through emotional, verbal and physical acts of force, and in which the line between the genders must be rigidly maintained in support of this social schema, the article also contends that an understanding of this form of gender-based violence is strongly needed, both to protect its victims and to comprehend the socially constructed gender dynamics that allow the widespread abuse of women by men. The article concludes that useful anti-violence research should have as its goal both the prevention of criminal victimization and the fostering of compassionate treatment for its sufferers and their families. [Abstract from ProQuest.]

Yerke, Adam F., and Jennifer DeFeo. "Redefining Intimate Partner Violence Beyond the Binary to Include Transgender People." *Journal of Family Violence* 31 (2016) 975–979.

Since the mid-1970s, the field of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) has debated over gender differences in the perpetration of physical partner violence. However, this classical controversy has ignored transgender people since their gender does not seemingly fit the binary categories (male and female) first used to conceptualize IPV. Furthermore, sustained attention on this ceaseless argument has contributed to transgender people remaining invisible to the field of IPV. In this article, we redefine IPV to extend beyond the gender binary and invite the field to shift its focus to transgender people. Research suggests that as many as one in two transgender individuals are victims of IPV, but that multiple barriers prevent this group from acquiring protection that is afforded to others. Therefore, we propose that researchers direct their attention to this topic, and thus, inform police officers, victim advocates, and medical professionals who work directly to combat IPV for all.