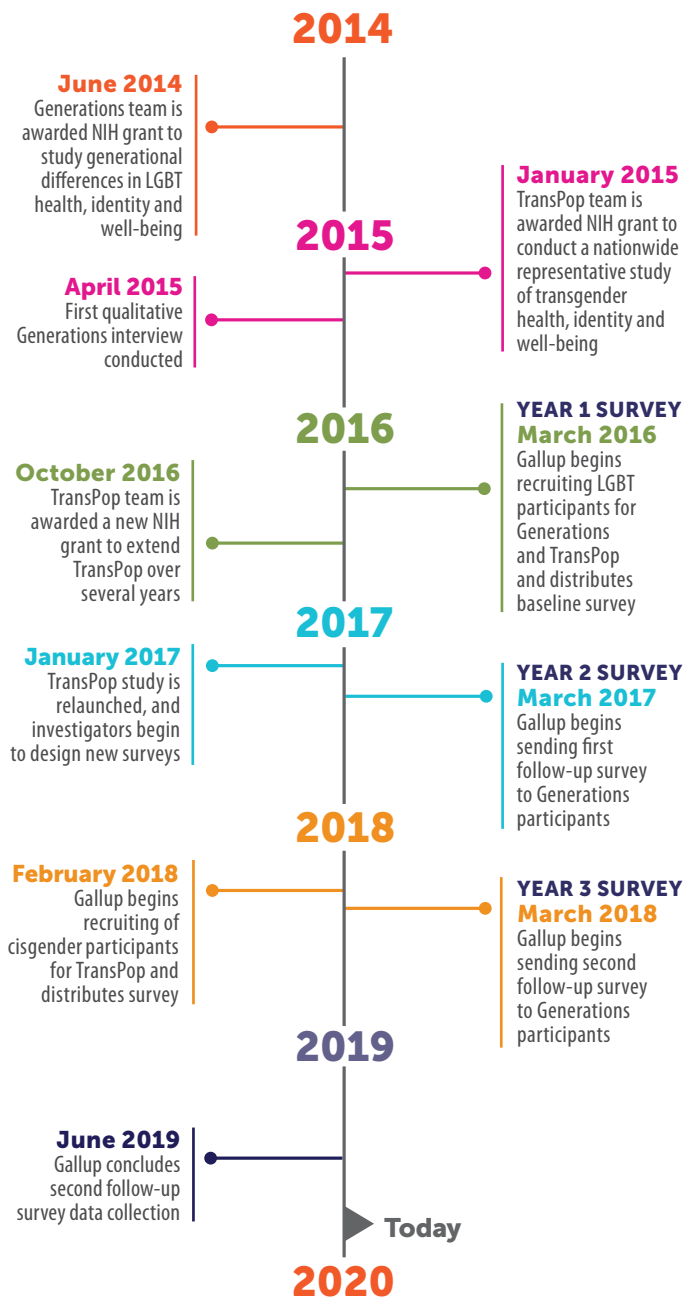


generations

A Study of the Life and Health of LGB People in a Changing Society

Where Is Generations?



Fall 2019 | 3:4



As we approach the busy holiday season, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on the progress we've made with the Generations study. It is hard to imagine that we have completed three waves of data collection. Knowledge gained from

Generations has been used to produce journal articles and reports accessed by people around the world and to lay important groundwork for policy changes to improve the lives of LGBT people (you can review our publications on our website www.generations-study.com). For example, since our last newsletter, Generations data have been used for journal articles about generational differences in the experience of sexual identity development, minority stress and health. The data have also been used in an op-ed article about the legacy of AIDS, specifically in regard to the way that trauma and shame get in the way of HIV prevention. As always, we would like to emphasize that these publications would not be possible without your participation and commitment to the Generations Study. Thank you!

Happy Holidays

Ilan H. Meyer, Ph.D.
Study Principal Investigator
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Generations Research Spotlight:

We are happy to report that 1,518 people completed at least one of the three surveys throughout the course of the study. That's more than we anticipated. In addition, 191 people completed the qualitative study.

Below are a few studies that we would like to share with you in this newsletter. These papers all used data from the Generations qualitative study, in which we interviewed 191 people, members of three generations of LGB people, across the country. For the qualitative study, we conducted comprehensive in-person interviews with each participant. (If you are one of the 1,518 people who completed the survey, you did not participate in this part of the study.)

Educator Interaction With Sexual Minority Students

Lead Author: Jack Simons – Mercy College

In this paper, qualitative interviews were used to explore the participants' recollections of their interactions with K-12 educators. One noteworthy finding from this study was that school counselors and sexual minority teachers were mentioned in interviews less than other educators. Another interesting finding was that white participants mentioned supportive educators more than non-white participants. Findings from this study indicate a need for educators to improve their sexual minority advocacy competence for sexual minority students, including sexual minority students with multiple minority status. Also, findings suggest that LGB educators serve as role models to LGB students.

This paper was presented by the author and one of the Generations investigators at the LGBT Health Conference held at Rutgers University in April 2019.

School-based sexuality education experiences across three generations of sexual minority people

Lead Author: Meg Bishop – University of Texas at Austin

In this paper, participants relayed experiences with school-based sex education. Four themes emerged in the interview narratives: silence about the needs of LGB people, the profound influence of HIV/AIDS, stigma manifest through fear, shame, and prejudice and comparing school-based experiences to sexuality education outside of school. One anecdote that speaks to silence in school-based sex education came from a 19-year-old, lesbian from the Northeast who remembered no education related to lesbian health. "The schools I went to, [sex ed was] all female-male sex. They would never talk about dental dams, they only talked about the condom, birth control and that's about it." These themes indicate that school-based sex education can have a lasting influence on the lives of sexual minority people.

This paper was presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence conference in Minneapolis in April 2018.

"The schools I went to, [sex ed was] all female-male sex. They would never talk about dental dams, they only talked about the condom, birth control and that's about it."



“White, Tall, Top, Masculine, Muscular”: Intra-Community Marginalization Among Young Gay and Bisexual Men

Lead Author: Brock Grecco – University of California, Los Angeles

The purpose of this study was to understand how young gay and bisexual men (ages 18 to 25) experience the LGBT community. One interesting finding from the study was the role of social apps in the young men’s understanding and experience of community. The data showed that social apps are central to the lives of young gay and bisexual men, particularly in their understanding of their position within the LGBT community. However, many respondents felt that social apps can lead to stigmatization and many felt that they fall short of the desired preferred typical gay/bisexual man that people on social media prefer. Many people felt rejected (and, ironically, even though it was a common experience, many people felt that they were the only ones being rejected). “Even on these gay apps what’s really accepted is if you’re what I call The Five, which is: white, tall, top, masculine, muscular. I see a lot masc for masc or masculine guys here looking for another masculine guy.”

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This paper was the author’s master’s thesis, which he is currently developing with members of the Generations investigator team to submit for publication.

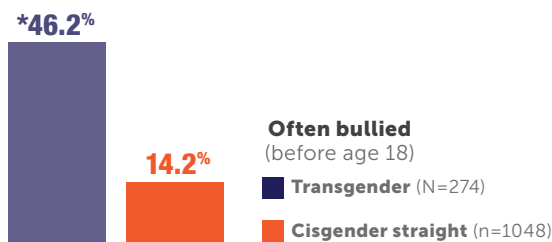
TransPop Update



In September 2019, the TransPop team was invited to present findings from the study by participating on a panel at the World Professional Association for Transgender Health’s USPATH conference in Washington, D.C. The TransPop team presented on several topics including: sexual orientation identity, attraction and behaviors, sexual health, minority stressors, discrimination and victimization.

Noteworthy, more than three times the number of transgender than cisgender respondents report being bullied, often before the age of 18.

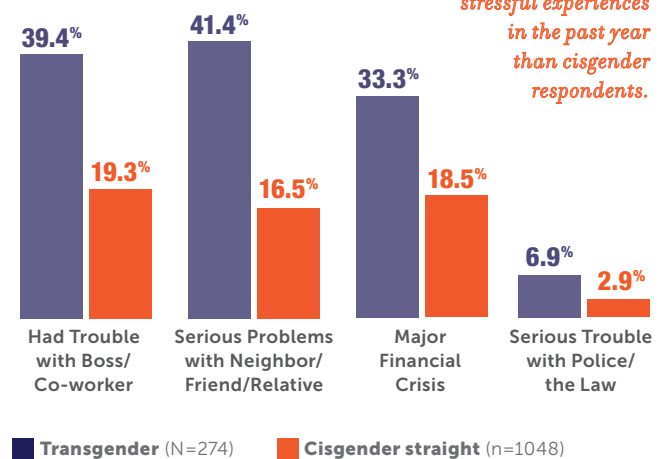
► BULLYING (Weighted Proportions)



Transgender (N=274)		Cisgender straight (n=1048)	
Reason	%	Reason	%
Physical appearance	63.3	Physical appearance	46.3
Gender expression or appearance	46.4	Age	26.3
Sexual orientation	28.4	Sex (being male or female)	13.7

*p<0.05

► STRESSFUL EXPERIENCES (Past Year)



Findings showed that transgender respondents had more stressful experiences in the past year than cisgender respondents.

*p<0.05

The TransPop Study Team at USPath



From left to right: Sari Reisner, Tonia Poteat, Ilan Meyer, Walter Bockting, Jody Herman, Jamie Feldman.

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