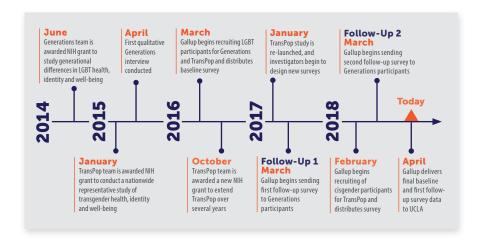
# Generations A Study of the Life and Health of LGB People in a Changing Society

## Where Is Generations?



## **Generations Updates**

As we plan our third year of the study, we want to emphasize the impact of your participation. By completing these informative surveys, each respondent is using their voice to contribute to important matters of public health. For example, sharing your story can influence the development of interventions or other public policy changes to improve the overall health and well-being of our community. In essence, these types of data are the foundation for positive change for the health of LGBT communities. We are now about a month away from starting the third year of data collection (Follow-Up 2 survey) and encourage you to send in your surveys if you haven't done so already. Cheers to progress!

Great news! So far, we have received the first follow-up surveys from more than 800 of you. Thank you! You will receive your second follow-up survey one year after you complete the first follow-up survey. Please know that we encourage you to participate in the second follow-up survey even if you were unable to complete the Follow-Up 1 survey. Your voice contributes to the fight for equality and good health. As you know, your responses are completely confidential, and your personal information is not shared outside of the research team. Please contact us with any questions or concerns at generations@ucla.edu.

#### **Spring 2018** | 3:1



Hello
Generations
participants!
We want
to thank
you again
for your
participation,
dedication
and interest
in the study.

The study is unique because, together with our sister
TransPop study, it is designed to represent the LGBT community in the United States. We are now completing the first follow-up surveys and getting ready to start the second follow-up surveys.

This newsletter will provide some updates about what we've done so far and let you know what exciting things we are working on as we move forward. Please contact us with your ideas, feedback or any questions at <code>generations@ucla.edu</code>. We look forward to staying in touch.

Ilan H. Meyer, Ph.D.
Study Principal Investigator
Distinguished Senior Scholar
of Public Policy

The Williams Institute UCLA School of Law

## **Update on TransPop Study**



In previous newsletters, we told you about a transgender survey that we were conducting called TransPop (www.transpop.org). TransPop has many of the same goals as the Generations study, and we hope to learn a great deal about the lives and health of transgender people from across the country. We recently updated and improved the TransPop survey and will be enrolling new participants between June 2017 and December 2018. So far, more than 138 people have completed the survey.

## **Major News Outlet Features Generations Survey Data**

#### Status of conversion therapy bans across the country in 2018



- Law bans conversion therapy for minors (9 states + DC)
- No law (41 states)

Source: Movement Advancement Project http://www.lgbtmap.org/equality-maps/conversion\_therapy On Jan. 26, 2018, NBC News featured a conversion therapy report\* by The Williams Institute. The report's authors used Generations data to estimate conversion therapy rates of LGBT youth. Conversion therapy is a technique dating back to the 1890s, in which religious figures and healthcare professionals use talk therapy (e.g., talking, hypnosis) and aversion treatments (e.g., electric shock, paralysis) to change an individual's sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. While conversion therapy for youth is currently banned in nine states and the District of Columbia, and is opposed by numerous professional health associations, many youth remain subject to conversion therapy from religious or spiritual advisers who are legally allowed to administer such techniques. For example, data from the report estimated that nearly 57,000 youth

between the ages of 13 and 17 will undergo conversion therapy from a religious or spiritual adviser before the age of 18. The report also revealed that approximately 698,000 LGBT U.S. adults aged 18 to 59 have already received conversion therapy and that nearly 350,000 of them underwent treatment as adolescents.

\*Full report available on <u>Generations-study.com</u>

### **Researcher Spotlight**

#### Gay and Bisexual Men's Experiences With Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

In another paper, Generations investigators studied the narratives of gay and bisexual men. The narratives were collected as part of the Generations qualitative study. Generations researchers Erin Toolis, Phillip Hammack, David Frost and Bianca Wilson studied gay and bisexual men's experiences with pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and HIV prevention. This paper was presented at the American Psychological Association's annual meeting in May 2017.

The emergence of PrEP is a turning point in both public health and sexual culture for gay and bisexual men. Men are engaging with multiple narratives of the meaning of PrEP: Some men view PrEP as contributing to a liberating sexual culture for men, reducing anxiety previously associated with sex due to fear of HIV. Other men have concerns about whether PrEP will always prevent HIV, while others see PrEP as contributing to a culture of increased promiscuity.



Some insights from Generations participants about PrEP:

"With PrEP, it's a big relief ... You could just have protection. Go into sex feeling secure and safe rather than going into sex being worried, and then worrying afterwards. I think just feeling relieved going into sex makes it more pleasurable."

-Male, 22, Gay, Asian/Pacific Islander

"I guess I'm just the old-school mentality where it's just very, 'Use a condom.' To me, that's always been just my way of feeling that safeness ... They wanna use these PrEP and everything that isn't necessarily 100% sure, but at the same time it's kinda like, it is good, but ... It just scares me that it's just gonna be another epidemic."

-Male, 38, Gay, Latino

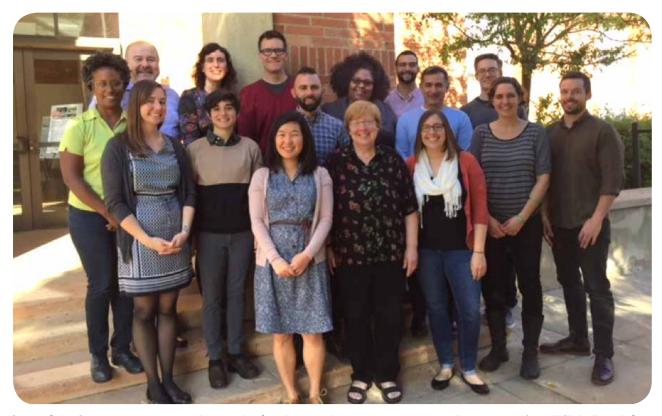
"Most of them will never in their lifetime have to bury a friend because they died of HIV ... Just because you're on PrEP doesn't mean you shouldn't still practice safe sex."

-Male, 52, Gay, Black

"I'm glad that we have PrEP. I'm glad that it does work."

-Male, 53, Bisexual, Biracial

## **The Generations Study Team**



Some of the Generations team members at the fourth annual investigators meeting Jan. 4-5, 2018, at UCLA. From left to right, front row: Soonie Choi, Esther Rothblum, Jessica Fish, Allegra Gordon, David Frost. From left to right, second row: Erin Toolis, Meg Bishop, Phillip Hammack, Ilan Meyer. From left to right, back: Marguerita Lightfoot, Gary Harper, Diana Van Bergen, Stephen Russell, Bianca Wilson, Alexander Martos, Evan Krueger.

The Generations fourth annual investigators meeting was a productive success! Some highlights from the meeting include brainstorming ideas for publications using Generations, workshopping statistical analysis techniques and solidifying plans for future research.

# **Contact Us**

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