Social Epidemiology of LGB Mental Health

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Multi-Level Determinants of LGB Mental Health

- **Structural**
  - State Policies, Institutional Practices

- **Interpersonal**
  - Peer Relations, Family Support

- **Individual**
  - Emotion Regulation

  - Level 1
  - Level 2
  - Level 3
Social Policies as Structural Determinants of LGB Mental Health

State-Level Policies and Psychiatric Morbidity In Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Populations

Mark L. Hatzenbuehler, MS, MPhil, Katherine M. Keyes, MPH, and Deborah S. Hasin, PhD


The Impact of Institutional Discrimination on Psychiatric Disorders in Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Populations: A Prospective Study

Mark L. Hatzenbuehler, MS, MPhil, Katie A. McLaughlin, PhD, Katherine M. Keyes, MPH, and Deborah S. Hasin, PhD

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Original article

Inclusive Anti-bullying Policies and Reduced Risk of Suicide Attempts in Lesbian and Gay Youth

Mark L. Hatzenbuehler, Ph.D., a, *, and Katherine M. Keyes, Ph.D., b

www.jahonline.org
Approach #1: Are Mental Health Problems Higher among LGBs Living in Areas without Protective Policies?

Original article

Inclusive Anti-bullying Policies and Reduced Risk of Suicide Attempts in Lesbian and Gay Youth

Mark L. Hatzenbuehler, Ph.D. a,*, and Katherine M. Keyes, Ph.D. b
Proportion of school districts with anti-bullying policies that were inclusive of sexual orientation in 34 Oregon counties
Oregon Healthy Teens (OHT) Study

- Linked ecologic data on inclusive anti-bullying policies at the county level to individual health outcomes among lesbian and gay youth living in these counties

- Health and sexual orientation data from OHT study
  - Annual surveys to over 1/3 of Oregon’s 11th grade public school students
  - Modeled on Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance studies from CDC
  - N=31,852 11th grade students (2006-2008)
  - N=301 lesbian and gay respondents
  - Outcome measure: any suicide attempt in the past year (Brener et al., 1995; 2002)
Highest Risk of Suicide Attempts in Counties with Lowest Proportion of School Districts with Inclusive Anti-Bullying Policies (Lesbian and Gay Youth)

Hatzenbuehler & Keyes, (in press), *J Adolesc Health*

OR=2.25, 95%CI=1.13, 4.49
Antibullying Policies Remain Associated with Suicide Attempts Independent of Individual-Level Risk Factors (Generalized Estimating Equation Models)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Unadjusted OR (95% CI)</th>
<th>Adjusted OR (95% CI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Model 1: unadjusted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive anti-bullying policy</td>
<td>0.16 (0.04–0.64)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Model 2: adjusted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive anti-bullying policy</td>
<td>0.18 (0.03–0.92)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>1.95 (1.01–3.79)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Race/ethnicity</td>
<td>2.55 (1.21–5.38)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer harassment</td>
<td>7.72 (3.12–19.13)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hatzenbuehler & Keyes (in press), *J Adolesc Health*
Approach #2: Do Mental Health Problems Increase Following the Enactment of Exclusionary Social Policies?

The Impact of Institutional Discrimination on Psychiatric Disorders in Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Populations: A Prospective Study

Mark L. Hatzenbuehler, MS, MPhil, Katie A. McLaughlin, PhD, Katherine M. Keyes, MPH, and Deborah S. Hasin, PhD

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Constitutional Amendments Banning Same-Sex Marriage (2004)

- Red = States passing constitutional amendments
- Blue = States not passing constitutional amendments

NESARC (2001-2005)
National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC)

- Wave 1 (N=43,093)
- Wave 2 (N=34,653)
- Household and group residents
- Face-to-face interviews
- Response rate: 81%
- Oversampling of Blacks, Hispanics, young adults (18-24 yrs)
- DSM-IV diagnoses
- Sexual orientation (1.67% LGB-identified [1.86% men, 1.52% women])
LGB Adults Living in States that Banned Same-Sex Marriage Experience Increase in Mood Disorders

AOR = 1.67 (95% C.I. 1.01, 2.77)  AOR = 0.69 (95% C.I., 0.47, 1.01)
Effect of Marriage Bans are Specific to LGB Adults

AOR = 1.67 (95% C.I. 1.01,2.77)  
AOR = 1.03 (95% C.I. 0.93,1.15)
Intervention Implications

- **Social-structural factors:**
  - Represent targets for structural interventions
    - School policies (antibullying, Gay-Straight Alliances)
    - State policies (marriage, employment nondiscrimination)
  - Serve as moderators of intervention effectiveness
    - HIV interventions to improve African Americans’ condom use practices were only effective in communities with low levels of anti-Black prejudice (Reid, Dovidio, Ballester, & Johnson, in press)
    - Similar process may occur with LGBT populations
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