

Why LGBTQ Inclusivity Matters for Teen Pregnancy Prevention & How to Get Started



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Presenters



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At the conclusion of this webinar, attendees will be able to:

- Define key terms related to gender and sexual orientation;
- Describe health disparities experienced by LGBTQ youth;
- Identify factors that promote resilience among LGBTQ youth; and
- Describe at least three strategies to promote LGBTQ inclusivity.



Are you currently working with LGBTQ youth in your program?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure



- Discuss issues facing LGBTQ youth in regards to teen pregnancy
- Define LGBTQ inclusivity and discuss several concrete and practical strategies
- Hear a TPP grantee's experiences with ensuring LGBTQ inclusivity
- Q&A with the presenters

- “Come out” at younger ages than prior cohorts
- Have been excluded historically in sexual and reproductive health services
- Are typically invisible in sexuality education programs
- Have significant sexual health needs



LGBTQ youth have higher odds of having heterosexual intercourse than their heterosexual peers.

- True
- False



LGBTQ Teen Pregnancy Risk Factors

- Higher odds of having (hetero)sexual intercourse
- Higher sexual engagement risks
 - Substance use before sex
 - Dating violence
 - Multiple partners
- Higher teen pregnancy risks
 - Early sexual intercourse
 - Unprotected intercourse
- Overrepresentation within groups at higher risk for teen pregnancy
 - Runaway and homeless
- Fewer protective factors: family, school support



- LGBTQ-specific risk factors
 - Experiences of exclusion, harassment, and violence
 - Lack of diverse relationship examples
 - Pressure to conform to hetero norms
 - Lack of awareness of pregnancy risk given HIV focus for LGBTQ youth
 - Lack of positive openly LGBTQ role models
- LGBTQ teen pregnancy motives are linked to:
 - Concealment and the 'closet'
 - Heteronormative understandings of masculinity (virility) and femininity (maternity)



- Like all vulnerable groups, only some LGBTQ youth are at high risk
 - Most are just typical adolescents
 - We should be aware of the potential for risk, but avoid assuming that all LGBTQ youth are at risk



- Resilience factors
 - Supportive family and peers
 - Safe and inclusive environments

What is Inclusivity & Why Does it Matter?



LGBTQ inclusivity means that programs are sensitive toward, responsive to, and do not exclude the diverse experiences and needs of LGBTQ youth and youth who are part of families that have LGBTQ members.

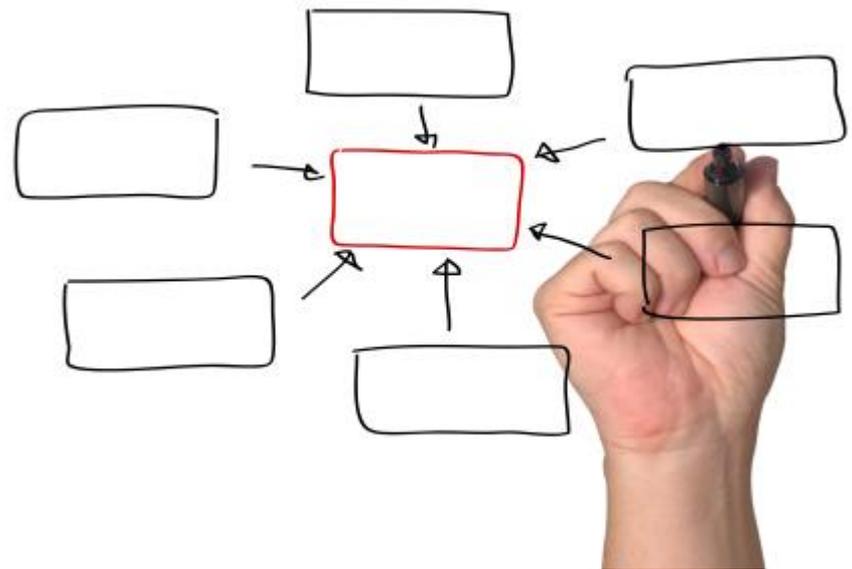


What is Inclusivity & Why Does it Matter?

- Inclusive vs. Affirming
- Inclusive and Affirming spaces and programs benefit *all* youth, regardless of orientation or identity
- Lower sexual risk behaviors in schools with gay-sensitive HIV instruction
- Youth determine whether a space or program is inclusive and affirming



1. Organizational policies and practices
2. Points of entry
3. Physical spaces
4. Staff competencies
5. Language
6. Program content



- Create and enforce ground rules that address anti-LGBTQ bullying, harassment, and negative language
- Make sure that youth are equal partners in creating an inclusive and respectful space
- Help youth learn skills to be affirming



- How does someone get to your program?
- Are they represented in outreach materials?
- Are outreach workers affirming?
- Are they greeted in a welcoming manner?





- What does a young person see when they walk into a program space?
- Are there inclusive images? Anti-bullying signs? Non-Discrimination Policies posted?
- Are there gender-neutral bathrooms and policies to support them?

- Are staff culturally competent on LGBTQ youth, identities, and experiences?
- Are there “out” staff who serve as positive role models?
- Training must include specific information around:
 - Risk factors
 - Stereotypes and personal biases
 - How using contraceptive/safer sex materials can be different for LGBTQ youth

- Use examples that are inclusive of same sex and transgender partners
- Be sure that there are positive examples of LGBTQ youth
- Adjust program content to respect difference in sexual practices and bodies



- Which of these key areas seems the most challenging to ensure your program is inclusive of LGBTQ youth?”
 - Organizational policies and practices
 - Points of entry
 - Physical spaces
 - Staff competencies
 - Language
 - Program content





Megan Winn



- Educating staff and stakeholders
- Supportive implementation
- Ongoing training/committee work
- Youth response

- Committee of staff including facilitators to identify program content that could be revised
- Share research and reasons to be LGBTQ-inclusive in pregnancy prevention work



- Documents that have been changed are easier for staff to use (scenarios, language shifts)
- Multiple staff using the same documents will lead to higher fidelity



- Include room on your fidelity forms to document the adaptations-helpful for everyone!

- How to deliver sexual health content in an inclusive manor
- Up-to-date research
- Revisit/revise adaptations yearly





- Youth notice and appreciate changes
- Gender-neutral scenarios give youth opportunities to explore diverse relationships

- Youth model facilitator language
- Youth feel safe thinking about current and future relationships

- LGB Youth: Challenges, Risk and Protective Factors (tip sheet) http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/teen_pregnancy/training/tip_sheets/lgb-youth-508.pdf
- Voices from the Field: LGBT-Friendly Teen Pregnancy Prevention (podcast) <http://ncfy.acf.hhs.gov/media-center/podcasts/voices-field-lgbt-friendly-teen-pregnancy-prevention>
- Creating a Safe Space for LGBTQ Teens (online course) <http://ncfy-learn.ibsinternational.com/course/index.php?categoryid=12>
- Left Out: LGBTIQ Inclusivity in Sex Education (presentation) http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/teen_pregnancy/training/Assests/inclusive_forall.pdf
- Resources on the OAH Teen Pregnancy Prevention Resource Center: http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/teen_pregnancy/training/engaging-select-populations.html#lgbtq
- Resources on youth.gov <http://youth.gov/youth-topics/lgbtq-youth>



- Options for asking a question:
 - Q&A box at the top of your screen
 - *1 on your phone



Today we:

- Defined key terms related to gender and sexual orientation;
- Described health disparities experienced by LGBTQ youth;
- Identified factors that promote resilience among LGBTQ youth; and
- Described several strategies to promote LGBTQ inclusivity.

Q&A and Contact Information



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FEEDBACK

