

Transgender Resilience

Sera Fernando | she/her/siya | Office of LGBTQ Affairs





LEARNING OBJECTIVES



01

LIBERATION

and the courage to break free

03

RESILIENCE

telling our stories and sharing our truth

02

VISIBILITY

in a world that tells us we should not exist



HEALING

and the right to simply exist

USEFUL TERMINOLOGY

- Ally (n.) A person who makes an intentional decision to understand, empathize, and act in support of others.
- Coming Out (v.) An ongoing, lifelong process toward self-acceptance that includes the potential for informing others of the individual's sexual orientation.
- SOGIE (n.) Acronym for Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression.
- Privilege (n.) Unearned set of advantages, entitlements, and benefits granted only to particular person or group of people, exercised to the exclusion or detriment of others.
- Covering (v.) A strategy though which an individual downplays a known stigmatized identity to blend into the mainstream. Also known as "Stealth" in the transgender community.
- Passing (v.) Refers to a transgender person's ability to be correctly perceived as the gender they identify as and beyond that, to not be perceived as transgender.
- Deadname (v.) The name that a transgender person was given at birth and no longer uses.
- Misgender (v.) To use the wrong pronouns or other gender-specific words when referring to or speaking to someone, especially a transgender person
- Gender Dysphoria (n.) The feeling of discomfort or distress that might occur in people whose gender identity differs from their sex assigned at birth or sex-related physical characteristics.
- Intersectionality (n.) A term that explains how overlapping identities and conditions impact the way we experience life's challenges, opportunities, the privileges we have, and the biases we face.



TRIGGER WARNING

Content within this session's discussions, language, activities, or materials may be disturbing.

Please be advised.





In one or two words, what does **Liberation** mean to you?









"All of us are put in boxes by our family, by our religion, by our society, our moment in history, even our own bodies. Some people have the courage to break free."

- GEENA ROCERO





1.3 MILLION TO 1.4 MILLION

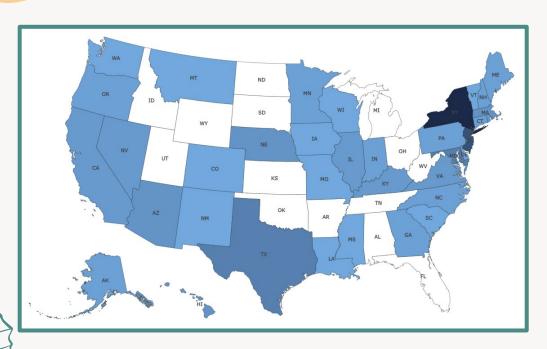
of adults in the U.S. identifies as transgender 15.6% (218,400) reside in California





PRO-TRANSGENDER MOVEMENT





TRANSGENDER RIGHTS

are being recognized around the country thanks to vocal activists and strong allies

MORE THAN 62%

of Americans say they have become more supportive toward transgender rights

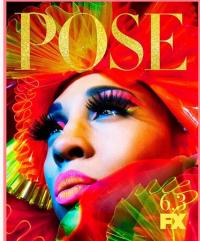
AFFIRMING POLICY

initiatives range from gender markers on ID docs to nondiscrimination in healthcare

https://www.equalityfe.deration.org/tracker/pro-transgender



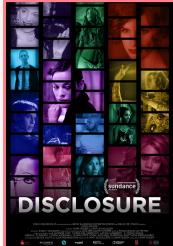










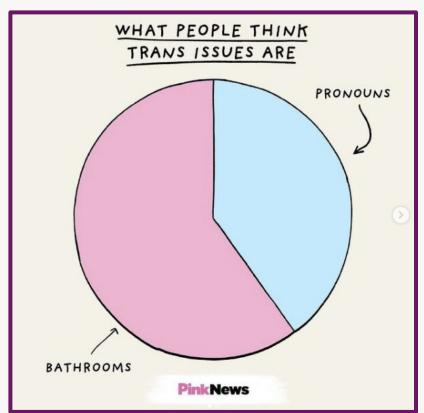




BOSTOCK VS CLAYTON COUNTY 2020

In June of last year, the Supreme Court issued a decision in Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia that makes it clear that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity is prohibited under the federal employment non-discrimination law known as Title VII.

EXPECTATIONS VERSUS REALITY









"It is revolutionary for any trans person to choose to be seen & visible in a world that tells us we should not exist."

- LAVERNE COX



2021 ANTI-TRANSGENDER BILLS



184 BILLS INTRODUCED

in 2021, marking this year as the highest year of anti-trans legislation ever recorded

13 BILLS ENACTED

in states such as Arkansas banning trans affirming health care for youth and Florida banning trans athletes to play in girls sports

55 IN TEXAS

targeting transgender youth



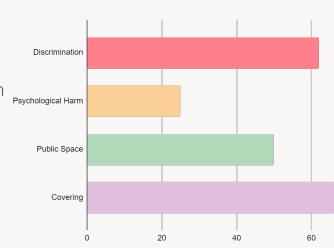
TRANSGENDER DISCRIMINATION

of transgender people experienced discrimination in the last year

have endured significant psychological harm due to such discrimination

of transgender people experienced discrimination in public spaces

2/3rds change the way they dressed and their mannerisms to avoid discrimination





INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

& SEXUAL ASSULT

Intimate partner violence (IPV) and sexual assault can have a devastating impact on any person, but transgender people face elevated risks and challenges to receiving care and justice.

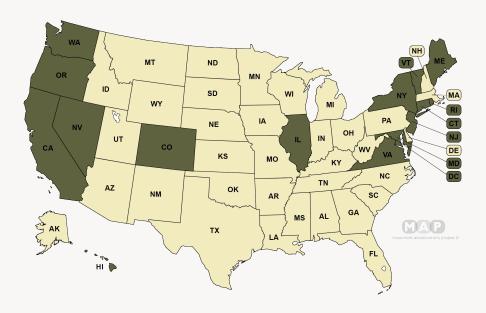
54%
of transgender people
report having
experienced some
form of intimate
partner violence

47%
of transgender people
have been sexually
assaulted

of transgender people who have been homeless report having experienced intimate partner violence

29%
of known cases of fatal
violence against
transgender people
were committed by an
intimate partner since
2013

GAY/TRANS PANIC DEFENSE BANS



U.S. Territories Commonwealth of the American Samoa Guam Puerto Rico U.S. Virgin Islands Northern Mariana Islands

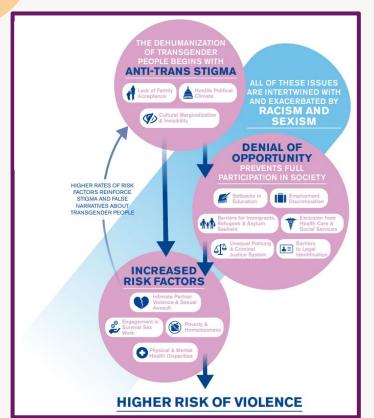
- State prohibits the use of legal defenses claiming the victim's sexual orientation and/or gender identity contributed to the defendant's actions (so-called "gay/trans panic" defenses) (15 states, 0 territories + D.C.)
- State does not prohibit the use of legal defenses claiming the victim's sexual orientation and/or gender identity contributed to the defendant's actions (35 states, 5 territories)

HER STORY EPISODE 5









Since 2013, the Human Rights Campaign and other advocates have tracked more than 200 cases of anti-transgender fatal violence across more than 30 states and nearly 110 cities nationwide. Although each case is unique in its tragic circumstances, it's known that this epidemic disproportionately impacts trans women of color, who comprise approximately 4 in 5 of all anti-transgender homicides.

https://hrc-prod-requests.s3-us-west-

2.amazonaws.com/files/assets/resources/Dismantling a Culture-of-Violence-010721.pdf



MISTREATMENT IN BLACK COMMUNITIES

Experiences of mistreatment in the past year	% of Black people in USTS	% in USTS	% of white people in USTS
Officers kept using the wrong gender pronouns (such as he/ him or she/her) or wrong title (such as Mr. or Ms.)	51%	49%	46%
Verbally harassed by officers	22%	20%	17%
Officers asked questions about gender transition (such as about hormones or surgical status)	22%	19%	16%
Officers assumed they were sex workers	21%	11%	8%
Physically attacked by officers	12%	4%	2%
Sexually assaulted by officers	6%	3%	2%
Forced by officers to engage in sexual activity to avoid arrest	3%	1%	<1%
One or more experiences listed	61%	58%	55%



of Black trans people experienced mistreatment by law enforcement



53% of Black trans people were sexually assaulted in their lifetime



of Black trans people feel uncomfortable asking the police for help









In one or two words, what does **Resilience** mean to you?









— JANET MOCK



RESILIENCE & THE INTERSECTION OF ANTI-BLACK DISCRIMINATION



I have known two things for most of my life: I am a girl and I love to run. **There is no shortage of discrimination that I face** as a young Black woman who is transgender.

-ANDRAYA YEARWOOD

The more we are told that we don't belong and should be ashamed of who we are, the fewer opportunities we have to participate in sports at all. And being an athlete can help us survive. But instead, we are being told to be quiet, to go home, to stop being who we are.

-TERRY MILLER



https://www.aclu.org/press-releases/aclu-respondslawsuit-attacking-transgender-student-athletes

RESILIENCE IN MOVEMENTS



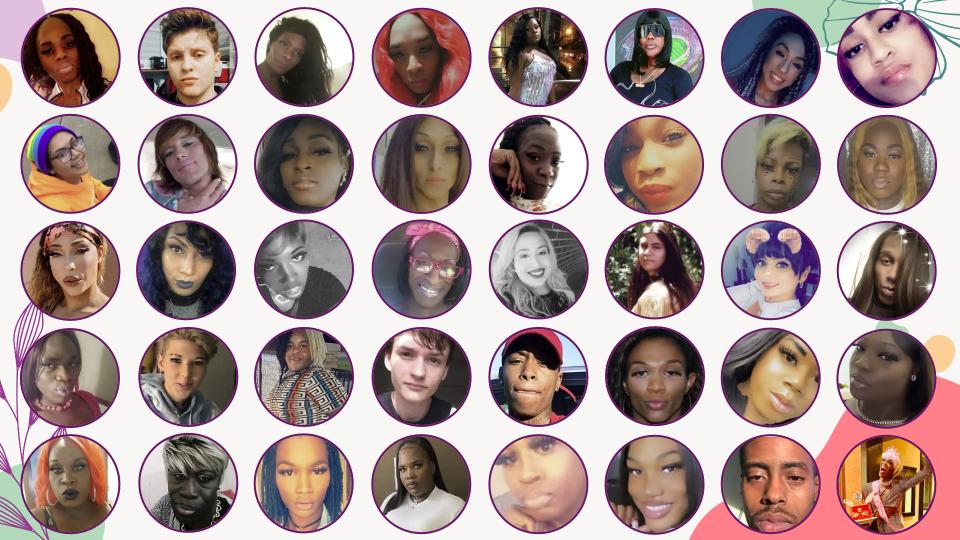
Brooklyn Liberation Rally 2020 Brooklyn, NY



Black Trans Lives
Matter Rally 2020
San Jose, CA

FATAL VIOLENCE AGAINST THE TRANS COMMUNITY IN 2021

2021 has already seen **at least 40** transgender or gender non-conforming people fatally shot or killed by other violent means. Too often, these stories go unreported — or misreported. In previous years, the majority of these people were Black and Latinx transgender women.







NATALIA SMUT 24 years old Milpitas, CA



KIMBERLY FIAL 55 years old San Jose, CA











TRANSGENDER DAY

OF REMEMBRANCE



Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.



"Transgender Day of Remembrance seeks to highlight the losses we face due to anti-transgender bigotry and violence. I am no stranger to the need to fight for our rights, and **the right to simply exist is first and foremost**. With so many seeking to erase transgender people -- sometimes in the most brutal ways possible -- it is vitally important that those we lose are remembered, and that we continue to fight for justice."

- GWENDOLYN ANN SMITH







REFLECTION

Understanding your privilege.



EDUCATION

Educate yourself, listen, and believe.



ACTION

Speak UP not OVER. Take action WITH, not FOR.



RESPONIBILITY

Take responsibility for missteps.



ADVOCACY

Advocate to change systems.









Advocate to change systems.



RESPONSIBILITY

Take responsibility for missteps.



HEALING

Healing from the trauma of oppression



ACTION

Speak UP not OVER. Take action WITH, not FOR.



REFLECTION

Understanding your privilege.

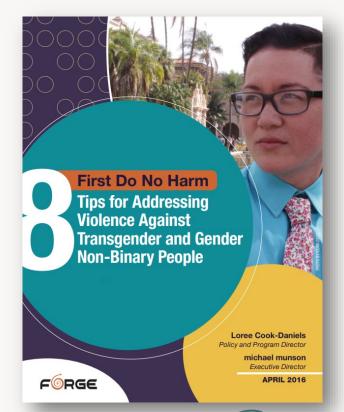


EDUCATION

Educate yourself, listen, and believe.

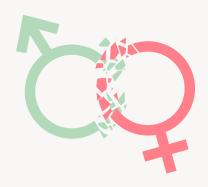
8 TIPS FOR ADDRESSING VIOLENCE

- 1. Address Multiple Forms of Violence
- 2. Acknowledge That Violence Affects All Parts of the Trans Community
- 3. Consider Trans Suicidality When Strategizing and Communicating
- 4. Promote Hope for the Future
- 5. Be Careful About Language
- 6. Encourage People to Connect
- 7. Encourage Taking Action
- 8. Provide Hope and Resources



LIBERATION, VISIBILITY, RESILIENCE, AND HEALING

Ending this epidemic of transgender violence requires our capacity to heal from our own oppression, address and eliminate anti-transgender stigma and discrimination across all facets of society, and embrace people of all genders for who they are.





"Trans people are extraordinary, strong, intelligent, persistent and resilient. We have to be. And we will not stand for the picking and choosing of rights. We still have hope.

- GRACE DOLAN-SANDRINO

Q&A





DV/IPV LOCAL RESOURCES





- YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley https://yourywca.org/
- Next Door Solutions
 https://www.nextdoorsolutions.org/
- AACI Asian Women's Home https://aaci.org/wellness/womens-home/
- **Community Solutions**https://www.communitysolutions.org/
- Maitri https://maitri.org/
- W.O.M.A.N., Inc. http://www.womaninc.org/

LGBTQ+ RESOURCES





- FORGE https://forge-forward.org/
- Trans Lifeline
 https://translifeline.org/
- The Trevor Project
 https://www.thetrevorproject.org/
- **The Q-Corner**https://bhsd.sccgov.org/information-resources/peer-support/q-corner
- The Gender Health Center https://www.scvmc.org/health-careservices/gender-health-center
- Office of LGBTQ Affairs https://lgbtq.sccgov.org/



Contact or follow us:

lgbtq@ceo.sccgov.org (408) 678-2900 @lgbtqsccgov across all social media















