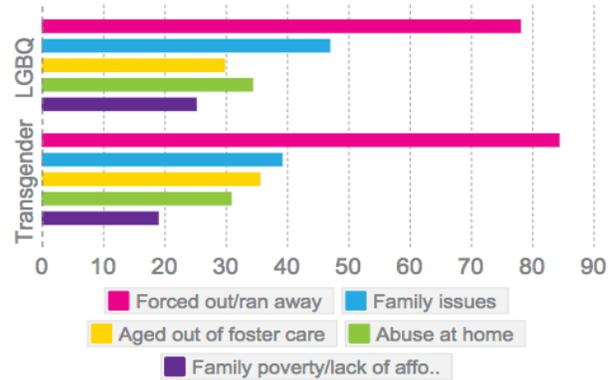


LGBTQ Youth & Homelessness

In the United States, 4.2 million youth experience homelessness each year, with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth 120% more likely to experience homelessness than their non-LGBTQ peers.

It's estimated that about 7% of youth in the United States are LGBTQ, while 40% of youth experiencing homelessness are LGBTQ.



Why Do LGBTQ Youth Experience Homelessness?

Family conflict is the most common cause of all youth homelessness. For LGBTQ youth in particular, the conflict tends to be over their sexual orientation or gender identity. While rejection is the most frequently cited reason LGBTQ youth experience homelessness, it's not the only one. According to service providers, additional reasons include aging out of the foster care system, poverty, and conflict in the home. Often, it's not one thing that causes homelessness, but a combination of many.

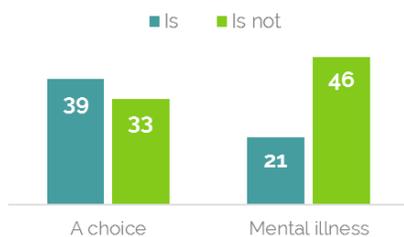
https://truecolorsunited.org/our-issue/?qclid=EA1a1QobChMlrsj83vWe5wIVSZyzCh3J_gQ4EAAYAiAAEqLIJvD_BwE

- Only 11% of LGBTQ youth of color believe their racial or ethnic group is regarded positively in the U.S., and over 50% of trans and gender expansive youth said they can never use school restrooms that align with their gender identity
- Only 26% say they always feel safe in their school classrooms -- and just 5% say all of their teachers and school staff are supportive of LGBTQ people
- 78% of youth not out to their parents as LGBTQ hear their families make negative comments about LGBTQ people
- Trans youth are over 2x more likely to be taunted or mocked by family for their LGBTQ identity than cisgender LGBQ youth.

2018 HRC LGBTQ Youth Report

Transgender triggers?

To what extent do you believe that being transgender is or is not either a choice and/or mental illness? %



YouGov | yougov.com Feb. 8-g. 2017

21% of Americans think being transgender is mental illness
39% of Americans think it is a choice

Dating preferences

How open, if at all, are you to dating/ being in a relationship with a transgender man, woman or non-binary transgender person (casually or seriously)? %



YouGov | yougov.com Feb. 8-g. 2017

76% of Americans attracted to cisgender men are not open to dating a transman
77% of Americans attracted to cisgender women are not open to dating a transwoman
75% of Americans are not open to dating a non-binary person

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- We must address discrimination, bias, and institutional obstacle that threaten the potential of LGBTQ youth to thrive and achieve their full potential
- Be intentional and create safe and affirming spaces (especially your home, whether or not you have LGBTQ children)
- Be informed about issues that impact LGBTQ youth
- Be aware of and advocate against anti-LGBTQ policies
- Be a visible advocate and challenge homophobic/transphobic remarks when an LGBTQ person is present or not.
- Watch out for signs of bullying

Donate to reputable LGBTQ Organizations that work with LGBTQ youth



Renewing lives. Reclaiming hope.

Marsha's House <https://www.projectrenewal.org/>



<https://www.aliforneycenter.org/>



**HETRICK-MARTIN
INSTITUTE**
FOR LGBTQ+ YOUTH

<https://hmi.org/>

**THE
CENTER**

THE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL &
TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY CENTER

<https://gaycenter.org/>



Opening Doors for Homeless Youth

<https://www.covenanthouse.org/>



<https://truecolorsunited.org/>

