

***The State of Violence in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
Transgender, and Queer Communities of Virginia***

A Report of the Equality Virginia Education Fund Anti-Violence Project

It's hard to read, and then answer, these questions. Though they are fairly well thought out and encompass a range, it dredges up uncomfortable issues and memories. That, however, is the point. (Lesbian female, 52, Powhatan)



Table of Contents

Executive summary	p. 1
Background and Purpose	p. 4
Community Survey	p. 5
Sexual Violence	p. 7
Intimate Partner Violence	p. 11
Stalking	p. 15
Hate Violence	p. 17
Perceptions and Attitudes	p. 20
Service Provider Questionnaire Results	p. 23
Sexual and Domestic Violence Organizations	p. 23
LGBTQ Service Organizations	p. 25
Conclusion	p. 25
Recommendations	p. 26
Demographics	Appendix A
Methodology and Limitations	Appendix B
Comparative Data	Appendix C
Legal Context	Appendix D
Glossary	Appendix E
Service Provider Questionnaires	Appendix F
Community Survey Instrument	Appendix G

I am answering these questions & am realizing how much violence has been in my life!! (Lesbian Female, 45, Midlothian)

I would just like to say that I can see the value in collecting this information, and I hope that my own experiences can help this project and ultimately benefit anyone, GBLTQ or otherwise. (Bisexual/Pansexual, Transgender, 23, Richmond)

Prepared by: Quillin Drew, Anti-Violence Project Manager

*With editing support from:
Seth Croft, Equality Virginia
Richael Faithful, Virginia Organizing Project
Sherrie Goggans, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance
Laura Goren, Community Member
Ted Heck, Virginia Department of Health
Beth Leftwich, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance
Rachel MacKnight, Legal Aid Society of Roanoke Valley
Edward Strickler, Jr, MA,MA,MPH, Member, Virginia HIV Community Planning Committee
Stacie Vecchiatti, MSW, V-STOP Program Coordinator, VA Dept. of Criminal Justice Services*

My ex girlfriend had an uncle, Danny Overstreet who was at gay bar in Roanoke, VA. He was in the bar and this man named Ronald Gay came and shot the place up. Danny died due to that. He was a great man. A loving caring sweet man. It's made me realize how sick and twisted people really are. (Lesbian girl who identifies as boy, 26, Staunton City)

*My partners were never that violent--lover squables. It was the rape by a stranger that I sometimes regret not reporting. I'm still friendly with all my partners.
(Gay male, 35, Norfolk/Virginia Beach)*

All narratives have been pulled directly from survey responses and have been reproduced verbatim, without corrections.

This project was supported by the Department of Criminal Justice Services Grant 07-A5313DV07 and 08-B5313DV08 from funds made available through the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund. The opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of DCJS.

© 2008 Equality Virginia Education Fund and the Virginia Anti-Violence Project. Under the terms of the grant that funded this project, the Department of Criminal Justice Services of the Commonwealth of Virginia retains the right to reproduce, translate, publish, use and dispose of this report, and to authorize others to do so for government purposes. Individuals are authorized to make or have made by any means available to them, without regard to the copyright of this report, and without royalty, a single copy of the report for their own use.

Executive Summary

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ)* persons, families, and communities across Virginia have experienced and are experiencing various forms of violence including, but not limited to, sexual violence*, intimate partner violence*, stalking*, hate violence*, bullying and harassment. LGBTQ people have limited access to resources that are currently available to heterosexual women and their children through existing networks of sexual and domestic violence agencies. Organizations and social groups that primarily serve LGBTQ people in Virginia do not have the capacity to offer extensive services and support to individuals who are surviving violence at this time. These organizations and groups are often volunteer-based, without professional staff, and are underfunded or unfunded. For these and other reasons, LGBTQ communities in Virginia have historically focused more on addressing hate violence and bullying, yet 81% of respondents to our recent community survey either agree or strongly agree that addressing intimate partner violence should be a priority for the LGBTQ community.

During our ten month study, EVEF's Anti-Violence Project found that experiences of violence are present across the diverse spectrum of LGBTQ communities. Nearly 1000 LGBTQ-identified people from across the Commonwealth responded to our community survey. Although this data was gathered with targeted sampling methods which recognize the marginalized context in which LGBTQ people live, the information collected in this survey demonstrates that there are a sizeable number of LGBTQ Virginians who experience violence and are underserved by existing domestic violence and sexual assault services. Researchers commonly use a variety of non-random sampling methodologies when studying small and marginalized populations. This study uses one of those alternate methodologies, targeted sampling, in order to maximize the number of respondents and it is the largest attempt at collecting this type of information in Virginia to date.¹

Over one third of respondents (36%) experienced sexual violence as a child or young person and over one quarter of respondents (26%) experienced sexual violence as an adult. Forty-one percent (41%) of respondents had been in an abusive relationship at some time in their life and almost one third of respondents (30%) had been stalked. Half of respondents (50%) experienced hate violence or harassment based on their actual or perceived sexual

* Terms marked with an * throughout the report are defined in the Glossary in Appendix E.

¹ The methodology and limitations of this research will be discussed further in Appendix B of this report.

orientation and 10% of respondents said they experienced hate violence or harassment based on their gender identity/expression.

In addition to our community survey, we interviewed representatives from 59 sexual assault crisis centers and domestic violence programs and 27 LGBTQ service organizations and community groups. We found that there is a tremendous lack of consistent resources available to LGBTQ individuals who experience violence in Virginia. Fewer than five of the 59 sexual and/or domestic violence agencies had knowingly served any LGBTQ people in the twelve months preceding the interview. There are no consistent policies for providing services to LGBTQ communities, especially transgender people. Leaders in only five of the 27 LGBTQ organizations had received any training on sexual violence and intimate partner violence and only a third of all the LGBTQ organizations had sexual violence and intimate partner violence materials available for community members to utilize. Nearly everyone interviewed requested educational materials and training opportunities on addressing violence in LGBTQ communities and expressed interest in participating in a statewide effort to improve and increase services to LGBTQ survivors of violence.

The purpose of our research was to assess the current (and anticipated) need of LGBTQ people that have experienced or are experiencing violence in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The narratives as well as the quantitative data received from participants mirror that of other studies around the country. Although the majority of our respondents were not satisfied with conventional methods of victim services, they found support in friends, therapists, and family members. This mirrors similar trends in support seeking behaviors found in heterosexual women who experience violence, particularly in communities of color and other oppressed groups.²

We recognize that in order to have an effective and adequate impact on the lives of LGBTQ survivors of violence a broad-based collaborative effort will be most valuable. To that end we make the following recommendations:

- 1. Increase community education and awareness programs across the Commonwealth to enhance the abilities of friends, family members, and the full-range of professionals and service providers to respond to violence in LGBTQ communities.*
- 2. Develop better practice protocols and policies for organizations on responding to violence in LGBTQ communities and/or working with LGBTQ survivors of violence.*

² We recognize that heterosexual men are also victims of violence. However, our survey did not gather information about this population and given the limited research that exists we do not feel comfortable making comparative statements about the experiences of heterosexual male victims of violence.

3. *Support community-based anti-violence initiatives with a broad range of diverse concerned stakeholders.*
4. *Fund further research on LGBTQ communities of color, transgender communities, and other underrepresented and understudied communities, and communities with special concerns (e.g. immigrant and limited-English proficiency LGBTQ communities, LGBTQ persons with developmental disabilities and mental health issues, and others).*
5. *Create a climate that supports respectful and equitable relationships across individual, relationship, community, and society levels.*
6. *Work toward a more appropriate and culturally competent criminal justice system response to violence in LGBTQ communities.*

The Equality Virginia Education Fund and the Virginia Anti-Violence Project remain dedicated to addressing and ending violence in the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people across Virginia and will utilize the knowledge gained through our research to help carry out these recommendations.

I really believe that LGBTQ hate crimes, domestic violence, discrimination and bias are still quite a problem in our time. Since I was involved in a support group for LGBTQ folks (Dignity/Integrity Richmond, now defunct, from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s) I became aware of these issues, particularly LGBTQ domestic violence. All of these issues were occurring then and I am quite sure they continue to occur today. For the most part I think LGBTQ folks are aware of these issues but for the most part I think LGBTQ folks, for whatever their reasons, don't report them or try to deal with them on their own. This is the reason, I think for surveys like this one and I think it's a good thing. (Gay male, 51, Henrico)

Background and Purpose

In 2005, a group of individuals concerned about the lack of resources available to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer survivors of sexual and/or intimate partner violence and hate violence formed the Virginia Anti-Violence Project. We saw a direct need for LGBTQ-based organizing around issues of violence both from within and against our community. A diverse group participated in the work of the Virginia Anti-Violence Project including staff and volunteers from LGBTQ organizations, statewide health and advocacy agencies, people from sexual and domestic violence agencies, students, experts in abuse in later life, grassroots activists in Latin@³ communities and LGBTQ people who weren't affiliated with any organization in particular. We all came together with a great passion for addressing violence in our communities and immediately noticed the lack of information about what was happening to LGBTQ survivors of violence in Virginia.

Realizing that the success of the Virginia Anti-Violence Project depended on a solid partnership with the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA), we drafted a memorandum of understanding to strengthen the relationship with their Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning Task Force (Task Force). Through our partnership with the Task Force we learned there were few adequately trained and culturally appropriate resources available, we learned the criminal justice system was not always an option for LGBTQ people, and we learned that members of the LGBTQ community weren't actively addressing violence beyond that of hate crimes perpetrated by non-LGBTQ people. We also realized that in order to be accessible to LGBTQ people in Virginia, the Virginia Anti-Violence Project would need to be housed in an LGBTQ organization. In the midst of the hectic 2006 campaign to defeat the Marshall Newman Amendment⁴, Equality Virginia (EV) agreed to support the work of the Virginia Anti-Violence Project and integrated its efforts into the Equality Virginia Education Fund (EVEF). The newly established EVEF Anti-Violence Project received grant funding through the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, hired a full time staff person, and began looking deeper into the disparities of individual experience, service and support for LGBTQ Virginians experiencing violence under the belief that all survivors of violence should have access to appropriate and culturally competent services and support networks.

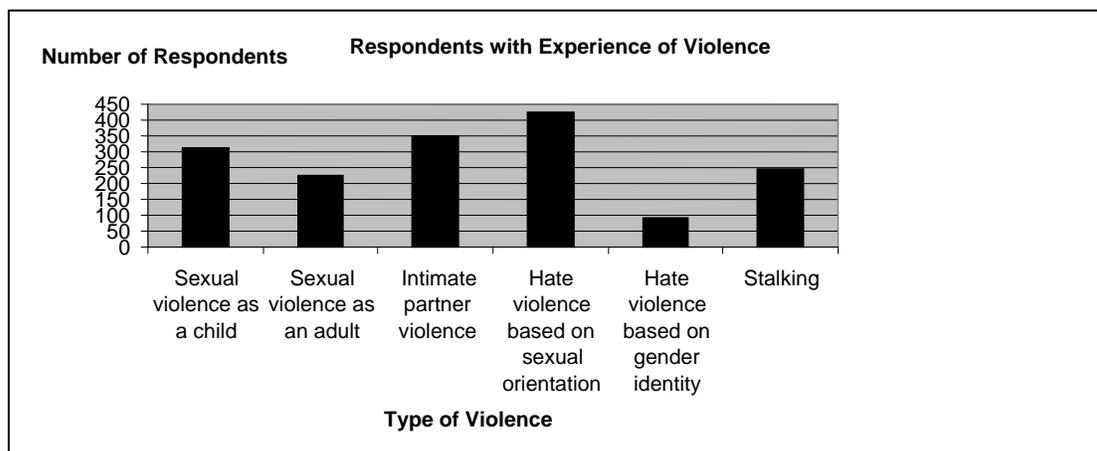
³ Latin@ is a better representation of the equality of all genders for us rather than using the traditional "Latino" to represent all genders.

⁴ A Constitutional amendment banning same-gender marriage and denying legal recognition to domestic partnerships, civil unions and other contractual arrangements between unmarried couples that confer the benefits or responsibilities of marriage.

In order to better understand how the EVEF Anti-Violence Project (AVP) could best serve our community, we needed to know what was happening in our community and in the organizations that were established to serve LGBTQ people and survivors of violence. AVP staff and volunteers conducted a statewide survey to assess the need for and availability of services for LGBTQ individuals who have experienced sexual violence, intimate partner violence, stalking, and hate violence from June 2007 to March 2008. This ten-month study of individuals was supplemented by a concurrent study of sexual and domestic violence agencies and LGBTQ service organizations regarding the services they offer LGBTQ people experiencing violence. This report presents the survey results and recommendations to increase the availability of competent services and support networks for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer survivors of violence.

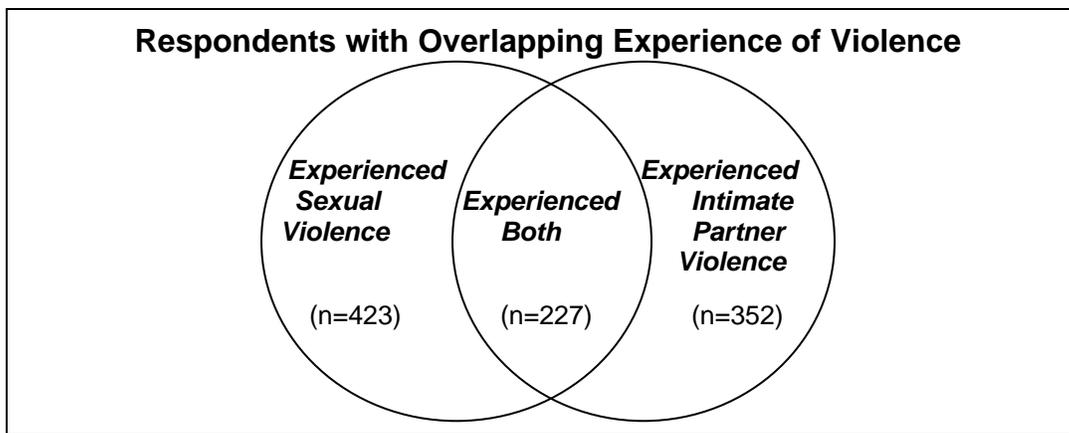
Community Survey

Our community survey was designed, implemented, and analyzed by a group of LGBTQ and allied members of the EVEF Anti-Violence Project Advisory Committee. Given the socially-marginalized context in which LGBTQ-identified people live, a random sample for this population was not possible within the timeframe and funding of this study. Instead, this survey utilized a targeted sampling methodology in order to maximize the number of respondents to get a more accurate perspective of the experiences of LGBTQ Virginians. Respondents were recruited through LGBTQ community organizations, two Virginia-based LGBTQ newspapers, LGBTQ bars, and other networking sites around the state. This survey is the largest attempt at collecting this type of information in Virginia to date, with 992 respondents between June 2007 and March 2008. Surveys were available both online and on paper.



[Figure 1]

Although we cannot extrapolate this data to make generalizations about the entire Virginia LGBTQ community, the information collected in this survey demonstrates that there are a number of LGBTQ Virginians who experience violence and they are under-served by existing domestic violence and sexual assault services. The survey was constructed to reflect the complexity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer experiences, allowing survey respondents to self-identify under multiple labels. Respondents were allowed to skip questions, as they desired, so the number of respondents changed for each question, which will be reflected throughout this report. Further information on the demographics of survey participants and the methodology and limitations of this report are available in Appendices A and B, respectively. Figure 1, above, demonstrates the experiences of the respondents with various



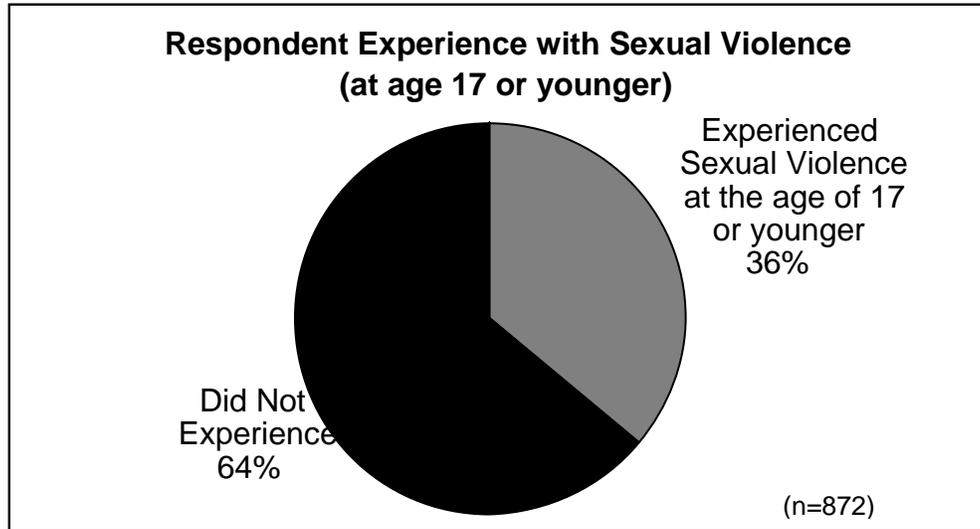
[Figure 2]

types of violence. Figure 2 illustrates the overlap of violence experienced by respondents. Each section that follows will explore in more depth the experience of LGBTQ Virginians with each of these forms of violence.

Sexual Violence

Just a few weeks ago, a closeted gay attorney told me that he left a bar with some man and was raped in his own home. He says the guy drugged him. But he didn't report it because he was terrified of being outted at work. If he felt more safe at work, he may have been more likely to report it. Unfortunately, there are still many industries that are less than welcoming towards LGBT's so the belief remains, real or imagined, that if they call the police, it will cause them more problems than retribution is worth, if they would even get any. (Gay lesbian, 28, Norfolk)

It was a friend. The first gay person I ever knew. I really was reaching out for the first time trying to find a mentor. He was older and I wanted to learn what it was like to be gay in my rural community . . . but then this happened. (Gay queer male, 23, Richmond)



[Figure 3]

Thirty-six percent (36%) of 872 respondents were coerced/forced to engage in unwanted sexual activity at the age of 17 and younger. Table 1 examines the racial, regional, and gender makeup of respondents who experienced sexual violence at 17 years old and younger. When compared to the total number of respondents by region, individuals in the Northwest (37%), Central (36%) and Eastern (34%) regions experienced sexual violence as a child at higher rates than those in the Northern (31%), Southwest (26%) and Southern (25%) regions.⁵ Since we do not know if the respondents are living in the same places where the sexual violence occurred, it is difficult to attribute this violence to any regional differences. However, many of these people are now adult survivors of childhood sexual violence and are living in areas with limited resources.

⁵ These regions are denoted on a Virginia map in Appendix A and divide the Commonwealth geographically for data comparison.

Table 1: Experienced Sexual Violence (SV) at Age 17 and Younger (n=314)					
		# Experiencing SV	% of Those Experiencing SV	# of Respondants in Group	% Within Group
Region (n=310)	Eastern	54	17.4%	157	34.4%
	Southern	2	0.7%	8	25%
	Central	130	41.9%	358	36.3%
	Northern	71	22.9%	226	31.4%
	Southwest	29	9.4%	113	25.7%
	Northwest	24	7.7%	65	36.9%
Race (n=309)	African American (Black)	17	5.5%	48	35.4%
	Latin@/Hispanic	15	4.9%	34	44.1%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	8	2.6%	22	36.4%
	Native American	19	6.1%	41	46.3%
	Bi-racial/Multi-racial	9	2.9%	18	0.5%
	Caribbean	2	0.6%	10	0.2%
	Caucasian (White)	275	89.0%	841	32.7%
	Other	13	4.1%	30	43.3%
Gender Identity (n=313)	Male	83	26.5%	358	23.2%
	Female	204	65.2%	525	38.9%
	Transgender	16	5.1%	35	45.7%
	Androgynous	21	6.7%	51	41.2%
	Genderqueer	19	6.1%	40	47.5%
	Transgender FTM	23	7.3%	40	57.5%
	Transgender MTF	7	2.2%	29	24.1%
	Other	8	2.6%	14	57.1%

Of the total number of respondents by racial identity, individuals who identified as Native American (46%), Latin@/Hispanic (44%), and Other (43%) experienced higher rates of sexual violence as a child than those who identified as Asian/Pacific Islander (36%), African American/Black (35%) and Caucasian/White (33%). These data mirror trends in experiences of sexual violence of heterosexual women in the United States reported in other studies.^{6 7 8 9} When compared to the total number of respondents by gender identity, respondents who identified as Transgender Female-to-Male (58%), Genderqueer (48%), and Transgender (46%) experienced sexual violence as a child more often than Androgynous (41%), Female (39%), Transgender Male-to-Female (24%), and Male (23%) respondents. It is important to make comparisons within groups for a clearer idea about who is experiencing violence, because while Transgender FTM respondents were just 7% of the total number of individuals who experienced

⁶ Steven W. Perry, U.S. Dep't of Justice, NCJ 203097, *A Bureau of Justice Statistics Statistical Profile, 1992-2002: American Indians and Crime*, 2004.

⁷ *Africana Voices Against Violence*, Tufts University, Statistics, 2002.

⁸ Karen A. McDonnell & Shamira E. Abdulla, Project AWARE, Asian/Pacific Islander Resource Project (2001).

⁹ Romero et. al. (1999) The Prevalence and Circumstances of Child Sexual Abuse Among Latina Women. *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences*, 21.3, 351-365.

sexual violence as a child, over half of all Transgender FTM respondents experienced this form of violence. Coupled with the lack of resources for transgender survivors of violence, these numbers become an urgent catalyst for developing new services and enhancing existing ones to be more accessible to Transgender survivors of sexual violence.

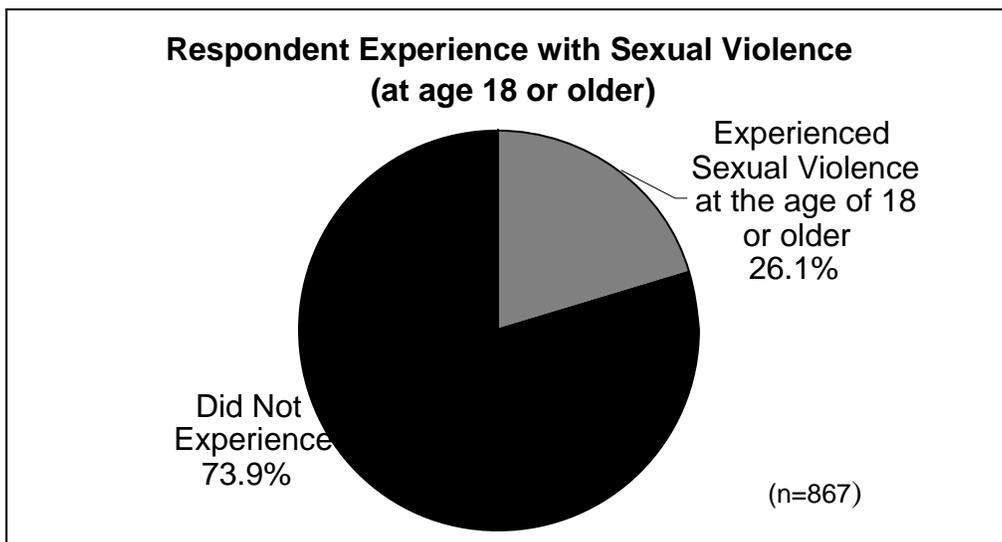
Thirty-two percent (32%) of 311 respondents sought services or support as a result of experiencing sexual violence. They reached out to a therapist (55%), family member (43%), friend (36%), law enforcement (19%), teacher (15%), hospital/doctor (11%), hotline (6%) or other (10%) (n=101). One hundred two (102) respondents wrote narratives about what happened after reporting the abuse. Of the eight respondents who sought legal action, only three cases resulted in the arrest of the offender. The majority of respondents felt that either nothing happened, the situation worsened or that they admitted the abuse as an adult and received support through therapy. A few of the responses are highlighted below:

I got kicked out of school. CPS destroyed my family and I was put in a mental hospital. (Lesbian female, 24, Arlington)

When I was 5 I reported the abuse to my mom and nothing changed...I started receiving formal therapy for the first time at age 22 and have been in therapy ever since. (Lesbian female, 43, Charlottesville)

Ignored (Gay male, 43, Fairfax)

Never was able to successfully get help with the female on female rape as it was ignored and not addressed as it is "not possible." (Lesbian female, 43, Loudon County)



[Figure 4]

Data further shows that 26% of 867 respondents were coerced/forced to engage in some form of unwanted sexual activity since the time they were 18 years old. Table 2 demonstrates the racial, gender, and regional makeup of these respondents. When compared to the total number of respondents from a given region, individuals in the Central (28%), Eastern (26%) and Southwest (22%) regions experienced sexual violence as an adult more frequently than those in the Northern (19%), Northwest (19%), and Southern (1%) regions. Of the total number of respondents according to racial identity, Native American (34%), Bi-racial/Multi-racial (28%), Other (27%), and Caucasian/White (25%) respondents experienced sexual violence as an adult at higher rates than African American/Black (17%), Latin@/Hispanic (15%) and Asian/Pacific Islander (14%) respondents. According to gender identity, Transgender Female-to-Male (35%), Androgynous (33%) and Genderqueer (30%) respondents experienced higher rates of sexual violence as an adult than Female (27%), Transgender (26%), Male (20%) and Transgender Male-to-Female (14%) respondents.

		# Experiencing SV	% of Those Experiencing SV	# of Respondants in Group	% Within Group
Region (n=222)	Eastern	40	18.0%	157	25.5%
	Southern	1	0.5%	8	1.3%
	Central	101	45.5%	358	28.2%
	Northern	43	19.4%	226	19.0%
	Southwest	25	11.3%	113	22.1%
	Northwest	12	5.4%	65	18.5%
Race (n=223)	African American (Black)	8	3.6%	48	16.7%
	Latin@/Hispanic	5	2.2%	34	14.7%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	3	1.3%	22	13.6%
	Native American	14	6.3%	41	34.1%
	Bi-racial/Multi-racial	5	2.2%	18	27.8%
	Caribbean	2	0.9%	10	20.0%
	Caucasian (White)	208	93.3%	841	24.7%
	Other	8	3.6%	30	26.7%
Gender Identity (n=225)	Male	72	32.0%	358	20.1%
	Female	140	62.2%	525	26.7%
	Transgender	9	4.0%	35	25.7%
	Androgynous	17	7.6%	51	33.3%
	Genderqueer	12	5.3%	40	30.0%
	Transgender FTM	14	6.2%	40	35.0%
	Transgender MTF	4	1.8%	29	13.8%
	Other	7	3.1%	14	50.0%

Forty-one percent (41%) of 223 respondents reported that at least one of their experiences with sexual violence was in the context of an intimate relationship. Twenty-seven percent (27%) of 225 respondents sought support or services as a result of experiencing sexual violence. They reached out to friend (63%), therapist (37%), law enforcement (24%), hospital/doctor (15%), family member (15%), hotline (12%) and other (30%) (n=67). Sixty-six (66) respondents wrote narratives about what happened to them after reporting the abuse. A few of those responses are highlighted below:

I was attacked and taken behind a house. I was forced to have anal and oral sex unprotectively. I was pistol whipped several times and left behind the house in a pond, in the backyard. I walked across the street to someone's house that had the lights on. I asked to use their phone and they called the police and I was just trying to call a friend. The police took a report, and did research. The police took me home. I spoke to a detective several days later. Nothing (no leads) came about. (Gay, Transgender MTF, 26, Norfolk)

never reported, contracted HIV (Gay male, 29, Charlottesville)

I was already in counseling, and the therapist I was seeing was very helpful. The police were VERY non-helpful. The police officer told me if anyone ever tried to "make love" to me like that again, I should make myself vomit because that will make him stop (Lesbian female, 51, Richmond)

Intimate Partner Violence



[Figure 5]

I didn't think it was a big deal; it felt normal or not what I thought "domestic violence" was; (Bisexual female, 20, Richmond)

I was 16 and a runaway and I was afraid of being sent home (where the abuse was worse) b/c I was a minor. (Lesbian queer, 24, Arlington)

Forty-one percent (41%) of 856 respondents have been in an abusive romantic/sexual relationship. An abusive romantic/sexual relationship was not defined but participants were asked about specific tools commonly used by people who are trying to maintain power and control over another. Table 3 demonstrates the tactics of abuse experienced by respondents.

	Yes to Abusive Relationship n=350	All respondents n=728
Slapped you	165	198
Yelled at you	286	452
Stabbed you	5	7
Stalked you	117	128
Threatened to hurt you with a weapon	81	87
Withheld medication from you	6	6
Made you afraid of them	218	245
Choked you	79	83
Disclosed or threatened to disclose your HIV status	4	5
Abused your children	13	14
Made you financially responsible for household	103	128
Harmed or threatened to harm your pets	41	43
Threatened to take away your children	26	27
Punched you	132	147
Kept you from seeing your friends	158	180
Threatened to have you deported	1	1
Forced you to engage in unwanted sexual activity	81	94
Did not honor your SM scene boundaries/safe word	12	15
Told you that you weren't a "real lesbian" or "real gay man"	50	64
Made you financially dependent on them	44	52
Told you that you weren't a "real woman" or "real man"	58	72
Disclosed or threatened to disclose your transgender status	12	17
Disclosed or threatened to disclose your sexual orientation	62	72
Other acts of violence/abuse	132	143
None of the above	10	196

Notice that in almost every situation there were people who experienced this tactic but did not identify as having experienced an abusive relationship. It is difficult to know the severity or

frequency of these actions, yet it demonstrates the perception that some LGBTQ people do not know how to identify intimate partner violence when it is happening to them. The results are not entirely surprising given that the messages established by the violence against women movement have consistently shown women as survivors and men as batterers, with little acknowledgement of violence in LGBTQ relationships. Also, LGBTQ communities frequently do not address intimate partner violence for fear of giving anti-LGBTQ organizations more material to use in their attempts to discredit LGBTQ people and limit access to rights and resources.

Simultaneously, we also recognize the difficulty in comparing instances of situational violence and patterns of power, control, and exploitation that make up the foundation for intimate partner violence. Some of the respondents could have experienced these acts from a partner who was acting in self-defense. Some of these actions could have been isolated incidents that do not necessarily indicate the existence of intimate partner violence. It is important to recognize the difficulty in making such distinctions through a generic survey instrument and to create multiple-level intervention strategies for working with LGBTQ people who have experienced intimate partner violence and situational violence. We present these findings as tools that are helpful in identifying a plethora of methods for working with LGBTQ people who have experienced violence in any form. It is essential that anyone working with LGBTQ communities around issues of intimate partner violence have access to resources and training on issues of assessment and understand the context of intimate partner violence in LGBTQ relationships. There have been no finite conclusions in research that the experiences of intimate partner violence in LGBTQ relationships are equally comparable to that of heterosexual relationships or that they are completely unique from them, which makes working with LGBTQ survivors all the more complex.

Seventy percent (70%) of 335 respondents answering a question about the partner who committed those acts against them, said their partner was the same gender. Twenty percent (20%) of 340 respondents needed medical attention as a result of violence from a partner and 16% of 341 respondents have been left homeless as a result of intimate partner violence. The most accessed resources for support were a friend (46%), therapist (32%), family member (23%), and law enforcement (18%) (n=332). Other resources sought by respondents included domestic violence shelters (6%), support groups (7%), clergy/ministers (7%), and LGBTQ advocacy groups (3%), while 38% did not seek any help. The top reasons for not seeking services or support were being afraid of their partner's reactions (66%), fear that no one would believe them (53%), fear of hostile reactions (47%), and fear of having to disclose their sexual orientation or gender identity (31%) (n= 118).

Table 4: Experienced Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) (n=352)					
		# Experiencing IPV	% of Those Experiencing IPV	# of Respondants in Group	% Within Group
Region (n=348)	Eastern	63	18.1%	157	40.1%
	Southern	3	0.89%	8	37.5%
	Central	147	42.2%	358	41.1%
	Northern	75	21.6%	226	33.2%
	Southwest	36	10.3%	113	31.9%
	Northwest	24	6.89%	65	36.9%
Race (n=348)	African American (Black)	16	4.6%	48	33.3%
	Latin@/Hispanic	11	3.2%	34	32.4%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	6	1.7%	22	27.3%
	Native American	21	6.0%	41	51.2%
	Bi-racial/Multi-racial	9	2.6%	18	50.0%
	Caribbean	2	.57%	10	20.0%
	Caucasian (White)	319	91.7%	841	37.9%
	Other	14	4.0%	30	46.7%
Gender Identity (n=351)	Male	110	31.3%	358	30.7%
	Female	223	63.5%	525	42.5%
	Transgender	15	4.3%	35	42.9%
	Androgynous	15	4.3%	51	29.4%
	Genderqueer	14	3.99%	40	35.0%
	Transgender FTM	20	5.7%	40	50.0%
	Transgender MTF	9	2.6%	29	31.0%
	Other	8	2.3%	14	57.1%

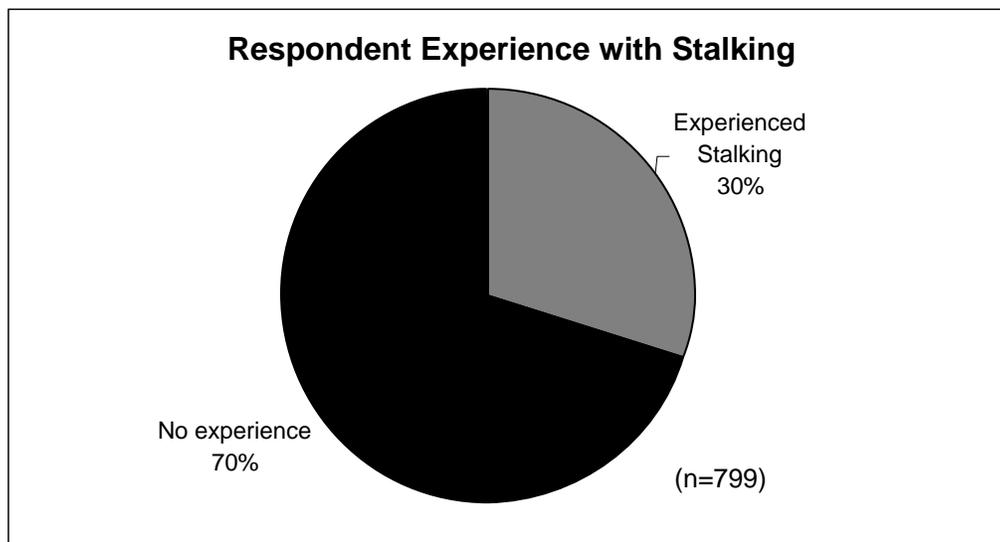
Table 4 examines that regional, racial, and gender makeup of the 352 respondents who experienced intimate partner violence at some point in their lifetime. When compared to the total number of respondents regionally, individuals in Central (41%), Eastern (40%), Southern (38%) and Northwest (37%) regions experienced intimate partner violence more frequently than those in Northern (33%) and Southwest (32%) regions. According to racial identity, Native American (51%), Bi-racial/Multi-racial (50%) and Caucasian (38%) respondents experienced intimate partner violence at higher rates than African American (33%), Latin@/Hispanic (32%), and Asian/Pacific Islander (27%) respondents. When examining gender differences Transgender FTM (50%), Transgender (43%), Female (43%) respondents experienced higher rates of intimate partner violence than Genderqueer (35%), Transgender MTF (31%) and Male (31%) respondents.

When asked to rank the helpfulness of each resource we noticed friend, therapist, and family member were ranked as most helpful more often while law enforcement, family member, and criminal justice system were ranked as least helpful more often. Table 5 demonstrates the most helpful and least helpful rankings of each category.

Table 5: Helpfulness of Resources – Intimate Partner Violence			
	Ranked Most Helpful	Ranked Least Helpful	Total # of Respondents
Domestic Violence Shelter	12	4	27
Law Enforcement	9	27	67
Hotline	6	4	25
Therapist	46	8	115
Friend	74	8	166
Family Member	26	13	86
Criminal Justice System	3	11	32
Clergy/Minister	6	6	25
LGBTQ Advocacy Group	4	1	12
Doctor/ER	8	4	25
Support Group	10	0	28

Stalking

Almost one third (30%) of 799 survey respondents experienced stalking. Table 6 explores the in-group differences when compared to the total number of survey respondents in each category. According to regional comparisons, respondents in Central (31%) and Eastern (27%) regions experienced stalking more frequently than respondents in Northern (21%), Northwest (20%), Southwest (20%), and Southern (13%) regions. When looking at differences in racial identity, Other (40%), Caucasian (26%), African American/Black (25%), and Native American (24%) identified respondents were stalked more frequently than Bi-racial/Multi-racial (22%), Asian/Pacific Islander (18%), Latin@ (15%) and Caribbean (10%) identified respondents.



[Figure 6]

Examining differences in gender identity shows Transgender FTM (80%), Transgender (74%), and Other (64%) identified respondents experienced stalking more frequently than Male (58%), Androgynous (57%), Genderqueer (55%), Transgender MTF (48%), and Female (42%) identified respondents.

		# Experiencing STK	% of Those Experiencing STK	# of Respondants in Group	% Within Group
Region (n=236)	Eastern	42	17.8%	157	26.8%
	Southern	1	.42%	8	12.5%
	Central	111	47.0%	358	31.0%
	Northern	47	19.9%	226	20.8%
	Southwest	22	9.3%	113	19.5%
	Northwest	13	5.5%	65	20.0%
Race (n=234)	African American (Black)	12	5.1%	48	25.0%
	Latin@/Hispanic	5	2.1%	34	14.7%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	4	1.7%	22	18.2%
	Native American	10	4.3%	41	24.4%
	Bi-racial/Multi-racial	4	1.7%	18	22.2%
	Caribbean	1	.42%	10	10.0%
	Caucasian (White)	218	93.2%	841	25.9%
	Other	12	5.1%	30	40.0%
Gender Identity (n=239)	Male	67	28.0%	358	58.1%
	Female	153	64.0%	525	41.9%
	Transgender	7	2.9%	35	74.3%
	Androgynous	14	5.9%	51	56.9%
	Genderqueer	13	5.4%	40	55.0%
	Transgender FTM	14	5.9%	40	80.0%
	Transgender MTF	4	1.7%	29	48.3%
	Other	8	3.3%	14	64.3%

Fifty-six percent (56%) were followed or spied on, 75% received unwanted phone calls, 47% had someone stand outside their home, school or workplace, 60% received unwanted letters, email, text messages, or other mail, 18% had their email accounts hacked into, 37% had their property vandalized, and 58% had someone try to communicate with them against their will (n=240). The most prevalent people exhibiting stalking behavior were ex-partner (48%), stranger (32%), friend/acquaintance (28%), primary partner (20%) and co-worker (12%) (n=212). The primary sources of support for people experiencing stalking were friend (46%), therapist (25%), law enforcement (24%) and family member (22%) (n=225).

When asked to rank the helpfulness of each resource we found that friend and therapist were ranked as most helpful more often and law enforcement and criminal justice system were ranked as least helpful more often.

Helpfulness of Resources - Stalking			
	Ranked Most Helpful	Ranked Least Helpful	Total # of Respondents
Domestic Violence Shelter	3	0	9
Law Enforcement	10	25	57
Hotline	1	1	11
Therapist	27	3	60
Friend	48	0	107
Family Member	12	6	53
Criminal Justice System	1	14	24
Clergy/Minister	5	1	11
LGBTQ Advocacy Group	0	0	4
Doctor/ER	4	1	8
Support Group	0	1	8

Hate Violence

Formal groups practice hate in Virginia. The Southern Poverty Law Center's 2007 report on active hate groups identifies 888 in the United States, including 34 in Virginia.¹⁰ FBI hate crime statistics show that sexual orientation is the third highest report category of bias based crime in the country.¹¹ Nevertheless, the Virginia statute concerning hate crimes does not acknowledge sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender as protected classes.¹²

Fifty-percent (50%) of respondents experienced hate violence or harassment based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation and 11% based on their gender identity/ gender expression (n=845). These data were collected based on people's perceptions of the violence or harassment they endured.

I wish I had time to tell you about all the incidents. This is sadly "normal" for too many people I know who are LGBT. What makes it worse is the most of the time, people don't report these incidents because they think no one will care, and thus, no one will care to do anything about it. (Lesbian female, 39, Harrisonburg)

¹⁰ (<http://www.splcenter.org/intel/map/hate.jsp>)

¹¹ (<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/hc2006/table1.html>)

¹² Code of Virginia § 52-8.5. Reporting hate crimes. C. For purposes of this section, "hate crimes" means (i) a criminal act committed against a person or his property with the specific intent of instilling fear or intimidation in the individual against whom the act is perpetrated because of race, religion or ethnic origin or that is committed for the purpose of restraining that person from exercising his rights under the Constitution or laws of this Commonwealth or of the United States, (ii) any illegal act directed against any persons or their property because of those persons' race, religion or national origin, and (iii) all other incidents, as determined by law-enforcement authorities, intended to intimidate or harass any individual or group because of race, religion or national origin.

I just got out of high school so most were in school. On a weekly basis I experience verbal harassment from peers, teachers, and family. I'm an FTM pre-op and so on two occasions have been confronted and physically assaulted for using the men's restroom. On a couple occasions I have had people pick fights with me for being a "fag" and to prove "im a real man". In the morning before the school bell ring in fall 2006 I was jumped by three students who said I was a "tranny" a "fag" and didn't deserve to be here and that I could never be a guy. The biggest act came in fall 2005. Um I was raped anally and vaginal and assaulted, and cut with a knife, to prove that I would always be a girl and that I couldn't change that and that if I tried I'd face the consequences. (Bisexual, Transgender FTM, 18, Charlottesville)

Almost two-thirds (60%) of 459 respondents experienced hate violence/harassment 1-4 times, 22% 5-9 times, 7% 10-15 times, and 11% experienced 16 or more incidents. Ninety-one percent (91%) of 465 respondents experienced verbal assault, 44% were bullied at school, 34% were threatened with harm, 27% had objects thrown at them, 26% were chased or followed, 25% had their property vandalized, and 22% were physically assaulted. Sixteen percent (16%) (n=472) reported these incidents to law enforcement and 10% (n=435) experienced hate violence in the context of an intimate partner relationship. Only eleven percent (11%) of 114 respondents said at least one of the incidents was investigated as a hate crime. Although hate crimes based on sexual orientation or gender identity are not included in Virginia's Code, these are the responses from survey participants. Perhaps the crimes were investigated in other jurisdictions or perhaps this was an individual's perception of how the crimes were investigated.

I've been walking down the sidewalk, had cars pull over, people yell, shout, spit at me, throw trash at me. I've been punched, smacked around, slapped, in public restrooms, school restrooms, one in a back alley. I've been shoved against school lockers, followed home from school, friends house. I've been tossed in jail for my sexual and gender orientation. (Lesbian, Transgender FTM, 23, Mechanicsville)

Table 6: Experienced Hate Violence (HV) (n=467)					
		# Experiencing HV	% of Those Experiencing HV	# of Respondents in Group	% Within Group
Region (n=461)	Eastern	78	16.9%	157	49.7%
	Southern	2	0.43%	8	25.0%
	Central	180	39.0%	358	50.3%
	Northern	110	23.9%	226	48.7%
	Southwest	57	12.4%	113	50.4%
	Northwest	34	7.4%	65	52.3%
Race (n=459)	African American (Black)	15	3.3%	48	31.3%
	Latin@/Hispanic	14	3.1%	34	41.2%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	9	1.96%	22	40.9%
	Native American	21	4.6%	41	51.2%
	Bi-racial/Multi-racial	6	1.3%	18	33.3%
	Caribbean	5	1.1%	10	50.0%
	Caucasian (White)	426	92.8%	841	50.7%
	Other	20	4.4%	30	66.7%
Gender Identity (n=465)	Male	208	44.7%	358	58.1%
	Female	220	47.3%	525	41.9%
	Transgender	26	5.6%	35	74.3%
	Androgynous	29	6.2%	51	56.9%
	Genderqueer	22	4.7%	40	55.0%
	Transgender FTM	32	6.9%	40	80.0%
	Transgender MTF	14	3.0%	29	48.3%
	Other	9	1.9%	14	64.3%

Table 6 explores the comparisons between gender, region, and racial identities. Regionally, when compared to the total number of respondents, there is similarity among experiences of respondents in the Northwest (52%), Southwest (50%), Central (50%), Eastern (50%), and Northern (49%) regions. Twenty-five percent of respondents in the Southern region experienced hate violence and harassment. Looking at racial identity shows that Other (67%), Native American (51%), Caucasian (51%) and Caribbean (50%) identified respondents experienced hate violence and harassment more frequently than Latin@/Hispanic (41%), Asian/Pacific Islander (41%), Bi-racial/Multi-racial (33%) and African American/Black (31%) identified respondents. According to gender identity, Transgender FTM (80%), Transgender (74%), Other (64%) identified respondents experienced hate violence and harassment more frequently than Male (58%), Androgynous (57%), Genderqueer (55%), Transgender MTF (48%), and Female (42%) identified respondents.

I was beat up by a bunch of the football players during high school. They video taped it and showed everyone in the school. But I was told nothing could be done to the attackers because the attack didn't happen on school property. I've been yelled at, threatened. Had things thrown at me. My car vandalized. I've been dealing with stuff like this my whole life. (Gay male, 25, Richmond)

I was constantly bullied at school. I have also been verbally assaulted more than anything. I have also been in situations where people have said very ignorant things. Some people have thrown things at me and teased me for being gay. (Queer female, 20, Lynchburg)

On one really amazing day though, a person in a passing car yelled "faggot" and a VCU police officer on a bike followed them to the stop light and pulled them over. I didn't stay to see what happened but it made me really really happy to see a police officer do something, especially when what the person yelled at me probably isn't even a crime in Virginia. (Gay/Queer male, 23, Richmond)

Perceptions and Attitudes

Community respondents were given a series of 22 statements using a Likert scale model in an attempt to better understand their attitudes and perceptions about violence related issues and available resources.¹³ Responses included “Strongly Agree”, “Agree”, “Neither Agree Nor Disagree”, “Disagree”, “Strongly Disagree”, and “N/A”. Highlighted below are the overall numbers of responses to several of the most relevant questions. We did not find large variations when we examined differences in race, region, or gender identity, which are this report's three focal areas.

Acknowledgment of Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence

- 62% of 891 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that intimate partner violence is a problem in LGBTQ communities.
- 63% of 890 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that sexual violence is a problem in LGBTQ communities.
- 81% of 884 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that addressing intimate partner violence should be a priority for the LGBTQ community.

¹³ A Likert Scale is an often used in research, where, in place of a numerical scale for answers, answers are given on a scale ranging from complete agreement on one side to complete disagreement on the other side, with no opinion in the middle.

LGBTQ people responding to this survey are aware of the impact of sexual violence and intimate partner violence in their communities and are interested in addressing violence. Additionally, anecdotal evidence from staff field experience and survey narratives suggests that while a major focus has been on hate violence in the past; there is emerging energy around building community capacity to respond to all forms of violence. The high percentage of respondents (81%) who agreed that addressing intimate partner violence should be a priority demonstrates that it is not only a concern of those who have experienced this type of violence, considering only 41% of 856 respondents said they had been in an abusive romantic/sexual relationship in their lifetime and 64% knew of an LGBTQ person who was in an abusive relationship.

Resource Availability

- 84% of 889 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that domestic violence agencies primarily serve straight non-transgender women.
- 71% of 888 respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that Virginia law enforcement is sensitive to LGBTQ partner abuse.
- 55% of 885 respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that they knew their legal rights around same-gender partner abuse or abuse in a relationship where one or more partner is transgender.
- 56% of 890 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they knew their legal rights around sexual violence/assault.
- 76% of 881 respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that there is enough information on LGBTQ sexual and/or intimate partner violence readily available in their area.

There are strong perceptions around the accessibility of services to LGBTQ people in Virginia, specifically law enforcement and domestic violence agencies in these examples. This demonstrates that the real or perceived lack of access to services is prevalent across LGBTQ communities and that there is a lack of information available regarding sexual violence and intimate partner violence as it relates to LGBTQ people's experiences. An opportunity for collaborative engagement may exist for sexual and domestic violence agencies to explore the roots of these perceptions in the community.

Resource Acquisition

- 92% of 881 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that some people in abusive same-gender relationships do not report abuse because they do not want to disclose their sexual orientation to the police or others.
- 89% of 885 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that some transgender people in abusive relationships do not report abuse because they do not want to disclose their transgender status to the police or others.
- 54% of 879 respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that they would feel comfortable reporting intimate partner violence to the local police. 15.2% neither agreed nor disagreed.
- 82% of 885 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they would feel comfortable reporting intimate partner violence to the local police if an LGBTQ liaison unit would respond.
- 84% of 883 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they would feel comfortable calling an LGBTQ-specific hotline for services related to sexual and/or intimate partner violence. (Unfortunately, a comparison question regarding hotlines was not included.)
- 70% of 884 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they would reach out to family, friends, or a therapist before calling a domestic violence program or sexual assault crisis center.

This series of statements brings forth several themes related to resource acquisition. First, respondents do not feel comfortable with existing services that are offered or are customarily available from existing sexual and domestic violence agencies or law enforcement. Most existing agencies do not include LGBTQ communities in their outreach materials and methods. Frequently, posters or other symbols are not present in these facilities to signify to LGBTQ people that they are welcome there. Second, respondents depend primarily on existing social networks for support and are skeptical of reaching out beyond those networks for assistance. While these mirror the support seeking methods of people in other marginalized communities, the social stigma present in Virginia limits the number of accessible resources available to LGBTQ people beyond family, friends, and therapists. Finally, these data confirm that homophobia*, biphobia*, transphobia*, and heterosexism* impact the willingness of LGBTQ people to access conventional service providers.

The fear of having to disclose sexual orientation or gender identity is very real and is rooted in pervasive social stigma as well as in Virginia law. There are specific laws in Virginia's Code that, although clearly unconstitutional, continue to proscribe sexual acts that would be a

part of consensual same-sex sexual relationships.¹⁴ Underscoring this reality, in 2006 a Virginia Constitutional amendment, the Marshall-Newman Amendment, banned all legal recognition of same-sex relationships, including marriage, civil unions, and domestic partnerships, and left open the question whether otherwise legal contracts, agreements, trusts or wills to form or sustain such relationships would be enforceable in Virginia courts. Even where protections exist, LGBTQ Virginians have experienced difficulty accessing protections afforded to every other person, from protective orders¹⁵ to reliable law enforcement, which is consistent in documented LGBTQ history in the United States.^{16 17}

Everyday when we're driving and we notice the "One Man, One Woman." bumper sticker on other peoples vehicles. Knowing that we can't fulfillly be happy because of other peoples opinions. How would they feel if this was an all LBGTQ community and we found heterosexuals to be gross and unnatural, and we passed laws that prohibited them to be together or married? (Androgynous Lesbian, 22 Lynchburg)

Service Provider Questionnaire Results

Sexual and Domestic Violence Organizations

AVP staff interviewed representatives from 59 sexual assault crisis centers and domestic violence programs across Virginia during the fall of 2007. A copy of the questionnaire is located in Appendix C. All the organizations responded that they offer counseling to lesbians and 55 organizations offered counseling to gay men. All of the organizations responded that they offer counseling to bisexual people with four organizations specifying they serve bisexual women only and not bisexual men or transgender persons. Fifty-eight organizations offer counseling to transgender individuals (three of which specified transgender women but not transgender men) though many of the respondents were confused and had limited to no experience working with transgender people nor did they have transgender inclusive policies in place. Less than five organizations had knowingly served any lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender individuals in the

¹⁴ Code of Virginia § 18.2-361. Crimes against nature; penalty. If any person carnally knows in any manner any brute animal, or carnally knows any male or female person by the anus or by or with the mouth, or voluntarily submits to such carnal knowledge, he or she shall be guilty of a Class 6 felony, except as provided in subsection B. ...

¹⁵ Although orders of protection are technically available to LGBTQ people, a series of conflicting attorney general opinions and the passage of the Marshall-Newman led to inconsistency in their issuance across the Commonwealth. See the LGBTQ² Task Force's Fact Sheet at <http://www.vsdvalliance.org/secAbout/FAQ%20lgbtq2tf.html>.

¹⁶ Carter, David. *Stonewall: The Riots That Sparked the Gay Revolution*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2004. 41-43.

¹⁷ Cahill, Sean and Sarah Tobias. *Policy Issues Affecting Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Families*. Michigan: University of Michigan Press, 2006. 40-42.

twelve months prior to the interview, and most of these organizations were located in Northern Virginia.

Of the 46 organizations who offered shelter services to survivors of intimate partner violence, two offered hotel accommodations to everyone and did not operate a shelter; therefore, these two organizations will not be included in the following data about shelter services. All the organizations offered shelter to lesbians and bisexual women. For gay or bisexual men and transgender people there are far fewer resources; only two programs offer gay or bisexual men space in their existing residential shelters and 19 organizations stated they would offer shelter to transgender people. Most of those organizations said they would shelter transgender women only but there was no consistency around whether or not self-identified transgender women would be served and no organization had a clear policy about this. All but two organizations were willing to work with gay and bisexual men and transgender people, but the options included homeless shelters or a limited number of nights in a hotel. Gay and bisexual men and transgender individuals would then not have the benefit of group participation or any number of other benefits available to survivors in a shelter setting.

When asked whether or not the staff has LGBTQ-specific sexual and intimate partner violence training, 45 respondents said they'd had some training, mostly in the context of Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance trainings. Forty-two respondents stated that their staff receives anti-homophobia training, but not consistently or extensively. Seven organizations had in-house trainings, while the majority of organizations received Action Alliance training only. All but one organization were interested in receiving more training on working with and addressing violence in LGBTQ communities. VAData which tracks the services that people receive from sexual and domestic violence organizations noted that less than 2% of all those receiving any service identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender.¹⁸ The Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, the accrediting body for Virginia sexual and domestic violence organizations, requires the following non-discrimination policies in its accreditation manual:

1. All agencies will have employment policies that assure equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression unless such policies would be in direct conflict with the religious mission of a faith-based program or would conflict with local, state or federal law.
2. All agencies will have client services policies that assure equal access for all persons who have experienced sexual or domestic violence regardless of race,

¹⁸ VAdata, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Data Collection System of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

gender, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

These non-discrimination policies could serve as a starting point for further discussion around accessibility to resources within the sexual and domestic violence organizations in Virginia.

LGBTQ Service Organizations

AVP staff developed a brief questionnaire about the ability of LGBTQ service organizations to offer support to individuals who are experiencing or have experienced violence. We conducted 27 phone interviews with leaders at various organizations across the Commonwealth during September 2007. A copy of the questionnaire is located in Appendix C. 44% of the organizations were able to provide services or support through either counseling or referrals to local resources and 59% had access to referral lists. Regarding having LGBTQ specific literature available for community members, 33% had sexual violence and intimate partner violence materials, and 52% had hate violence materials available. Members of five organizations (19%) have had training on both LGBTQ intimate partner violence and sexual violence and members of eight organizations (30%) have had trainings on hate violence in LGBTQ communities. Twenty-two organizations (81%) were interested in working with a statewide effort on addressing violence in LGBTQ communities. Most of the people we interviewed expressed interest in receiving materials and training from the Anti-Violence Project in the future.

Conclusions

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people across Virginia are experiencing violence on many levels with limited access to competent accessible resources. Moreover, the very legal structure of the Commonwealth contributes to an environment in which violence is sanctioned or ignored because its recently amended Constitution and its laws continue to deny LGBTQ persons, families, marriages and communities basic recognition and the human dignity that they deserve.

LGBTQ people experience sexual violence, intimate partner violence, stalking, and hate violence in a Commonwealth that perpetuates their status as second class citizens. They have the perception that existing services for survivors of violence are not available to them and generally depend on friends, family members, and therapists for support. When LGBTQ people did seek help from other sources they were overwhelmingly dissatisfied with the services they

received, if they were able to attain services at all. The respondents expressed fear about having to disclose their sexual orientation or gender identity in order to receive help. This is a barrier that heterosexual non-transgender survivors of violence do not have to face. Sexual and domestic violence organizations *and* LGBTQ organizations are currently not well equipped to work with LGBTQ survivors of violence; nonetheless, the good news is that many of them are interested in further training and relationship building.

Recommendations

1. Increase community education and awareness programs across the Commonwealth to enhance the ability of friends, family members, and the full-range of professionals and service providers to respond to violence in LGBTQ communities.

According to our research, the primary sources for support for LGBTQ survivors of violence have been identified as friends, family members, and therapists. Many friends, family members, and even therapists have limited information on how to effectively advocate for survivors of violence and may not be adequately equipped to be primary sources of support for their loved ones or clients. While these resources were ranked as most helpful more frequently than other conventional victim's services resources, they are still underdeveloped and could benefit from further education and awareness. Conventional victim's service providers and allied professionals could benefit from training and awareness about the unique needs of LGBTQ survivors of violence and are interested in further training as demonstrated in this report.

2. Develop better practice protocols and policies for organizations on responding to violence in LGBTQ communities and/or working with LGBTQ survivors of violence.

There is a lack of consistent policies and protocols for working with LGBTQ survivors of violence among the existing sexual and domestic violence agencies of Virginia. Transgender, gay male and bisexual male survivors are at a particular disadvantage given that so many of these agencies have historically worked primarily as advocates for non-transgender women and children. Many of the LGBTQ service organizations also have not developed policies or protocols for working with LGBTQ survivors of violence, nor is there a consistent and coordinated community response to violence that can be seen in diverse communities across Virginia. Additionally, Arlington Police Department's Gay and Lesbian Liaison Team is the only one of its kind in the Commonwealth. Developing and implementing policies and protocols and enhancing existing policies and protocols will contribute to consistency in resources,

improvement of LGBTQ community relationships with service providers and law enforcement, and improve the lives of LGBTQ survivors of violence.

3. Support community-based anti-violence initiatives with a broad range of diverse concerned stakeholders.

Diverse communities have unique needs and also have access to different resources. We recognize that community members are their own experts and have the most knowledge about which tools would be most helpful in supporting LGBTQ survivors of violence. Community-based anti-violence initiatives offer the most accountable method of survivor support as they are driven by LGBTQ people and allies and LGBTQ survivors in local communities.

4. Fund further research on LGBTQ communities of color, transgender communities, and other underrepresented and understudied communities, and communities with special concerns (e.g. immigrant and limited-English proficiency LGBTQ communities, LGBTQ persons with developmental disabilities and mental health issues, and others).

The diversity of this study was not as broad as anticipated. In order to better understand the issues that particularly affect communities of color (including Latin@/Hispanic persons and communities and many other immigrant communities) and transgender people, there must be further exploration. Other underrepresented and understudied persons of special concern and at heightened risk would include persons with mental illness, the homeless, incarcerated persons and persons in other state custody, and others. LGBTQ persons live with violence and threats of violence at every level of Virginia society and in every corner of Virginia. Further research is needed to determine which intervention and community capacity building methods would be most successful within these communities.

5. Create a climate that supports respectful and equitable relationships across individual, relationship, community, and society levels.

The perceptions and attitudes of survey respondents illustrate a lack of trust that societal and community systems have been established to serve *all* people of Virginia equitably. Borrowing from the primary prevention movement, we recognize that creating broad social change and building a society that does not tolerate violence against any member of that society is imperative to the health of individuals, relationships, and communities. We also understand that each piece is intrinsically linked to the next. Without giving individuals models

and tools to create respectful and equitable relationships there will be none. Without respectful and equitable relationships there will be no sense of community accountability and responsibility to support those relationships and individuals. And without supportive, accountable and responsible communities there can be no society that recognizes the inherent worth of all its peoples.

6. Work toward a more appropriate and culturally competent criminal justice system response to violence in LGBTQ communities.

LGBTQ respondents to our survey demonstrated that they are not confident in utilizing the criminal justice system when they have experienced violence in any form. However, LGBTQ respondents did show a positive response to working with LGBTQ Liaison Units within local police departments, so there is potential for improved relations in the future. Also, the inconsistency of obtaining protective orders and interpretations of the Virginia Code has led LGBTQ communities to reduce their expectations of the commitment of the criminal justice system to act as an agent for the individual's best interest. Respondents to our survey also did not know their rights under the law and were unclear as to whether or not the criminal justice system was available to them as a resource should they experience violence. Many respondents were dismayed with their initial attempts to seek help through the criminal justice system and will need to see noticeable changes before they will begin to see the criminal justice system as a potential ally should they suffer violence in the future.

Appendix A

Demographics

The community survey was constructed to reflect the complexity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer experiences, allowing survey respondents to self-identify under multiple labels. Respondents were allowed to skip questions, as they desired, so the number of respondents changes for each question and will be reflected throughout this report.

Of 939 respondents, 37% identified their sexual orientation as gay, 41% as lesbian, 20% as bisexual, 17% as queer, 3% as questioning*, 6% as no label, and 2% as heterosexual. 27 respondents chose “other” with 6 identifying as pansexual*. Of 944 respondents, 38% identified their gender identity/expression as male, 56% as female, 4% as transgender, 5% as androgynous*, 4% as genderqueer*, 4% as transgender female-to-male (FTM)*, and 3% as transgender male-to-female (MTF)*. Of 932 respondents, 5% identified their racial/ethnic background as African American/Black, 4% as Latino/a, 2% as Asian/Pacific Islander, 4% as Native American/American Indian, 2% as Biracial/Multiracial and 90% as Caucasian/White and 30 respondents choosing “other.”

The age of respondents ranged from 78 to 16 with an average age of 34 and median age of 31. 47% of 935 respondents lived in a suburban area, 38% urban and 16% rural. According to the map below, 17% of 927 respondents reside in or attend school in the eastern region, 12% in the southwest region, 24% in the northern region, 1% in the southern region, 7% in the northwest region, and 39% in the central region. Of 930 respondents 7% reported no income, 22% reported their annual income was between \$1 and \$19,999, 24% at \$20,000-\$39,999, 20% at \$40,000-64,999, 15% at \$65,000-\$99,999 and 13% at \$100,000 and above. While there is diversity in the annual income of participants the majority of 945 respondents (61%) hold a college/university degree or graduate level degree.

Table 1: Standard Demographics			
		Totals	
Sexual Orientation (n=939)	Gay	346	36.80%
	Lesbian	380	40.50%
	Bisexual	189	20.10%
	Queer	157	16.70%
	Questioning	25	2.70%
	No Label	60	6.40%
	Heterosexual	23	2.40%
	Other	27	2.90%
Region (n=927)	Eastern	157	16.90%
	Southern	8	0.90%
	Central	358	38.60%
	Northern	226	24.40%
	Southwest	113	12.20%
	Northwest	65	7.00%
Race (n=932)	African American (Black)	48	5.20%
	Latino/a	34	3.60%
	Asian/Pacific Islander	22	2.40%
	Native American	41	4.40%
	Bi-racial/Multi-racial	18	1.90%
	Caribbean	10	1.10%
	Caucasian (White)	841	90.20%
	Other	30	3.20%
Gender Identity (n=944)	Male	358	37.90%
	Female	525	55.60%
	Transgender	35	3.70%
	Androgynous	51	5.40%
	Genderqueer	40	4.20%
	Transgender FTM	40	4.20%
	Transgender MTF	29	3.10%
	Other	14	1.50%

Independent Cities Include:

1. Alexandria	21. Lynchburg
2. Bedford	22. Manassas
3. Bristol	23. Manassas Park
4. Buena Vista	24. Martinsville
5. Charlottesville	25. Newport News
6. Classoque	26. Radford
7. Clifton Forge	27. Roanoke
8. Colonial Heights	28. Petersburg
9. Covington	29. Prosser
10. Danville	30. Portsmouth
11. Harrison	31. Stafford
12. Frying Pan	32. Staunton
13. Frying Pan	33. Strasburg
14. Franklin	34. Suffolk
15. Front Royal	35. Virginia Beach
16. Galax	36. Winchester
17. Harrison	37. York
18. Massanutten	38. York
19. Massanutten	39. York
20. Lexington	40. York



Appendix B

Methodology

Community Survey

Given the marginalized context in which LGBTQ-identified people live, a random sample for this population is not possible. For example, many LGBTQ-identified individuals might be reluctant to disclose their sexual orientation or gender identity during a random telephone interview. Researchers commonly use a variety of non-random sampling methodologies when studying small and marginalized populations. This study uses one of those alternate methodologies, targeted sampling, in order to maximize the number of respondents and it is the largest attempt at collecting this type of information in Virginia to date. Although we cannot extrapolate this data to make generalizations about the entire Virginia LGBTQ community, the information collected in this survey demonstrates that there are a sizeable number of LGBTQ Virginians who experience violence and are under-served by existing domestic violence and sexual assault services.

Using participatory action research theory, the community survey instrument was designed and reviewed by a team of LGBTQ-identified participants, some of who serve on the EVEF Anti-Violence Project Advisory Committee. Participatory action research is pragmatic and democratic, relying on the participation of people from a specific community coming together to gain a better understanding of issues facing their communities.¹⁹ The survey design and self-selection process replicates widely used social science methodologies offering both quantitative and qualitative evidence illustrating the lives of survey respondents. Lori Girshick, a well-known sociology and women's studies scholar on lesbian violence has employed similar methodologies in her research, including her benchmark book, *Woman-to-Woman Sexual Violence*.²⁰

Staff collaborated with organizations that have ties to LGBTQ communities such as HIV/AIDS organizations, affirming places of worship, social justice organizations, social support groups, and the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance to work with their Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning Task Force. These partnerships were utilized to advertise the community survey which was available online and on paper by request. *The Virginia Flame* and *Out and About*, two Virginia-based LGBTQ newspapers, printed advertisements or articles about the survey on multiple occasions. To reach LGBTQ people in bars and networking sites, posters and postcards were distributed at these locations in

¹⁹ Reason, Peter, and Kate Louise McArdle. "Action Research and Organization Development." University of Bath. June 24, 2008. 4-6. <<http://people.bath.ac.uk/mnspwr/Papers/ActionResearch&OrganizationDevelopment.pdf>>

²⁰ Girshick, Lori. *Woman-to-Woman Sexual Violence*. Boston: Northeastern University Press, 2002. 18-23.

Virginia and in neighboring states with sites frequented by Virginians. AVP staff and volunteers traveled around the state hosting discussions, film screenings, and visiting bars and other LGBTQ events to discuss the survey and seek out respondents. The initial goal was 1000 respondents. The final count was 992 respondents who started the survey from June 2007 until March 2008.

Eligibility for the community survey was determined with the following questions:

- 1) Are you a resident of Virginia? (If you live in or attend school in Virginia, you will be considered a resident for the purposes of this study)
- 2) Do you identify yourself as having a non-heterosexual sexual orientation or gender identity or expression not traditionally associated with your birth sex? (Or, do you identify somewhere along the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, or Queer spectrum?)

Only participants who selected yes to both questions are included in the data for this report. Participation in the survey was voluntary and anonymous. A raffle featuring five \$100 gift cards served as a participation incentive for survey completion.

Maintaining the integrity of a community-based needs assessment, the data analysis team was made up of LGBTQ-identified people and one straight ally with diverse experiences to synthesize the data into information that would be relevant and useful as a catalyst for community action around addressing and responding to violence in LGBTQ communities. The team chose to illuminate the findings as they relate to race, gender identity, and regional contexts. It is important to note that LGBTQ persons often have complex identities and are impacted by oppression* on multiple levels. As a result, the relevance of race, gender identity, and region to this research was an essential element in understanding the need for services in relationship with the varied experiences among identity groups.

Service Provider Questionnaire

In order to assess the current availability of services for LGBTQ survivors of violence, AVP staff crafted a short questionnaire for service providers and community-based organizations. Interviews were conducted via telephone with representatives from 59 sexual and domestic violence organizations and 27 LGBTQ community organizations. The service provider and community-based organization questionnaires are provided in Appendix F. Names and contact information for the organizations were located through the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance resource guide, Equality Virginia's resource guide, and internet searches. AVP staff analyzed the service provider responses to the questionnaires to demonstrate the current availability of services for LGBTQ survivors of violence. AVP staff and

Advisory Committee members processed the research to establish the core recommendations found in this document.

Limitations

Participants received requests to take the survey in a number of ways, but there was limited diversity in the respondents. There were fewer responses from people of color and transgender individuals than anticipated and it is recommended to explore further the experiences of people in these communities in the future. Accommodations were not available for respondents needing assistance with completing the survey. For example, those who had trouble with reading or comprehension, had mobility issues, or other needs had to seek out individual support if they were interested in completing the survey. Some LGBTQ community members might not self-identify as such and therefore would not have selected to participate in this survey while others are not publicly “out” and might not have felt comfortable participating. Individuals who did not regularly engage in existing LGBTQ community structures might not have heard about our survey and it is difficult to know how the data would have changed had we been able to reach all these individuals. Any future efforts will require a longer allowance of time and increased funding to build networks across diverse communities in order to gain a more representative sample of data; however, even under the most rigorous social science methodology, it is still difficult to extrapolate the experiences of any LGBTQ research to the entire community.

Participants were invited to self-identify on many questions and to choose all identifiers that applied to them. This has made the analysis more difficult, but honors the complexity of the LGBTQ experience by offering these selections for respondents. For example, in the sexual orientation category, respondents were given the option to choose any labels with which they identified. For example, some people both chose lesbian and queer, which makes analysis challenging in that those multiple identities need to be recognized and not lumped into a specific category to ease the process. Respondents were also allowed to skip questions and jump around in the survey, so we recorded the number of respondents to each individual question throughout this report for clarity.

The interviews with service providers and community organizations were informal telephone questionnaires. There was no way to be certain that representatives from the organization had knowledge of their services to LGBTQ people experiencing violence and the information might have been different depending on whether the representative was an executive director or program staff. Additionally, many of the LGBTQ organizations were

volunteer based and representatives from those organizations might not have had extensive knowledge about all the activities of a particular group.

Appendix C

Comparative Data

The limited research that exists has shown that violence occurs in communities and relationships regardless of race, class/socio-economic status, sexual orientation or gender identity. Studies have shown that 25%-33% of heterosexual women²¹ experience intimate partner violence at some time in their lives.²² A Virginia Department of Health (VDH) study on the prevalence of sexual assault found that 27.6% of females and 12.9% of males in Virginia would experience sexual assault.²³ The VDH Transgender Health Initiative Study found that 27% of transgender participants living in Virginia reported experiencing sexual violence since the time they were 13 years old, 40% reported being physically attacked and 31% reported that one or more of the physical attacks involved someone living in their home, but not necessarily their partner.²⁴ Though research on experiences with violence is somewhat limited for LGBTQ communities, there are estimates that intimate partner violence occurs at rates similar to that of heterosexual non-transgender women, 25%-33%.²⁵ The 2008 National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) Hate Violence Report demonstrates a 24% increase in the number of people reporting anti-LGBTQ hate violence to their member organizations from 2006 to 2007. 16% of the total number of incidents reported to NCAVP were in whole or in part anti-transgender violence.²⁶ While the rates of experience with sexual and intimate partner violence are similar to heterosexual non-transgender women, there are less than 50 organizations addressing this violence in the United States and many of those do not offer direct support services to individuals. In Virginia alone there are more than 60 organizations committed to working with women and children who experience sexual and/or intimate partner violence and no organizations solely committed to working with LGBTQ survivors of violence, which demonstrates the disparity in accessible, competent services.

²¹ These numbers do not necessarily include transgender women. Most of the available data does not clarify whether the term “heterosexual women” equals “non-transgender women.”

²² “The Facts on Domestic Violence.” Ed. Family Violence Prevention Fund. Get The Facts. July 1, 2008. <<http://www.endabuse.org/resources/facts/DomesticViolence.pdf>>.

²³ Masho, Saba, MD, and Rebecca K. Odor, MSW. “Prevalence of Sexual Assault in Virginia.” Virginia Department of Health. (April 2003) 2. July 1, 2008. <<http://www.vahealth.org/civp/sexualviolence/pdfs/surveillancereport.pdf>>.

²⁴ Bradford, Judith, PhD, Jessica Xavier MPH, and Julie Honnold, PhD. “The Health, Health-Related Needs, and Life Course Experiences of Transgender Virginians.” Virginia Department of Health. January 2007.

²⁵ “Annual Report on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Domestic Violence.” Ed. National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs. 1998. Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse Electronic Clearinghouse. June 20, 2008. <<http://www.mincava.umn.edu/documents/glbtdv/glbtdv.html#id2350232>>.

²⁶ Fountain, Kim, and Avy Skolnik. “Anti-Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Violence in 2007.” National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs. (May 20, 2008) 1,4. July 1, 2008. <http://www.ncavp.org/common/document_files/Reports/2007HVReportFINAL.pdf>.

Appendix D

Legal Context

The Family Violence laws in Virginia are not consistently interpreted to include LGBTQ families. For example, there is no consistency in provisions for orders of protection and while both the Virginia Attorney General and Office of the Executive Secretary of the Virginia Supreme Court have clarified that family violence protections are to be afforded to LGBTQ people seeking services, magistrates from various jurisdictions continue to deny survivors these services.

Furthermore, in 2006, Virginia passed the Marshall-Newman Amendment that added this language to the constitution of Virginia:

Only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this Commonwealth and its political subdivisions. This Commonwealth and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance, or effects of marriage. Nor shall this Commonwealth or its political subdivisions create or recognize another union, partnership, or other legal status to which is assigned the rights, benefits, obligations, qualities, or effects of marriage.

Although the full effects have not been tested in court, the broad wording of this amendment could create problems similar to those experienced in Ohio, where a similarly-worded amendment led to legal claims that the state's domestic violence laws could not be applied to non-legally married couples.

Currently, there are no codified employment discrimination protections for sexual orientation or gender identity nor are LGBTQ people included in the Commonwealth's limited hate crime statutes. Virginia is also one of a handful of states to retain its crimes against nature laws even after the U.S. Supreme Court decision *Lawrence v. Texas* decided they were unconstitutional in 2003.

Appendix E

Glossary

Biphobia – Societal, systemic, and interpersonal oppression against people who identify as bisexual. This is often experienced both from heterosexual people *and* other LGBTQ people. Can often be internalized by someone who is having difficulty with their own sexual identity.

Bisexual – A term used to indicate attraction or potential attraction to more than one gender. Also reflects the binary gender system of male/female or masculine/feminine.

Gay – Term most commonly used by male-identified people who are primarily or exclusively attracted to other male-identified people. Preferred self-identifier for many homosexual men and women. Also a term used to describe the LGBT community. Some men who have sex with men do not identify as gay.

Genderqueer – A term used by some individuals who identify as neither entirely male nor female. Genderqueer is an identity more common among young people.

Gender Expression – Aspects of behavior and outward presentation that may (intentionally or unintentionally) communicate gender to others in a given culture or society, including clothing, body language, hairstyles, voice, socialization, relationships, career choices, interests, and presence in gendered spaces (restrooms, places of worship, etc).

Gender Identity – An individual's internal view of their gender. Their own innermost sense of themselves as a gendered being and/or as masculine, feminine, androgynous, etc. This will often influence name and pronoun preference.

Hate Violence – Any act committed against a person or property which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against a race, religion, ethnic/national origin group, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation or gender identity. These acts could include verbal assaults, physical assaults including sexual assault, vandalism and property destruction. Hate violence impacts entire communities of people and sends the message of a threat of violence to others who share the victims identity.

Heterosexual – Type of sexual orientation in which a person is emotionally and sexually attracted to the "opposite" sex (males attracted to females, females attracted to males).

Heterosexism - Systematic belief that heterosexuality and the binary gender system are superior or more valid. Gives people who follow more culturally traditional heterosexual lifestyle greater power, as well as increased opportunities for legal, medical, and economic social privilege, assistance, and status.

Homophobia – Societal, systemic, and interpersonal oppression against LGBTQ people and communities. Also can be experienced by those who are perceived to be LGBTQ. Can often be internalized by someone who is having difficulty with their own gay, lesbian, or bisexual orientation. A direct result of heterosexism.

Intimate Partner Violence – Pattern of abusive behaviors used by one individual intended to exert power and control over another individual in the context of an intimate relationship

Lesbian – Term most commonly used by female-identified people who are primarily or exclusively attracted to other female-identified people. Preferred self-identifier for many

homosexual women. Can also refer to the community and culture of women who love/are attracted to other women.

LGBTQ – Acronym for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer. Sometimes used to describe the whole community instead of saying “Gay Community” or “Gay and Lesbian”. Seen as an inclusive term.

Oppression – 1. Prejudice and power 2. A systemic social phenomenon based on the difference between social groups that involves ideological domination, institutional control, and the promulgation of the oppressor group’s ideology, logic system and culture on the oppressed group. The result is the exploitation of one social group by another for its own benefit, real or imagined.

Out (being out, coming out) – Making one’s sexual orientation or gender identity known to others, usually referring to non-heterosexual or gender variant people. Some LGBTQ people choose to never be “out” while others make conscious choices about who it is safe to be “out” with.

Pansexual – Diverse sexuality in which a person is attracted to other people regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Recognizes the fluid nature and broad spectrum of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Queer – A political and sometimes controversial term that some LGBT people have reclaimed, while others still consider it derogatory. Used most frequently by younger LGBT people, activists, and academics, the term can refer either to gender identity, sexual orientation, or both and can be used by people of any gender.

Questioning – A term that can refer to an identity or a process of introspection whereby one learns about their own sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Can happen at any age and multiple times throughout one’s lifetime.

Sexual Orientation – The culturally-defined set of meanings through which people describe their sexual attractions. Sexual orientation is not static and can shift over time. Sexual orientation has at least three parts:

- a) *Attraction* – Ones’ own feelings or self-perception about to which gender(s) one feels drawn. Can be sexual, emotional, spiritual, psychological, and/or political.
- b) *Behavior* – What one does sexually and/or with whom.
- c) *Sexual Identity* – The language and terms one uses to refer to their sexual orientation. It may or may not be based on either of the above and can also be influenced by family, culture, and community.

Sexual Violence – Conduct of a sexual nature which is non-consensual, and is accomplished through threat, coercion, exploitation, deceit, force, physical or mental incapacitation, and/or power of authority

Stalking - Behavior wherein an individual willfully and repeatedly engages in a knowing course of harassing conduct directed at another person which reasonably and seriously alarms, torments, or terrorizes that person

Transgender – An umbrella term for people whose gender identity, expression or behavior is different from those typically associated with their assigned sex at birth, including, but not limited

to transsexuals, cross-dressers, individuals who are androgynous, genderqueers, and gender non-conforming people. Transgender is a broad term and is good for providers to use.

Transgender FTM – A transgender person who is moving from female to male on the gender spectrum.

Transgender MTF – A transgender person who is moving from male to female on the gender spectrum.

Transphobia – Societal, systemic, and interpersonal oppression against people of transgender experience. Also something experienced by some gender queer and gender non-conforming people.

Violence – When working with LGBTQ people from a variety of backgrounds we are obligated to explore the broad range of violence our people can experience. War, oppression, police brutality, racism, xenophobia, bullying, and discrimination are all tools that contribute to the marginalization of LGBTQ communities. A thorough examination of the context in which LGBTQ people exist is necessary to understand the myriad ways LGBTQ people survive violence everyday.

Appendix F

LGBTQ Service Provider Questionnaire

1. Does your organization provide specific services for survivors of violence? If so, briefly describe what programs/services are available. (ex- support groups, counseling, art therapy, clinical support, primary care)
2. Do you have materials on-site regarding sexual violence?
3. Do you have materials on-site regarding partner violence?
4. Do you have materials on-site regarding hate crime/community violence?
5. Does your staff have referral lists for survivors of violence seeking further assistance from the community?
6. Is your organization involved with area domestic violence or sexual assault programs in some way?
7. If so, in what ways are you working together? (ex. refer to support group, bring in counselors to LGBTQ space, cross promote organizations)
8. Does your staff receive training on partner violence?
9. Does your staff receive training on sexual violence?
10. Does your staff receive training on hate crime violence?
11. Would you be interested in working with a statewide program for LGBTQ specific experiences with violence? (ex. participating in a summit to discuss future of AVP, working to build a community response to violence, sharing resources and materials with others across Virginia)

Sexual and Domestic Violence Agency Questionnaire

1. Does your center or program provide face-to-face counseling/advocacy services to people you identify or who self identify as lesbian?
 - a. If so, how many individuals who are lesbian have you served in the past year?
a) 0 b)1-5 c)6-10 d)>10
2. Does your center or program provide face- to-face counseling/advocacy services to people you identify or who self identify as gay men?
 - a. If so, how many individuals who are gay men have you served in the past year?
a) 0 b)1-5 c)6-10 d)>10
3. Does your center or program provide face- to-face counseling/advocacy services to people you identify or who self identify as bisexual?
 - a. If so, how many individuals who are bisexual have you served in the past year?
a) 0 b)1-5 c)6-10 d)>10
4. Does your center or program provide face- to-face counseling/advocacy services to people you identify or who self identify as transgender?
 - a. If so, how many individuals who are transgender have you served in the past year?
a) 0 b)1-5 c)6-10 d)>10
5. Does your program provide shelter to people you identify or who self-identify as lesbian?
 - a. If so, how many individuals who are lesbian have you sheltered in the past year?
a) 0 b)1-5 c)6-10 d)>10

6. Does your program provide shelter to people you identify or who self-identify as gay men?
 - a. If so, how many individuals who are gay men have you sheltered in the past year?
 - a) 0 b)1-5 c)6-10 d)>10
7. Does your program provide shelter to people you identify or who self-identify as bisexual?
 - a. If so, how many individuals who are bisexual have you sheltered in the past year?
 - a) 0 b)1-5 c)6-10 d)>10
8. Does your program provide shelter to people you identify or who self-identify as transgender?
 - a. If so, how many individuals who are transgender have you sheltered in the past year?
 - a) 0 b)1-5 c)6-10 d)>10

9. Does your program have any literature available for staff and/or clients about intimate partner violence within the LGBTQ community? If so, what is it?
10. Does your program have any literature available for staff and/or clients about sexual violence within the LGBTQ community? If so, what is it?
11. Does your staff receive any specialized training about sexual or intimate partner violence in the LGBTQ community? If so, where do they get it, and who provides it?
12. Does your staff receive any specialized training about homophobia? If so, where do they get it, and who provides it?

13. What resources do you know of to connect LGBTQ people to in your area? In Virginia?
14. Are you interested in being included in the AVP Resource and Referral Guide?

Anti-Violence Project Community Survey

Equality Virginia Education Fund

The purpose of this study is to learn about the experiences and needs of members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) communities across the Commonwealth related to issues of violence.

The Anti-Violence Project will use the results of this survey to provide recommendations to service providers and legislators on issues pertaining to violence. This information will also be used to guide the programmatic work of the Anti-Violence Project in the future.

This survey is completely anonymous and confidential.

It should take between 15-30 minutes to complete the survey. Your participation is completely voluntary. You can skip questions you do not want to answer and can stop at any time.

The survey will cover sexual violence, intimate partner violence, hate crimes, stalking, and bias based discrimination. For some people, answering questions about personal experiences can be very upsetting. If you become upset during this survey, please remember that you can stop at any time.

Here are some hotline numbers you can call for support:

Triangle Foundation (Michigan)
877.787.4264 24hr hotline

New York City Anti-Violence Project
212.714.1141 24hr bilingual hotline

Gay and Lesbian National Hotline
(serves bisexual and transgender people)
Monday-Friday 4pm-12am EST, Saturday 12pm-5pm EST
888.843.4564

Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Program (Ohio)
866.86.BRAVO (866.862.7286) 24hr hotline

Once you have completed your survey, please return to:
Anti-Violence Project
c/o Equality Virginia Education Fund
403 N. Robinson St.
Richmond, VA 23220

Eligibility Requirements

**If you answer no to either question, please do not complete this survey.
Thank you for your interest, but you are not eligible to participate.**

1. Are you a resident of Virginia?

(If you live in or attend school in Virginia, you will be considered a resident for the purposes of this study.)

Yes

No

2. Do you identify yourself as having a non-heterosexual sexual orientation **OR** a gender identity or expression not traditionally associated with your birth sex?

Yes

No

How did you find out about this survey?

Section I

**Please answer these questions as honestly as possible.
Remember, you can skip questions or stop at any time.**

1. What is your sexual orientation? (check ALL that apply)

Gay

Lesbian

Bisexual

Queer

Questioning

No label

Heterosexual

Other (please explain):

2. What is your gender identity? (check ALL that apply)

Male

Female

Transgender

Androgynous

Genderqueer

Transgender FTM

Transgender MTF

Other (please explain):

3. What was your physical, assigned sex at birth?

Male

Female

Intersex

4. What is your racial/ethnic background? (check ALL that apply)

- African American (black)
- Latino/a
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Multi/bi-racial
- Other (please explain):

- Caucasian (white)
- Native American/American Indian
- Caribbean

5. What is the language you speak most often? (check ONE only)

- English
- An Asian language
- American Sign Language
- Other (please explain):
- Spanish
- An African language
- Multilingual

6. What is your age?

7. If you are a college student, which college/university/community college do you attend?

8. Describe the area in which you live:

- Rural
- Urban
- Suburban

9. What city or county, *in Virginia*, do you primarily live in?

10. Is that:

- City
- County

11. What is your current living situation? (check ONE only)

- Own/ co-own
- Rent/ share
- Transitional/halfway house
- Assisted housing through religious group/government agency/private agency
- Hospice
- Homeless and in shelter
- Homeless and on streets
- Assisted living facility/retirement community
- Domestic violence shelter
- Other: (please explain)

13. Who else shares your living space? (check ALL that apply)

- Live alone
- Live with straight roommate(s)
- Live with spouse
- Live with other birth family members
- Live with your or your significant other's children
- Other: (please explain)
- Live with LGBTQ roommate(s)
- Live with significant other
- Live with immediate birth family
- Live with strangers

14. How many adults (18 and older) live with you?

15. How many children (17 and younger) live with you?

16. What is your highest level of education?

- 8th grade or less
- Some college
- Technical certificate/associate's degree
- Graduate or professional degree
- Some high school
- College graduate
- High school graduate/GED
- Nursing degree

17. What is your current employment status?

- Full time (35 hrs or more per week)
- Student (full time, not working)
- Student (full time, working)
- Disability (out of work)
- Unpaid full time caregiver (of child or adult)
- Sex work or drug trade
- Part time (less than 35 hours/week)
- Retired
- Student (part time)
- Unemployed

18. What is your annual income from all sources before taxes?

- I have no source of income
- \$1 to \$9,999
- \$10,000 to \$19,999
- \$20,000 to \$29,999
- \$30,000 to \$39,999
- \$40,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$64,999
- \$65,000 to \$79,999
- \$80,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 and beyond

Section II

Now you will be asked whether you strongly agree, agree, neither agree/disagree, disagree, or strongly disagree based on your thoughts about sexual violence, intimate partner violence (domestic violence), stalking, and hate crimes within the LGBTQ community. Please mark your answers as honestly as possible. N/A could also mean "I don't know."

Remember, you can skip statements or stop at any time.

- | | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Intimate partner (abuse/violence) is a problem in LGBTQ communities. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |

- | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2. Sexual violence is a problem in LGBTQ communities. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 3. Domestic violence agencies primarily serve straight women. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 4. Virginia law enforcement is sensitive to LGBTQ partner abuse. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 5. Gay men are less likely than lesbians to reach out for help. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 6. I know my legal rights around same-gender partner abuse or abuse in a relationship where one or more partners are transgender. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 7. I know my legal rights around sexual violence/assault. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 8. Some people in abusive same-gender relationships do not report abuse because they do not want to disclose their sexual orientation to the police or others. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 9. Some transgender people in abusive relationships do not report abuse because they do not want to disclose their transgender status to the police or others. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 10. Addressing LGBTQ intimate partner violence should be a priority for the LGBTQ community. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 11. Virginia law regarding domestic violence applies to LGBTQ relationships as well as straight relationships | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 12. Women cannot sexually assault or rape other women. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 13. Members of the transgender community face a high risk of hate crimes. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 14. Protective orders are always available to LGBTQ persons experiencing violence in Virginia. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 15. I would feel comfortable reporting intimate partner violence to the police. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 16. I would feel comfortable reporting Intimate partner violence to the police if an LGBTQ liaison unit would respond. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| 17. I would feel comfortable calling an LGBTQ-specific hotline for services relating to sexual violence and intimate partner violence. | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |

- Stranger
- Law enforcement officer
- Sex work client
- Other: (please explain)

- Prison guard or staff member
- Health care provider

5. What was the gender of the person who assaulted you?

- Unknown
- Female
- Other: (please explain)
- Male
- Transgender

6. What was the sexual orientation of the person who assaulted you?

- Unknown
- Gay
- Other: (please explain)
- Heterosexual
- Bisexual
- Lesbian
- Queer

7. Was this assault in the context of an intimate dating relationship?

- Yes
- No

8. Did you seek services/support as a result of this violence?

- Yes
- No (*skip to Section III Part B*)

9. If yes, who did you reach out to?(check ALL that apply)

- Law enforcement officer
- Therapist
- Hospital/doctor
- Other: (please explain)
- Family member
- Teacher
- Friend
- Hotline

10. Please, describe briefly what happened after you reported the abuse.

Section III Part B

Please answer as honestly as possible.

Remember, you can skip questions or stop at any time.

1. Since the time you were 18 years old, have you ever been coerced/forced to engage in any unwanted sexual activity?

- Yes
- No (*skip to Section IV Part A*)

2. What has happened to you? (check ALL that apply)

- Forced/coerced oral sex
- Forced/coerced anal sex
- Forced/coerced vaginal sex
- Forced/coerced you to watch sexual activity or pornography
- Someone violated your S&M boundaries/safe word
- Forced/coerced you to touch someone's genitals
- Unwanted sexual contact through your clothes
- Forced/coerced to have unprotected sex

Other: (please explain)

3. Who forced you to engage in unwanted sexual activity? (check ALL that apply)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Primary partner | <input type="checkbox"/> Ex-partner | <input type="checkbox"/> Father |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stepfather | <input type="checkbox"/> Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> Stepmother |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brother and/or sister | <input type="checkbox"/> Stepbrother/sister | <input type="checkbox"/> Roommate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | <input type="checkbox"/> Sex work client | <input type="checkbox"/> Acquaintance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health care provider | <input type="checkbox"/> Date | <input type="checkbox"/> Member of your extended family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Law enforcement officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult care provider | <input type="checkbox"/> Stranger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prison guard or staff member | | <input type="checkbox"/> Member of partner's family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please explain) | <input type="text"/> | |

4. What was the gender of the person(s) who assaulted you? (check ALL that apply)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown | <input type="checkbox"/> Male |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female | <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please explain) | <input type="text"/> |

5. What was the sexual orientation of the person(s) who assaulted you? (check ALL that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown | <input type="checkbox"/> Heterosexual | <input type="checkbox"/> Lesbian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gay | <input type="checkbox"/> Bisexual | <input type="checkbox"/> Queer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please explain) | <input type="text"/> | |

6. Was this assault in the context of an intimate relationship (i.e. was this your partner, ex-partner, boy/girlfriend, ex-boy/girlfriend etc)?

- Yes No

7. Did you seek any services/support as a result of this (these) experience(s)?

- Yes No (skip to Section IV Part A)

8. Who did you reach out to? (check ALL that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hotline | <input type="checkbox"/> Police | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital/doctor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Therapist | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | <input type="checkbox"/> Family member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please explain) | <input type="text"/> | |

9. Please, describe briefly what happened after you reported the abuse?

Section IV Part A

You will now be asked about specific experiences of intimate partner violence (domestic violence). Please be as honest as possible with your answers.

Remember, you can skip questions or stop at any time.

1. At any point in your lifetime have you ever been in an abusive romantic/sexual relationship?

Yes No

2. During any relationship in your lifetime has your partner ever: (check ALL that apply)

Slapped you Yelled at you
 Stabbed you Threatened to hurt you with a weapon
 Withheld medication from you Made you afraid of them
 Choked you Disclosed or threatened to disclose your HIV status

Abused your children Threatened to take away your children
 Punched you Kept you from seeing your friends

Threatened to have you deported
 Forced you to engage in unwanted sexual activity
 Did not honor your boundaries/safe word in S&M scene
 Told you that you weren't a "real lesbian" or a "real gay man"
 Told you that you weren't a "real man" or a "real woman"
 Disclosed or threatened to disclose your sexual orientation
 Disclosed or threatened to disclose your transgender status
 Made you financially responsible for the household
 Made you financially dependent on them
 Harmed or threatened to harm your pets
 Other acts of violence/abuse
 None of the above (*skip to Section IV Part B*)

3. For those checked in #2, was the offending partner ever the same gender as you?

Yes No

4. For those checked in #2, was the offending partner ever a transgender individual?

Yes No

5. Have you ever needed medical attention as a result of violence from a partner?

Yes No

6. Have you ever been left homeless as a result of violence from a partner?

Yes No

7. Have you ever lost custody of your children as a result of violence from a partner?

Yes No

8. Have you ever sought help because of violence from a partner? (check ALL that apply)

I have never sought help because of violence from a partner (*skip to #10*)
 Domestic violence shelter Law enforcement Hotline
 Criminal Justice System Therapist Friend

- Family member
- Clergy/Minister
- Other: (please explain)

- LGBTQ advocacy group
- Support group

- Doctor/ER

9. Of those you sought help from, how helpful were they?

	Least Helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Neutral	More Helpful	Most Helpful	
Domestic violence shelter	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Law enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Hotline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Therapist	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Friend	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Family member	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Criminal Justice System	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Clergy/Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
LGBTQ advocacy group	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Doctor/ER	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Support group	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Other (from above)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

10. If you did not seek help, could you explain what kept you from seeking help? (check ALL that apply)

- Fear of hostile reactions
- Fear that shelter wouldn't accept you
- Fear of Homophobia in criminal justice system
- Fear of having to disclose your sexual orientation or gender identity
- There were no resources in your area
- Fear no one would believe you
- Afraid of your partner's reaction
- Other: (please explain)

Section IV Part B

1. Have you ever, in your intimate relationships, ... (check ALL that apply)

- Slapped your partner
- Disclosed or threatened to disclose your partner's sexual orientation
- Disclosed or threatened to disclose your partner's transgender status
- Yelled at your partner
- Withheld medication from your partner
- Made your partner afraid of you
- Threatened your partner with a weapon
- Punched your partner
- Kept them from seeing their friends
- Threatened to have your partner deported

- Threatened to take away your or your partner's children
- Hurt your and/or your partner's children
- Forced your partner to engage in unwanted sexual activity
- Made your partner financially dependent on you
- Stabbed your partner
- Choked your partner
- Told your partner they weren't a "real lesbian" or a "real gay man"
- Told your partner that they weren't a "real man" or a "real woman"
- Made your partner financially dependent on you

2. Now, think of all the times someone has hurt (physically or emotionally) you when you were in a close relationship. Who hurt you?: (check ALL that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Primary partner | <input type="checkbox"/> Ex-partner | <input type="checkbox"/> Father |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stepfather | <input type="checkbox"/> Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> Stepmother |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brother and/or sister | <input type="checkbox"/> Stepbrother/sister | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult child |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member of partner's family | <input type="checkbox"/> Extended family member | <input type="checkbox"/> Close friend |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dating partner | <input type="checkbox"/> Roommate/ex-roommate | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please explain) | | |

Section V Part A

You will now be asked questions about specific experiences of hate crime violence, harassment, and bias motivated discrimination. Please answer as honestly as possible. Remember, you can skip questions or stop at any time.

1. Have you ever been the victim of hate crime violence or harassment based on your actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity/expression?

- Yes- sexual orientation Yes- gender identity No (*skip to Section V Part B*)

2. How many times have you experienced hate crime violence/harassment?

- 1-4 5-9 10-15 16 or more

3. What has happened to you? (choose ALL that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physically assaulted | <input type="checkbox"/> Verbally assaulted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexually assaulted | <input type="checkbox"/> Spit at/on |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Object thrown at you | <input type="checkbox"/> Threatened to hurt you |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vandalized your property | <input type="checkbox"/> Destroyed your property |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chased/followed you | <input type="checkbox"/> Bullied at school |

4. Were weapons used in any of those incidents?

- Yes No

5. If yes, what kind(s) of weapon(s) was(were) used? Please describe:

6. Were any of the incidents reported to police?
 Yes No (*skip to #8*)
7. If reported, were any of these incidents investigated as a hate crime?
 Yes No
8. Were any of these incidents in the context of an intimate partner relationship?
 Yes No

Section V Part B

Please answer as honestly as possible.

Remember, you can skip questions or stop at any time.

1. Have you experienced discrimination based on your actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity/expression? (choose ALL that apply:)
 Yes- sexual orientation Yes- gender identity/expression
 No (*skip to Section V Part C*)

2. Of the discrimination you experienced, which of the following happened to you?
 (choose ALL that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fired from job | <input type="checkbox"/> Denied a promotion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discrimination in school | <input type="checkbox"/> Other discrimination in workplace |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing discrimination | <input type="checkbox"/> Discrimination from care providers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please explain) | |

Section V Part C

- | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| | Very
Unlikely | Somewhat
Unlikely | Neutral | Somewhat
Likely | Very
Likely |
| 1. How likely is it that you will experience
<input type="checkbox"/> 5
hate crime or bias related violence/discrimination
in the next year based on your actual or perceived
sexual orientation or gender identity/expression? | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | |

- | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2. How likely is it that you will experience
<input type="checkbox"/> 5
hate crime or bias related violence/discrimination
in your lifetime based on your actual or perceived
sexual orientation or gender identity/expression? | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|

Section VI

Now you will be asked questions about specific experiences of stalking. Please answer as honestly as possible.

Remember, you can skip questions or stop at any time.

1. Not counting bill collectors, telephone/door-to-door solicitors, or other salespeople, has anyone ever: (check ALL that apply)

- Followed or spied on you
- Made unwanted phone calls to you
- Stood outside your home, school, or workplace
- Left unwanted items for you to find
- Sent you unwanted letters, email, text messages, or other mail
- Hacked into your email accounts
- Vandalized your property
- Tried to communicate with you against your will
- None of the above (*skip to Section VII*)

2. If you checked one or more items in #1, were any of these things done on more than one occasion?

- Yes No

3. Did you feel frightened or fear bodily harm as a result of these behaviors?

- Yes No

4. For all incidents checked above, who was the person exhibiting stalking behavior? (check ALL that apply)

- Primary partner Ex-partner Date Friend/acquaintance
 Relative Stranger Co-worker
 Other: (please explain)

5. Did you report these incidents to police?

- Yes No

6. Have you ever sought help because of these experiences? (check ALL that apply)

- I did not seek help (*skip to Section VII*)
 Domestic violence shelter Law enforcement
 Hotline Therapist Friend
 Family member Criminal Justice System Clergy/Minister
 LGBTQ advocacy group Doctor/ER Support group
 Other: (please explain)

7. Of those you sought help from, who was most helpful?

Least Somewhat Neutral More Most
Helpful Helpful Helpful Helpful

Domestic violence shelter	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Law enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Hotline	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Therapist	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Friend	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Family member	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Criminal Justice System	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Clergy/Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
LGBTQ advocacy group	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Doctor/ER	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Support group	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Other (from above)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Section VII

Now you will be asked about other people you have known and their experiences with violence. Please answer as honestly as possible.

Remember, you can skip questions or stop at any time.

1. Has any LGBTQ person you've known personally experienced sexual violence? (By this we mean, been forced to engage in *any* unwanted sexual activity)

Yes No

2. Has any LGBTQ person you've known personally experienced intimate partner violence? (By this we mean experienced physical, sexual, or emotional violence in the context of an intimate relationship)

Yes No

3. Has any LGBTQ person you've known personally experienced hate crime violence based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity/expression?

Yes- sexual orientation Yes- gender identity/expression No

4. Has any LGBTQ person you've known personally been murdered as a result of hate crime violence based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity/expression?

Yes- sexual orientation Yes- gender identity/expression No

5. Has any LGBTQ person you've known personally experienced discrimination or harassment based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity/expression?

Yes- sexual orientation Yes- gender identity/expression No

6. Has any LGBTQ person you've known personally experienced stalking behavior?

Yes No

7. Please use this space to add any comments or reflections about the information and experiences referenced in this survey.

Thank you for participating.