

Facts about Suicide

Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among young people ages 10 to 24



1

Facts about Suicide

LGBT adolescents have the highest rate of suicide attempts.



2

Facts about Suicide

LBG youth seriously contemplate suicide at almost three times the rate of heterosexual youth



3

Facts about Suicide

LBG youth are almost four times as likely to have attempted suicide compared to heterosexual youth



4

Facts about Suicide

Suicide attempts by LGB youth and questioning youth are 4 to 6 times more likely to result in injury, poisoning, or overdose that requires treatment from a doctor or nurse, compared to their straight peers



5

Facts about Suicide

In a national study, 40% of transgender adults reported having made a suicide attempt. 92% of these individuals reported having attempted suicide before the age of 25



6

Facts about Suicide

LGB youth who come from highly rejected families are 8.4 times as likely to have attempted suicide as LGB peers who reported no or low levels of family rejection



7

Facts about Suicide

Each episode of LGBT victimization, such as physical or verbal harassment or abuse, increases the likelihood of self-harming behavior by 2.5 times on average



8

Mental Health among the LGBT

- Substance Abuse
 - LGBT youth are more than twice as likely to experiment with drugs and alcohol.
- Happiness:
 - Only 37% of LGBT youth report being happy, while 67% of non-LGBT youth say they are happy.
 - However, > 80% of LGBT youth believe they will be happy eventually, with nearly half believing that they will need to move away from their current town to find happiness.
- Self Harm:
 - With each instance of verbal or physical harassment, the risk of self-harm among LGBT youth is 2.5 times more likely.

Human Rights Campaign. (2013). Growing Up LGBT in America: HRC Youth Survey Report Key Findings. Washington, D.C.)

9

Education among LGTB

- Gay teens in U.S. schools are often subjected to such intense bullying that they're unable to receive an adequate education
- LGBT youth identified bullying problems as the second most important problem in their lives, after non-accepting families.
- LGBT youth who reported they were frequently harassed in school had lower GPA's than students who were less often harassed
- LGBT youth feel they have nowhere to turn with 60% of LGBT students not reporting incidents to school staff.

Kosciw, J. G., Greytak, E. A., Bartkiewicz, M. J., Boesen, M. J., & Palmer, N. A. (2012). The 2011 National School Climate Survey: The experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth in our nation's schools. New York: GLSEN.

10

School Bullying

- 1 in 4 lesbian, gay and bisexual students have been harassed or bullied
- 1 in 3 transgender students have been harassed or bullied
- Bullying of LGBT youth has been shown to be a contributing factor in many suicides
- The presence of Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) in schools is associated with decreased suicide attempts in adolescents between the ages of 13 and 22 years (16.9% versus 33.1%)

Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology. 62 (2):261-269
 School Social Work Journal (3/2013) 37(2): 88-111

11

Experiences with Violence

- Compared with other students, negative attitudes toward LGBT persons put these youth at increased risk for experiences with violence (bullying, teasing, harassment and physical assault)
 - 10% were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property
 - 34% were bullied on school property
 - 28% were bullied electronically
 - 23% of LGB students who had dated or went out with someone during the 12 months before the survey had experienced sexual dating violence in the prior year
 - 18% of LGB students had experienced physical dating violence

www.CDC.gov

12

Laws Matter

- The passage of laws that discriminate against LGBT people have been shown to have significant negative impacts on the physical and mental health and well-being of LGBT
- The passage of laws that recognize LGBT people as equal with regard to civil rights have been shown to have significant positive impacts on the physical and health and well-being of LGBT youths

Journal of the American Medical Association; Pediatrics, Feb 2017

13

Laws Matter

- The passage of laws that discriminate against LGBT people have been shown to have significant negative impacts on the physical and mental health and well-being of LGBT
- The passage of laws that recognize LGBT people as equal with regard to civil rights have been shown to have significant positive impacts on the physical and health and well-being of LGBT youths

Did you know,

No provision of North Dakota law explicitly addresses discrimination on the bases of sexual orientation or gender identity

Journal of the American Medical Association; Pediatrics, Feb 2017

14

- Study of nationwide data across the US from 1/1999 to 12/2015 showed that the establishment of same-sex marriage is associated with a significant reduction in the rate of attempted suicide among children, with the effect being concentrated among children of a minority sexual orientation (LGB youth), resulting in approximately 134,000 fewer children attempting suicide each year in the US

15

Health Care and the Law

- Under federal and state laws, it is illegal for health providers, insurance companies, and other health programs to discriminate against transgender people in many circumstances.
- Insurance companies that receive federal funding or that have one or more plans on a federal or state Marketplace have to comply with this requirement.
- One of the most important laws is the Affordable Care Act, which prohibits sex discrimination, including anti-transgender discrimination, by the vast majority of insurance companies and health care providers. That means that in every state, most insurance companies aren't allowed to exclude transition-related care and most health care providers are required to treat you with respect and according to your gender identity.

16

Health Care and the Law – ACA law

- **Excluding transition-related care from coverage:** Insurance companies can't have automatic or categorical exclusions of transition-related care. For example, an insurance company that says that all care related to gender transition is excluded violates the ACA. An insurance company also can't place limits on coverage for transition-related care if those limits are discriminatory. For example, an insurance company can't automatically exclude a specific type of procedure if it covers that procedure for non-transgender people. That means that an insurance company may be breaking the law if it covers breast reconstruction for cancer treatment, hormones to treat post-menopause symptoms, or genital surgery after accidents but won't cover those treatments to treat gender dysphoria.

17

Health Care and the Law – ACA law

- **Refusing to enroll you in a plan, cancelling your coverage, or imposing higher rates for you because of your transgender status:** An insurance company can't treat you differently, refuse to enroll you, or limit coverage for any services based on your transgender status.
- **Denying coverage for care typically associated with one gender:** It's illegal for an insurance company to deny you coverage for treatments typically associated with one gender based on the gender listed in the insurance company's records or the sex you were assigned at birth. For example, an insurance company can't deny a transgender woman coverage for a prostate exam because she is listed as female in her records or coverage for gynecological care because her sex assigned at birth was male.

18

Health Care and the Law – ACA law

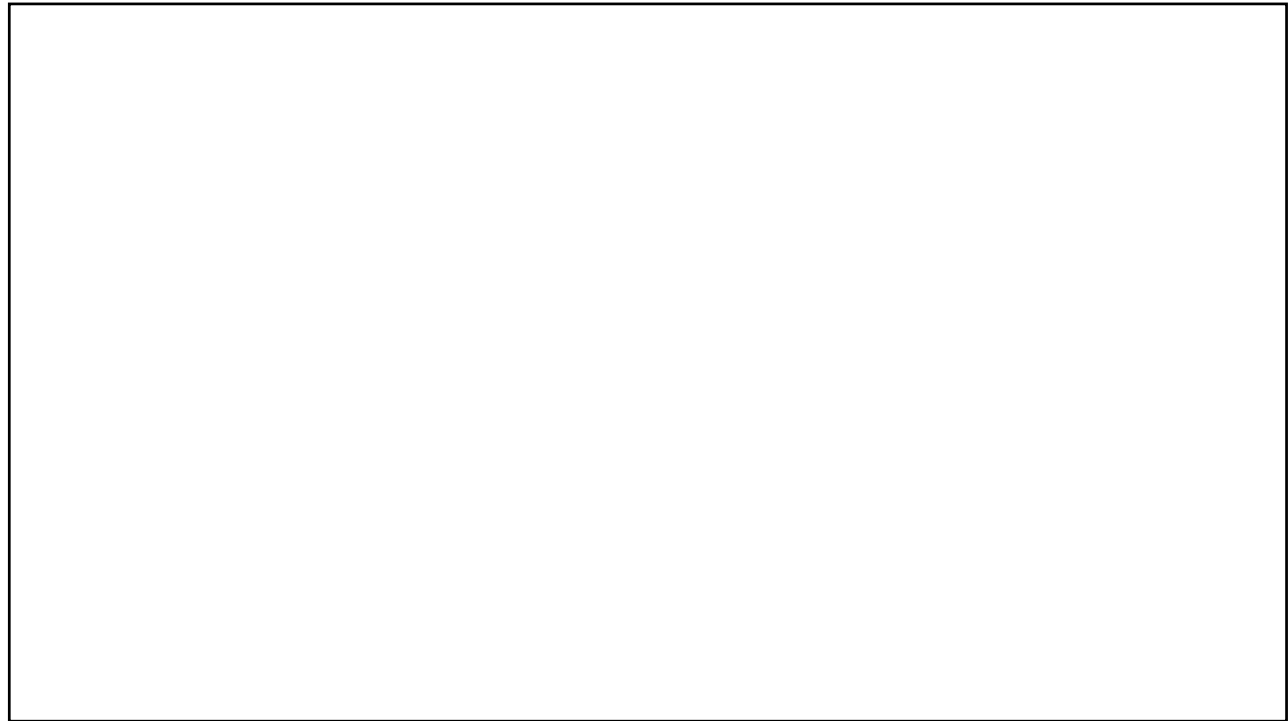
- Under the Affordable Care Act, it is illegal for any health program, provider, or organization that gets any federal funding (including accepting Medicare or Medicaid payments for any patients) or is administered by a federal agency to discriminate against you because you are transgender or because you don't conform to gender stereotypes. The following are examples of places and programs that may be covered by the law:
 - Physicians' offices
 - Hospitals
 - Community health clinics
 - Drug rehabilitation programs
 - Rape crisis centers
 - Nursing homes and assisted living facilities
 - Health clinics in schools and universities
 - Medical residency programs
 - Home health providers
 - Veterans health centers
 - Health services in prison or detention facilities

19

Health Care and the Law – ACA law

- It is illegal for health care providers that receive federal money to do any of the following because you are transgender or because you don't conform to gender stereotypes:
 - Refuse to admit or treat you
 - Force you to have intrusive and unnecessary examinations
 - Refuse to provide you services that they provide to other patients
 - Refuse to treat you according to your gender identity, including by providing you access to restrooms consistent with your gender
 - Harass you or refuse to respond to harassment by staff or other patients
 - Refuse to provide counseling, medical advocacy or referrals, or other support services
 - Isolate you or deprive you of human contact, or limit your participation in social or recreational activities offered to others
 - Require you to participate in "conversion therapy" for the purpose of changing your gender identity
 - Harass, coerce, intimidate, or interfere with your ability to exercise your health care rights

20



21

Health Care and the Law

- Your health insurance company can't limit sex-specific recommended preventive services based on your sex assigned at birth, gender identity, or recorded gender — for example, a transgender man who has residual breast tissue or an intact cervix getting a mammogram or pap smear.

HealthCare.gov

22

Plans with transgender exclusions

- Many health plans are still using exclusions such as “services related to sex change” or “sex reassignment surgery” to deny coverage to transgender people for certain health care services. Coverage varies by state.
- Before you enroll in a plan, you should always look at the complete terms of coverage that are included in the “Evidence of Coverage,” “Certificate of Coverage,” or contract of insurance. This contains the full explanation of which procedures and services are covered or excluded under each plan. Plans might use different language to describe these kinds of exclusions. Look for language like “All procedures related to being transgender are not covered.” Other terms to look for include “gender change,” “transsexualism,” “gender identity disorder,” and “gender identity dysphoria.”

HealthCare.gov

23



24

Conscience and Religious Freedom Division

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
 - Roger Severino – Director for Civil Rights
- Three Types of Federal Laws
 - Protecting the privacy and security of health information (HIPAA)
 - Prohibiting discrimination based on race, national origin, sex or disability
 - Protection conscience and religious freedom
 - 1/2018, launched a **Conscience and Religious Freedom Division** (within office of Civil Rights)
 - Conscience protections apply to health care providers who refuse to perform, accommodate or assist with certain health care services on religious or moral grounds.
 - The establishment of this division reverses an Obama-era policy that barred health care workers from refusing to treat transgender individuals.

HHS.gov

25

Transgender Transition

- Social Transition
- Hormone Transition
- Surgical Transition
- Legal Transition

26

North Dakota Law

- Legal Name Change in ND:
 - Applicant must submit a petition to the court.
 - At least 30 days before filing the applicant must publish notice of intended application in a newspaper, however the publication requirement can be waived for victims of domestic violence or individuals only seeking to change their first name. Individuals with a felony conviction must provide additional information with their petition and must notify Bureau of Crime Investigation within ten days of the order granting the name change. (N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 32-28-02).

27

North Dakota Law

- North Dakota Drivers License Policy & Procedures
 - North Dakota Department of Transportation will update the gender on a license or ID upon submission of a letter signed by a physician or therapist licensed in the United States stating that your gender role transition has been completed in accordance with the World Professional Association for Transgendered Health Standards of Care (WPATH).
 - The phrase "gender role transition has been completed" must be included in your letter, and means it has been determined that the individual has completed a gender role transition and this change is permanent.
 - This transition may or may not lead to further surgical intervention.
 - Name changes must be done in person
 - The fee is \$3

28

North Dakota Law

- **North Dakota Birth Certificate Law**
 - North Dakota will amend the gender marker on a birth certificate upon receipt of a signed statement from a physician indicating that you have had appropriate clinical treatment for gender transition to a new gender.
 - The statement must specify that the change is considered permanent and complete, and must list a date of completion.
 - Physician affidavit must state "that the physician has performed an operation on the person, and that by reason of the operation, the sex designation of such person's birth record should be changed",
 - The record will be marked amended with a description of the amendments. ND. Article 33-04-12-02.]

29

Minnesota Law

- **Minnesota Birth Certificate Law**
 - Minnesota will issue a new birth certificate upon receipt of a letter from a physician confirming appropriate clinical treatment for gender transition or a court order for gender change.
 - The registrar will issue a replacement birth certificate, and the prior birth certificate shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed except pursuant to court order (MN §§ 144.218).

30

North Dakota Law

- Same-sex sexual activity is legal in ND since 1973
- Same-sex couples and families headed by same-sex couples are eligible for all of the protections available to opposite-sex married couples.
- Same-sex marriage has been legal in North Dakota since the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* on June 26, 2015, which found the denial of marriage rights to same-sex couples unconstitutional.
- The state had previously restricted marriage to the union of one man and one woman and denied recognition to same-sex unions under any legal designation both in its constitution and by statute

31

North Dakota Law

- ND permits adoption by individuals and the law does not expressly ban LGBT people from adopting or having custody of children.
- The law expressly allows private adoption organizations in the State to discriminate against LGBT individuals or couples seeking to adopt children, if such discrimination is based on a sincerely held religious belief.
- No provision of North Dakota law explicitly addresses discrimination on the bases of sexual orientation or gender identity.
- North Dakota law does not address hate crimes based on gender identity or sexual orientation

32