LGBTQ Experiences at Colleges and Universities

A 2010 study* of more than 5,000 students, staff, and faculty at about 100 colleges and universities nationwide found:

- 23% of the LGBQ respondents and 31-39% of the transmasculine, transfeminine, and gender-nonconforming respondents had experienced harassment on campus.
  - Among those who had experienced harassment, the forms it took included being subjected to derogatory remarks, being deliberately ignored or excluded, being isolated, observing others staring at them, being singled out as a resident authority because of their gender or sexual identity, and feeling intimidated or bullied.

- 13% of the LGBQ respondents and 17-22% of the transgender and gender-nonconforming respondents who had experienced harassment feared for their physical safety on campus.

- 65% of the transmasculine students, 55% of the transfeminine students, and 18% of the gender-nonconforming students who participated in the study avoided disclosure of their gender identity because of a fear of negative consequences.

- 52% of the lesbian students, 52% of the bisexual students, 47% of the queer students, and 44% of the gay students who participated in the study avoided disclosure of their sexual identity because of a fear of negative consequences.

- 30% of the LGBQ and 33-39% of the transgender and gender-nonconforming participants have seriously considered leaving their institution because of the negative climate.

- At the same time, 70% of the LGBQ respondents felt comfortable or very comfortable with the overall campus climate at their institutions, as did 56% of the transmasculine respondents, 61% of the transfeminine respondents, and 60% of the gender-nonconforming respondents.