



Sexual and gender minority people's health vulnerabilities during the COVID-19 health crisis

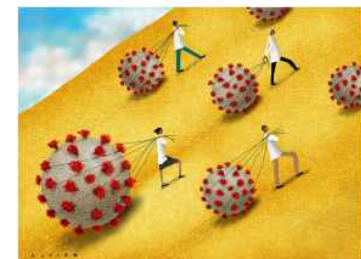
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INTRODUCTION

Among those experiencing a compounding of vulnerabilities due to COVID19 are sexual and gender minority (SGM) people, which collectively includes Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Two-Spirit, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual (LGBT2SQIA+) people.

Sexual and gender minority people comprise a diverse group of equity- seeking communities whose needs are often left out of research, policy, and infrastructure.





Shifting Gears in Response to COVID-19



**Toronto COVID-19
Initiative**

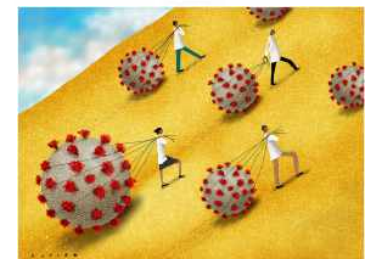
Who is creating narratives of the pandemic? Are LGBTQ2SIA+ voices, experiences, vulnerabilities, resiliencies being represented?

BIOCULTURAL VULNERABILITIES DURING COVID-19

COVID-19 and public health measures aimed at controlling its transmission may disproportionately impact the health of SGM people in part due to inequitable social, economic, and political conditions.

Economic inequity and poverty present increased risks for SGM people as well.

As is the case with other marginalized communities, exclusion and health precarity among SGM people translate to “underlying conditions” that can increase the risk for COVID-19 infection, complications, sequelae, and death.



STIGMA & GLOBAL IMPACTS

The Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights warned member states to refrain from using the COVID-19 crisis as an avenue to undermine the human rights of SGM people (OHCHR, 2020).



Panama's Gender-Based Quarantine Ensnarers Trans Woman

Trans-Sensitive Police Protocol Needed to Prevent Harassment



Cristian González Cabrera

Researcher, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights Program

[@cristianfergo](#)

When Panama announced it would implement a gender-based

MORE READING

Covid-19 Backlash Targets LGBT People in South Korea

Government Should Act to Prevent Discrimination



Ryan Thoreson

Researcher, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights Program

[@ryanthoreson](#)



MORE READING



May 7, 2020 | News Release
Lebanon's LGBT People Reclaim Their Power

POLITICS OF PUBLIC HEALTH VISIBILITY & INTERVENTION

Research and health surveillance systems that fail to include questions about sexual orientation or gender identity:

1. threaten to erase SGM people,
1. obscure health issues within the population
1. inhibit vital allocation of resources



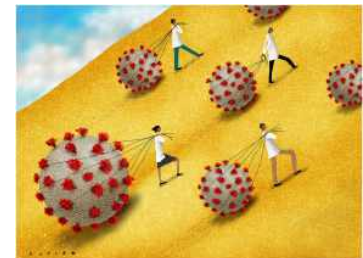
Next Steps & Final Thoughts

SGM people faced significant structural (eg, access to employment, housing, health care) and interpersonal (eg, violent transphobic attacks) discrimination prior to COVID-19.



Pandemic conditions magnify these inequities, exposing and worsening health disparities and producing new ones.

As this global health crisis grinds on, we must leverage our expertise and positions of privilege to ensure that the global and local impacts of and responses to COVID-19 among SGM people are made visible.



Next Steps & Final Thoughts

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COMMENTARY



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WILEY

Sexual and gender minority health vulnerabilities during the COVID-19 health crisis

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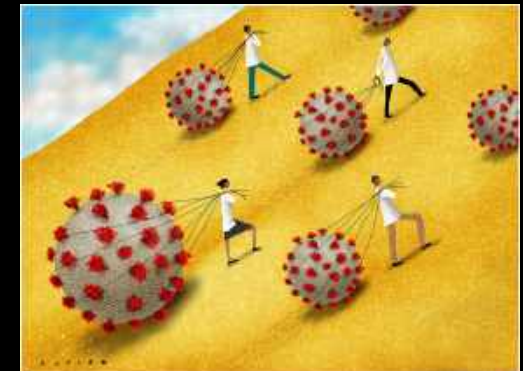
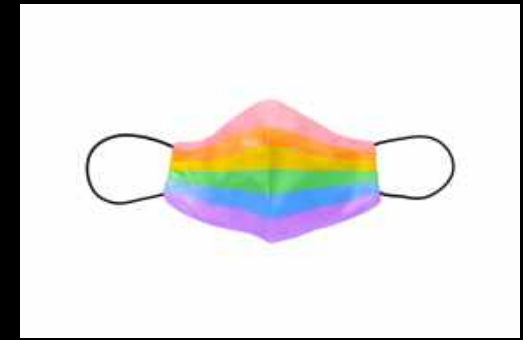
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Original 2020 Summer Research Plans

JK Gibb, MSc	Unaffected by COVID-19?
Ongoing analyses and write-up of secondary data, primarily on health of LGBTQ2SIA+ peoples	
Completion of MSc	
Initiation of new project investigating food security among LGBTQ2SIA+ peoples living in Toronto, CAN	