

APPENDIX A
SURVEY INSTRUMENT

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1. Thank you!!!

Thank you for participating in this survey of Sexual Identity in College Students. It is intended to provide more knowledge about the influence sexual identity has on personal characteristics and higher education outcomes.

In keeping with the focus of the survey, the primary participants should be undergraduate students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, or other non-heterosexual identities. However, responses from graduate students and those who identify as heterosexual are welcomed as well.

It will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Your responses are anonymous, so please be completely honest. The results from this survey will help higher education professionals better understand sexual identity to assist with their supportive practices.

2. Implied Informed Consent Form



Implied Informed Consent Form for Social Science Research

The Pennsylvania State University

Title of Project: A Survey to Examine the Influence of Sexual Identity on Higher Education Outcomes in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Questioning, and Other Non-Heterosexual College Students

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1. **Purpose of the Study:** The purpose of this research study is to explore the variability of disclosing one's non-heterosexual identity. Also of interest is the influence of disclosure on internalized homophobia, self-esteem, academic and intellectual development, social integration, and victimization.
2. **Procedures to be followed:** You will be asked to answer 36 questions on a survey.
3. **Duration:** It will take about 15 minutes to complete the survey.
4. **Statement of Confidentiality:** Your participation in this research is confidential. The survey does not ask for any information that would identify to whom the responses belong. In the event of any publication or presentation resulting from the research, no personally identifiable information will be shared because your name is in no way linked to your responses.
5. **Right to Ask Questions:** Please contact Carl Sorgen at (814) 865-6346 with questions or concerns about this study.
6. **Voluntary Participation:** Your decision to be in this research is voluntary. You can stop at any time. You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to answer.

You must be 18 years of age or older to take part in this research study.

Completion and return of the survey implies that you have read the information in this form and consent to take part in the research. Please print this form for your records or future reference.

3. Two more things...

1. Please allow the entire 15 minutes to take this survey because you cannot stop and restart at a later time.
2. Just so we're on the same page, sexual identity refers to how people identify themselves based on their sexual attractions and behaviors.

4. Ready? Let's begin!

Below are a set of demographic questions for you to answer.

1. How old are you?
2. What is your class year? First-year student, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Graduate Student
3. What is your race/ethnicity? (If you are of a multi-racial/multi-ethnic/multi-cultural identity, mark all that apply.)
 - African
 - African American/Black
 - Alaskan Native
 - Asian
 - Asian American
 - Southeast Asian
 - Caribbean/West Indian
 - Caucasian/White
 - Indian Subcontinent
 - Latino(a)/Hispanic
 - Middle Eastern
 - Native American Indian
 - Pacific Islander/Hawaiian Native
4. What is your birth sex?
 - Male
 - Female
 - Intersex
5. What is your gender identity?
 - Woman
 - Man
 - Trans
 - None of the above (please specify)
 - 5a. How do you label your gender identity?

5. Gender Expression

The question below refers to ways you express yourself compared with societal norms of gender.

Where would you rate yourself on a continuum from feminine to masculine?

Extremely Feminine

Extremely Masculine

0 0 0 0 0 0 0

6. Compared with people of your gender?

7. Compared with people of your sexual identity?

6. Sexual Identity

8. What is your current sexual identity?

Bisexual

Gay

Heterosexual (skipped to Page #)

Lesbian

Queer

Questioning/Unsure

None of the above (please specify)

8a. How do you label your sexual identity?

7. Length of Sexual Identity

The next questions ask you the ages of your same-sex attraction, same-sex behavior, and sexual identity.

9. At what age was your first same-sex attraction?

10. At what age was your first same-sex behavior?

11. How old were you when you first thought you might be your current sexual identity?

12. At what age did you begin identifying as your current sexual identity?

8. IH Scale

[Revised Internalized Homophobia Scale]

13. Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Somewhat agree and somewhat disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
13.1	I wish I weren't my current sexual identity.					
13.2	I have tried to stop being attracted to the same sex.					
13.3	If someone offered me the chance to be completely heterosexual, I would accept it.					
13.4	For me, I feel that having my sexual identity is a personal shortcoming.					
13.5	I would like to get professional help to change my current sexual orientation to straight.					

9. Level of Outness

These questions relate to your “level of outness.” Please choose the response that best describes your openness about your sexual identity or sexual orientation.

14. How open are you about your sexual identity or sexual orientation when...

		Completely	Mostly	Somewhat	Hardly	Not at all	N/A
14.1	Around your close friends						
14.2	Around your close family						
14.3	Around your extended family						
14.4	Around extended friends or ‘friends of friends’						
14.5	You meet new people in person						
14.6	You meet new people online						
14.7	In your online profiles						
14.8	With professors, faculty, and instructors						
14.9	At work						
14.10	With people where you live (roommates, housemates, suitemates, people in your residence hall)						
14.11	When doing religious activities						
14.12	With members of campus activity groups (including Greek)						
14.13	Overall, how open are you about your sexual identity? **						

** If you answered “completely” on this question, please complete the additional question below. If you marked another response choice, please click the “Next” button.

14a. For how long have you been completely open about your sexual identity? Please provide the approximate number of years and months. (If you answered something other than "completely" on the last question above, please leave this blank.)

10. Coming Out Experiences

15. How would you rate your coming out experiences with the following people

		Very positive	Mostly positive, somewhat negative	Somewhat positive and somewhat negative	Mostly negative, somewhat positive	Very negative	Not applicable
15.1	Close friends						
15.2	Close family						
15.3	College roommate(s)						

11. Victimization and Harassment

The two sets of questions below ask about different education environments.

16. Since starting college, how often have you experienced the following because of your sexual identity.

		Never	Once	Twice	More than Twice
16.1	Verbal insults				
16.2	Threats of physical violence				
16.3	Having personal property damaged or destroyed				
16.4	Being chased or followed				
16.5	Being spat upon				
16.6	Having objects thrown at you				
16.7	Being punched, hit, kicked, or beaten				
16.8	Sexual assault				
16.9	Assault with a weapon				

17. While in high school, how often did you experience the following because of your sexual identity.

		Never	Once	Twice	More than Twice
17.1	Verbal insults				
17.2	Threats of physical violence				
17.3	Having personal property damaged or destroyed				
17.4	Being chased or followed				
17.5	Being spat upon				
17.6	Having objects thrown at you				
17.7	Being punched, hit, kicked, or beaten				
17.8	Sexual assault				
17.9	Assault with a weapon				

12. Salience of Sexual Identity

18. How often do you think about your sexual identity when you are...

		Very Often	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
18.1	With family					
18.2	With friends					
18.3	In classes					
18.4	Where you live (at school)					

This question asks about your multiple identities. It asks you to compare how often you think about your sexual identity to other identities.

19. "In general, I think about my sexual identity _____ compared to the identity listed."

		More Often	About the Same	Less Often
19.1	Racial/Ethnic Identity			
19.2	Gender Identity			
19.3	Nationality			

20. Most of my friends identify as LGBTQ or some other non-heterosexual identity.

Strongly Agree

Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Disagree

Strongly Disagree

13. Interactions in Higher Education

There are four sections below, each having a specific focus. The answer choices are identical. Please read the topic and then respond to the extent which you agree or disagree with each statement.

This is the longest part of the survey. Thanks for taking it ☺

21. Peer-Group Interactions

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Somewhat agree and somewhat disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
21.1	Since coming to this school I have developed close personal relationships with other students.					
21.2	The student friendships I have developed here have been personally satisfying.					
21.3	My interpersonal relationships with other students have had a positive influence on my personal growth, attitudes, and values.					
21.4	My interpersonal relationships with other students have had a positive influence on my intellectual growth and interest in ideas.					
21.5	It has been difficult for me to meet and make friends with other students.					
21.6	Few of the students I know would be willing to listen to me and help me if I had a personal problem.					
21.7	Most students at this school have values and attitudes different from my own.					

22. Interactions with Faculty

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Somewhat agree and somewhat disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
22.1	My non-classroom interactions with faculty have had a positive influence on my personal growth, values, and attitudes.					
22.2	My non-classroom interactions with faculty have had a positive influence on my intellectual growth and interest in ideas.					
22.3	My non-classroom interactions with faculty have had a positive influence on my career goals and aspirations.					
22.4	Since coming to this school I have developed a close, personal relationship with at least one faculty member.					
22.5	I am satisfied with the opportunities to meet and interact informally with faculty members.					

23. Academic and Intellectual Development

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Somewhat agree and somewhat disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
23.1	I am satisfied with the extent of my intellectual development since enrolling at [your school].					
23.2	My academic experience has had a positive influence on my intellectual growth and interest in ideas.					
23.3	I am satisfied with my academic experience here.					
23.4	Few of my courses have been intellectually stimulating.					
23.5	My interest in ideas and intellectual matters has increased since coming here.					
23.6	I am more likely to attend a cultural event (for example, a concert, lecture, or art show) now than I was before coming to this school.					
23.7	I have performed academically as well as I anticipated I would.					

24. Interactions with Student Affairs Staff

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Somewhat agree and somewhat disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
24.1	My interactions with student affairs staff have had a positive influence on my personal growth, values, and attitudes.					
24.2	My interactions with student affairs staff have had a positive influence on my intellectual growth and interest in ideas.					
24.3	My interactions with student affairs staff have had a positive influence on my career goals and aspirations.					
24.4	Since coming to this school I have developed a close, personal relationship with at least one staff member.					
24.5	I am satisfied with the opportunities to meet and interact with student affairs staff.					

14. Personal Questions

Below are two lists of statements generally asking about feelings with yourself. Please read each of the topics and respond to the extent you agree or disagree with each statement.

Personal Questions

25. [Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale]

26. [Perlin Mastery Scale]

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
25.1	On the whole I am satisfied with myself.				
25.2	At times I think that I am no good at all.				
25.3	I feel that I have a number of good qualities.				
25.4	I am able to do things as well as most other people.				
25.5	I feel I do not have much to be proud of.				
25.6	I certainly feel useless at times.				
25.7	I feel that I am a person of worth, at least the equal of others.				
25.8	I wish I could have more respect for myself.				
25.9	All in all, I am inclined to feel that I am a failure.				
25.10	I take a positive attitude toward myself.				
26.1	I have little control over the things that happen to me.				
26.2	There is really no way I can solve some of the problems I have.				
26.3	There is little I can do to change many of the important things in my life.				
26.4	I often feel helpless in dealing with the problems of my life.				
26.5	Sometimes I feel that I'm being pushed around in life.				
26.6	What happens to me in the future mostly depends on me.				
26.7	I can do just about anything I really set my mind to do.				

Support. **Please note: In these questions, “special person” refers to someone with whom you may consider a romantic relationship.**

27. [Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support]

		Very Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	Mildly Agree	Neutral	Mildly Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Very Strongly Disagree
27.1	There is a special person who is around when I am in need.							
27.2	There is a special person with whom I can share my joys and sorrows.							
27.3	My family really tries to help me.							
27.4	I get the emotional help and support I need from my family.							
27.5	I have a special person who is a real source of comfort to me.							
27.6	My friends really try to help me.							
27.7	I can count on my friends when things go wrong.							
27.8	I can talk about my problems with my family.							
27.9	I have friends with whom I can share my joys and sorrows.							
27.10	There is a special person in my life who cares about my feelings.							
27.11	My family is willing to help me make decisions.							
27.12	I can talk about my problems with my friends.							

15. Final Questions

Just a few more questions, and then we're finished. You've done wonderfully!

28. Where do you live?

- Residence hall
- Fraternity/sorority housing
- On-campus apartment
- Off-campus residence (house, apartment, etc.)
- With parent(s)/family/relative(s)

29. What is the yearly combined total income of your parents or guardians (in thousands of dollars)?

Not Applicable

- < \$15,000
- \$15 - \$30
- \$31 - \$44
- \$45 - \$59
- \$60 - \$74
- \$75 - \$89
- \$90 - \$104
- \$105 - \$119
- \$120 - \$139
- \$140 - \$154
- \$155 - \$169
- \$170 - \$184
- \$185 - \$199
- \$200 - \$299
- \$300 - \$399
- \$400 - \$499
- Greater than \$500,000

30. On average, how many hours per week are you employed while taking classes?

I am not employed while taking classes.

- 1-5
- 6-10
- 11-15
- 16-20
- 21-25
- 26-30
- 31-35
- 36-40
- 41-45
- 46-50
- 51-55
- 55-60
- 61+

31. On average, how many hours per week are you involved with extracurricular activities while taking classes?

I do not participate in extracurricular activities.

- 1-5
- 6-10
- 11-15
- 16-20
- 21-25
- 26-30
- 31-35
- 36-40
- 41-45
- 46-50
- 51-55
- 55-60
- 61+

32. What is your cumulative grade point average? If you are a first semester student, please provide your cumulative high school grade point average. The response choices are out of a 4.0 scale.

- A (3.84-4.00)
- A- (3.50-3.83)
- B+ (3.17-3.49)
- B (2.84-3.16)
- B- (2.50-2.83)
- C+ (2.17-2.49)
- C (1.84-2.16)
- C- (1.50-1.83)
- D or below (< 1.50)

33. What is your United States citizenship status?

- United States Citizen – born in the U. S.
- United States Citizen – naturalized
- Permanent resident (immigrant)
- International (F-1, J-1, H1-B, or other visa)

34. What were your college admissions standardized test scores? If you didn't take the test, just leave it blank.

34.1	ACT Composite	<i>enter score</i>
34.2	SAT Math	<i>enter score</i>
34.3	SAT Verbal	<i>enter score</i>
34.4	SAT Writing	<i>enter score</i>

35. How would you categorize you and your family's political views?

35.1 You

- Very Conservative
- Conservative
- Moderately Conservative
- Moderately Liberal
- Liberal
- Very Liberal

35.2 Your Family

- Very Conservative
- Conservative
- Moderately Conservative
- Moderately Liberal
- Liberal
- Very Liberal

36. Approximately how often do you use the following?

		Never tried it	I've tried it, but that's it	A few times in the past year	Once a month	A few times in the past month	Once a week	Every few days	Daily
36.1	Alcohol								
36.2	Pot								
36.3	Other illicit drugs								

37. Please type in the full name of your college or university. This allows researchers to look at the influence of institutional characteristics and will be used for analysis purposes only. Your school will not be identified in any reports.

16. Incentive

Thank you for participating! As an incentive, you may enter a drawing for a \$100 Visa Gift Card by providing your email address in the box below. The email address will be confidentially stored as a separate file from your responses, so they aren't linked.

17. Thank you!!!

Thank you for participating in this survey.

Please click the "Finished!" button below to submit your responses. Have a nice day 😊