



*Inside-OUT:*

**A Report on the Experiences of  
Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals in America  
and the Public's Views on Issues  
and Policies Related to Sexual Orientation**

# ***Inside-OUT: A Report on the Experiences of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals in America and the Public's Views on Issues and Policies Related to Sexual Orientation***

## **Introduction**

In the fall of 2000, the Kaiser Family Foundation conducted two national public opinion surveys: one, to gather information on the experiences of self-identified lesbians, gays and bisexuals; and a second to gauge the general public's attitudes toward this group and their views on key policy issues related to sexual orientation. We did so to shed light on where the public really stands on what has been a contentious issue in the United States, and the potential implications for social and health policy. The Foundation also wanted to better understand the role that stigma and discrimination play in access to health care and health outcomes.

What we find is that a large majority of self-identified lesbians, gays and bisexuals believe there is more acceptance of lesbians and gays today compared to a few years ago. At the same time, they have experienced a significant amount of prejudice and discrimination. Nearly three quarters have been the targets of verbal abuse, and nearly one third have been the target of physical violence based on sexual orientation. Although a large majority are now open about their sexual orientation to friends, family members and co-workers, one third say that their family or a family member has refused to accept them because of their sexual orientation.

Our survey of the general public demonstrates that a large majority now knows someone who is lesbian, gay or bisexual. We find generally high levels of acceptance of lesbians, gays and bisexuals in many, though not all, professional roles. However, acceptance varies widely based on such factors as gender, age, and religious affiliation. A majority of the general public believes that lesbians, gays and bisexuals experience "a lot" of discrimination. Although the majority says that greater acceptance of lesbians and gays is either good for the country or that it doesn't make a difference, almost one in four says greater acceptance is bad for the country. Moreover, half of the general public believes homosexual behavior is morally wrong.

In the policy arena, there is significant public support for many, though not all, policy measures identified as important by lesbians, gays and bisexuals, though levels of support vary across demographic groups. Many anti-discrimination measures -- including those related to housing, employment, domestic partner benefits, and hate crimes -- enjoy broad public support. Family policy issues -- such as the legal sanctioning of marriage, domestic partnerships and adoption -- are more controversial, though support for such issues has increased over time.

Detailed findings are presented below in three parts. Part I describes the experiences of lesbians, gays and bisexuals in America, including their experiences "coming out" to friends, family members and co-workers, their perceptions and experiences of prejudice and discrimination based on sexual orientation, and their views on families and children. Part II describes how the general public views, and to what extent accepts, lesbians, gays and bisexuals. Finally, Part III presents the general public's views on various anti-discrimination and family policy issues identified as important by lesbians, gays and bisexuals.

## **PART I: THE LESBIAN, GAY AND BISEXUAL EXPERIENCE IN AMERICA**

The lives of lesbians, gays and bisexuals in America today are shaped by increased openness and acceptance in many circumstances. The majority of self-identified lesbians, gays and bisexuals are “out,” though not in all areas of their lives. Most would like to marry legally someday, and large numbers would like to adopt children. Most lesbians, gays and bisexuals believe there is more acceptance in the country today compared to a few years ago. However, significant numbers report that they have experienced prejudice and discrimination, including about one third who report that they have been the target of physical violence. In fact, the majority of lesbians, gays and bisexuals believe they are the group in America most likely to experience prejudice and discrimination and least likely to be protected by the government.

### **Research Challenges**

Estimates of the number of men and women in the United States who identify as lesbian, gay or bisexual vary considerably. Regardless of the exact number, however, drawing a random sample of a group that is a relatively small percentage of the U.S. population poses numerous challenges. This survey is based on a random sample of households in the fifteen metropolitan areas thought to have the highest concentrations of lesbians, gays and bisexuals. Telephone interviews were conducted with 405 randomly selected, self-identified lesbians, gays and bisexuals from this sample. (See the *Methodology* section of this report for more details.)

### **Personal Experience with Acceptance**

The majority of lesbians, gays and bisexuals believe there is more acceptance of gay people today compared to a few years ago. Most are open about their sexual orientation in many circumstances, and many report that they first “came out” (that is, told someone that they were lesbian, gay or bisexual) at a young age. For some, openness to family members was at the cost of acceptance.

- ❖ More than three quarters (76%) of lesbians, gays and bisexuals say there is more acceptance of gays and lesbians today compared to a few years ago. Gay men (81%) are slightly more likely than lesbians (66%) and bisexuals (67%) to think there is more acceptance.
- ❖ Almost all (93%) self-identified lesbians, gays and bisexuals are open about their sexual orientation with heterosexual friends, and large majorities are also “out” to family members (84%), co-workers (72%) and neighbors (66%). A smaller proportion, although still a majority, report being open about their sexual orientation with their bosses (55%). Less than half (44%) say they are out to their landlords.

- ❖ About two thirds (64%) report having first come out by age 21, including one third (32%) who came out by age 18. A majority (59%) report that nearly all their lesbian, gay and bisexual friends are out.
- ❖ One third (34%) say that their family or a family member has refused to accept them because of their sexual orientation. Lesbians are more likely than gay men or bisexuals to report not having been accepted by their families (50%, 32% and 26%, respectively).
- ❖ Many lesbians, gays and bisexuals say they have made important life decisions -- such as where to live (62%), choice of doctor or other health care provider (54%), and whether to take a particular job (30%) -- based on their sexual orientation.
- ❖ Almost two thirds (64%) have voluntarily told their doctors or health care providers about their sexual orientation. More than four in ten (44%) have been asked about their sexual orientation by their doctors or health care providers, and six in ten (59%) have been asked about their sexual behaviors.

### **Experience with Prejudice and Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation**

Despite the belief that acceptance has increased in recent years, a large majority of lesbians, gays and bisexuals say they personally have experienced prejudice and discrimination and that they know others who have experienced discrimination based on their sexual orientation.

- ❖ Three quarters (74%) of lesbians, gays and bisexuals report having experienced prejudice and discrimination based on their sexual orientation, including 23% who have experienced “a lot” of discrimination.
- ❖ Those who identify as lesbians (85%) or gay men (76%) are significantly more likely to report having experienced discrimination based on sexual orientation than bisexuals (60%).
- ❖ The majority (76%) of lesbians, gays and bisexuals also say they have experienced or know someone who has experienced discrimination in one or more of the following areas: applying to a college, university or other school; applying for or keeping a job; renting an apartment or buying a house; getting health care or health insurance; or joining or serving in the U.S. military.

### **Verbal Abuse and Physical Violence Based on Sexual Orientation**

A large majority of lesbians, gays and bisexuals also report having been the target of verbal abuse or physical violence based on their sexual orientation, and many are concerned about the risk of physical assault by someone who dislikes gay people.

- ❖ Three quarters (74%) of lesbians, gays and bisexuals report having been the target of verbal abuse, such as slurs or name-calling, because of their sexual orientation. Gay men (82%) and lesbians (79%) are significantly more likely to say they have been the target of verbal abuse than those who identify as bisexual (52%).

- ❖ About one third (32%) say they have been the target of physical violence, either against their person or property, because someone believed they were gay or lesbian.
- ❖ About four in ten (41%) lesbians, gays and bisexuals believe there is more violence directed towards gays and lesbians in this country today compared to a few years ago; 40% say the level of violence has stayed the same. Lesbians (55%) are slightly more likely than gay men (40%) or bisexuals (30%) to believe that violence has increased.
- ❖ More than one third (39%) report being “very” or “somewhat” worried that they may be physically assaulted or beaten by someone who does not like gay people, a view more likely to be expressed by lesbians (59%) than gay men (40%) or bisexuals (22%).

### **Views About Government Protections and Influence in Society**

The majority of lesbians, gays and bisexuals believe they are the group in America most likely to experience prejudice and discrimination and the least likely to be protected by the government. Most also say that, as a group, they have too little influence.

- ❖ The majority (80%) of lesbians, gays and bisexuals believe there is “a lot” of prejudice and discrimination against gay men and lesbians today -- more so than that directed toward African Americans (64%), the disabled (50%), Latinos (47%) or women (36%).
- ❖ Nine in ten (90%) say the government is doing too little to protect them from discrimination. Smaller majorities also believe that the government is doing too little to protect African Americans (68%), Latinos (67%), the disabled (67%) and women (58%).
- ❖ Eight in ten (81%) lesbians, gays and bisexuals say they have too little influence in society today. They believe this lack of influence is shared with other groups, including the disabled (81%), women (79%), African Americans (73%) and Latinos (69%).

### **Relationships, Marriage and Parenthood**

Many lesbians, gays and bisexuals are living with domestic partners and most would like to marry legally someday. Less than one in ten has children, though a substantial number would like to adopt.

- ❖ More than one quarter (28%) of lesbians, gays and bisexuals report living with a partner as if they were married, and almost three quarters (74%) say they would like to marry legally someday.
- ❖ Eight percent of lesbians, gays and bisexuals are parents or legal guardians of a child under 18 who lives in their home.
- ❖ Among those who are not parents of children under 18, almost half (49%) would like to adopt children of their own someday.

## **PART II: THE GENERAL PUBLIC'S ATTITUDES AND EXPERIENCE**

The majority of the general public reports knowing someone who is gay, lesbian or bisexual and believes that there is more acceptance of lesbians and gays today, compared to a few years ago. Most say that greater acceptance is either good for the country or does not matter one way or the other. The majority also believes that homosexual behavior is a normal part of some people's sexuality.

Despite generally high levels of acceptance, a significant proportion of the public says it is uncomfortable with gays and lesbians who are open about their sexual orientation, and half believe that homosexual behavior is morally wrong. Lack of acceptance is higher among some demographic groups, including men, those 65 or older, Evangelical Christians and those who do not know someone who is lesbian, gay or bisexual.

### **Personal Interactions with Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals**

Most of the general public now knows someone who is lesbian, gay or bisexual, including friends, co-workers and family members.

- ❖ Almost three quarters (73%) of the general public knows someone who is gay, and 62% have a friend or acquaintance who is lesbian, gay or bisexual. In 1983, less than one quarter (24%) of the public said they had a friend or acquaintance who was gay; and three years ago, just over half (55%) said they did. (Gallup, '83<sup>1</sup>; PSRA, '98<sup>2</sup>)
- ❖ Almost one third (32%) of the general public has a lesbian, gay or bisexual co-worker, and a quarter (25%) says they have a family member who is lesbian, gay or bisexual.

### **Acceptance of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals and Views Regarding Morality**

- ❖ Almost two thirds (64%) of the general public thinks there is more acceptance of gays and lesbians in this country today compared to a few years ago.
- ❖ A large majority thinks that greater acceptance of gays and lesbians is either good for the country (29%) or that it doesn't matter one way or the other (44%). However, nearly a quarter (23%) says that more acceptance is bad for the country.
- ❖ Almost nine out of ten (88%) say they would accept a lesbian, gay or bisexual family member or friend, including 45% who say it would bother them to learn that the person was gay or lesbian, but they would come to accept it, and 43% who say that it would not bother them at all.

- ❖ Two thirds (66%) of the general public believes that homosexual behavior is a normal part of some people's sexuality (28% disagree). However, half (51%) of the general public believes that homosexual behavior is morally wrong (38% completely agree and 13% somewhat agree). In 1998, 59% answered yes to a similar question.<sup>3</sup>

### **Acceptance of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals in Professional Roles**

Most of the general public reports being comfortable with openly lesbian, gay and bisexual co-workers and shopping at stores they own. Large numbers would also allow their children to attend a high school class taught by a teacher who was openly lesbian or gay, and slightly fewer, but still a majority, would allow their child to attend an elementary class taught by someone who is lesbian or gay, would see a gay or lesbian doctor, or would vote for a lesbian or gay political candidate. Fewer than half would attend a church or synagogue where the minister is openly gay or lesbian.

- ❖ More than three quarters (78%) of the general public would feel comfortable working with someone who is openly gay or lesbian, and large numbers (87%) would shop at a store owned by someone who is lesbian or gay.
- ❖ The majority would also allow their children to attend a high school (71%) or elementary class (61%) if the teacher were openly gay or lesbian, would see a gay or lesbian doctor (60%), and would vote for a gay or lesbian political candidate (58%).
- ❖ The public is more divided as to whether they would (46%) or would not (49%) attend a church or synagogue where the minister or rabbi is openly gay or lesbian.

### **Attitudes Towards Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals Across Demographic Groups**

Individuals age 65 and older, those with a high school education or less, and those who do not have lesbian and gay co-workers, friends or family members are least likely to have accepting attitudes towards lesbians, gays and bisexuals. Religious affiliation also has a significant effect on attitudes and level of acceptance.

- ❖ Individuals age 65 and older (57%), men (56%) and those with a high school education or less (57%) are more likely to believe that homosexual behavior is morally wrong, compared to those under 30 (44%), women (48%) and those with at least some college education (46%).
- ❖ Those who know someone who is gay (47%) are significantly less likely to believe that homosexuality is morally wrong, compared to those who do not (68%).
- ❖ About three quarters (74%) of Evangelical Christians believe homosexual behavior is morally wrong, compared to 48% of non-Evangelical Christians, 40% of Catholics and 20% of those with no religious affiliation.

- ❖ Nine in ten (88%) of those with no religious affiliation, as well as nearly three quarters (73%) of non-Evangelical Christians and Catholics (72%), believe that homosexuality is a normal part of some people's sexuality. Evangelicals are divided on this question, with half (50%) agreeing and 44% disagreeing.
- ❖ More than two thirds (68%) of those with no religious affiliation and the majority of Catholics (57%) and non-Evangelical Christians (56%) believe sexual orientation cannot be changed, while 58% of Evangelical Christians believe it can be changed.
- ❖ About six in ten non-Evangelical Christians (60%), Catholics (59%) and those with no religious affiliation (63%) think lesbian, gay and bisexual couples could be just as good parents as heterosexual couples. Evangelical Christians are divided, with 47% agreeing and 47% disagreeing.

### **Views on Prejudice, Discrimination and Violence Against Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals**

The majority of the general public says that gays, lesbians and bisexuals experience “a lot” of prejudice and discrimination, and many believe there is more violence towards gays and lesbians today compared to a few years ago. Many also think the government is not doing enough to protect lesbians, gays and bisexuals from prejudice and discrimination.

- ❖ More than three quarters (78%) of the general public say gay men and lesbians experience prejudice and discrimination today -- 57% say they experience “a lot” and 21% say “some.” The same proportion (78%) says African Americans experience discrimination.
- ❖ Large majorities of the public think gays and lesbians experience discrimination “often” or “sometimes” in joining or serving in the U.S. military (85%), finding or keeping a job (76%) or renting an apartment or buying a house (63%). Fewer, but still a majority, think gays and lesbians experience discrimination when obtaining health care or health insurance (54%).
- ❖ About four in ten (39%) think there is more violence toward gays and lesbians in this country today compared to a few years ago. Slightly fewer think the level of violence is unchanged (35%), and 22% believe there is less violence today. A similar proportion of lesbians, gays and bisexuals (41%) believe there is more violence today.
- ❖ Two in five (40%) believe the government is not doing enough to protect gay men and lesbians from prejudice and discrimination. Nearly one quarter (24%) believe the government is doing too much, and 29% believe it is doing the right amount. Nine out of ten (90%) lesbians, gays and bisexuals say the government is doing too little to protect them from discrimination.
- ❖ Somewhat larger proportions of the public believe the government is not doing enough to protect other groups from discrimination, including Latinos (46%), women (44%), African Americans (43%) and the disabled (56%).

## **PART III:**

# **THE GENERAL PUBLIC’S VIEWS OF KEY POLICY ISSUES RELATED TO SEXUAL ORIENTATION**

The issue of sexual orientation has emerged as an important policy issue. The majority of the public supports various laws to protect lesbians, gays and bisexuals from discrimination, and to extend benefits to domestic partners. In fact, the general public expresses the highest levels of support for those issues also ranked by gays and lesbians as their top five priorities: health insurance and employee benefits for domestic partners; inheritance rights for domestic partners; anti-discrimination protections in employment; social security benefits for domestic partners; and housing-related anti-discrimination protections.

The greatest divergence between the views of the general public and those of lesbians, gays and bisexuals is in the area of family policy. Fewer than half of the public supports adoption rights or the legal sanctioning of gay and lesbian unions or partnerships. Even fewer support legalizing gay and lesbian marriage. As with other issues related to acceptance, levels of support for each of these policy measures vary by such factors as age, gender and religious affiliation.

### **Views on Anti-Discrimination Measures and Partner Benefits**

Majorities of the public believe that various laws should be passed to protect lesbians, gays and bisexuals from discrimination in a number of areas. The broadest support is for anti-discrimination legislation in the areas of employment and housing, and for inheritance rights and employee benefits, including health insurance, for domestic partners.

- ❖ A substantial majority of the general public supports laws to protect gays and lesbians from prejudice and discrimination in employment (76%) and housing (74%). Most also support providing benefits to lesbian and gay partners, including inheritance rights (73%), employer-provided health insurance (70%) and social security benefits (68%).
- ❖ Nearly three quarters (73%) of the general public favors federal legislation that would mandate increased penalties for people who commit so-called “hate crimes” based on prejudice toward gays and lesbians.
- ❖ More than half (56%) of the general public supports allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military.

### **Attitudes Towards Family Policy Issues**

In contrast to strong public support for many anti-discrimination measures, the public holds more mixed views on a variety of family policy issues. For example, while a majority of the public opposes legally sanctioned marriages for gays and lesbians, the public is closely divided over legally sanctioned gay and lesbian unions or partnerships and adoption rights for gay and lesbian

couples. A review of past public opinion surveys indicates that support for some of these policies has increased over time.

- ❖ Over half (55%) of the general public opposes legally sanctioned gay and lesbian marriages while four in ten (39%) support the policy. However, support for gay marriage has grown from 33% in 1998 and 27% in 1992. (Yankelovich, '92<sup>4</sup>; PSRA, '98<sup>5</sup>)
- ❖ Compared to the issue of marriage, significantly fewer (42%) are opposed to legally sanctioned gay and lesbian unions or partnerships. In fact, more support (47%) than oppose such policies.
- ❖ Less than half (46%) of the general public supports adoption rights for gay and lesbian couples; approximately the same proportion (47%) opposes this policy. In 1994, less than three in ten (29%) supported adoption rights for gay and lesbian couples. (PSRA/Newsweek, '94<sup>6</sup>) By 1998, support had grown to 36%. (PSRA, '98<sup>7</sup>)
- ❖ The public's mixed views on gay and lesbian parenting are further reflected in the fact that more than half (56%) says they believe gay and lesbian couples can be just as good parents as heterosexual couples; 39% disagree with this statement.
- ❖ While 16 states currently place some type of restriction on private sexual behavior, a substantial majority (88%) of the public believes that society should not put any restrictions on sex between consenting adults in the privacy of their own home.<sup>8</sup>

### **Support for Policy Issues Across Demographic Groups**

Overall levels of support for policies related to sexual orientation can mask important differences in the views of various demographic groups. A more detailed analysis demonstrates that levels of support vary by age, gender and religious affiliation, with women and younger adults expressing generally high levels of support for most policy issues, and Evangelical Christians voicing greater opposition compared with non-Evangelical Christians, Catholics and those with no religious affiliation.

- ❖ Younger adults (age 18-29) and seniors (age 65 and older) hold very divergent views on many policy issues. For example, the majority of 18- to 29-year-olds support gay and lesbian unions, marriage and adoptions (68%, 60% and 55%, respectively), while those 65 and older support such policies by much smaller margins (27%, 25% and 25%, respectively).
- ❖ Despite differences by age in most areas, both younger adults (68%) and seniors (61%) support teaching about sexual orientation in high school sex education classes. Majorities of each group also support most anti-discrimination policies, though the levels of support often vary by 25 points or more.

- ❖ In general, women voice more support for anti-discrimination policies than men. The largest gender gap exists on the issue of gays and lesbians serving in the military, which is supported by 64% of women and 46% of men.
- ❖ However, men and women express similar levels of support on a few key policies, including gay and lesbian marriage (40% and 38%, respectively) and legally sanctioned unions or partnerships (45% and 49%, respectively).
- ❖ The majority of Evangelical Christians, non-Evangelical Christians and Catholics support laws to protect gays and lesbians against discrimination in many areas, including: employment (69%, 78% and 77%, respectively); housing (65%, 76% and 75%); health insurance (61%, 77% and 70%); and social security benefits (58%, 71% and 72%).
- ❖ Opposition to legally sanctioned gay and lesbian marriages also varies by religious affiliation: 75% of Evangelical Christians, 52% of non-Evangelical Christians and half (50%) of Catholics oppose gay and lesbian marriage.
- ❖ About six in ten non-Evangelical Christians (60%), Catholics (59%), and those with no religious affiliation (63%) think lesbian, gay and bisexual couples could be just as good parents as heterosexual couples. Evangelical Christians are divided: 47% agree and 47% disagree.

### **Variations in Policy Views By Level of Acceptance of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals**

To better understand the general public's views of these policy issues, survey respondents were divided into four groups of approximately equal size based on their answers to a sampling of attitude and opinion questions. Together, these four groups comprise an "acceptance scale" that ranges from "very" to "not at all" accepting of lesbians, gays and bisexuals. As expected, those who are considered most accepting are also most likely to support various anti-discrimination and gay rights policies. More surprising is the substantial amount of support for certain policies among those who are least accepting of lesbians, gays and bisexuals.

- ❖ Over half (51%) of the "not at all" accepting group believes there should be laws to protect gays and lesbians from discrimination in employment, and 46% of this group support laws to protect gays and lesbians from prejudice and discrimination in housing.
- ❖ Just under half (47%) of the "not at all" accepting group believes there should be inheritance rights for gay and lesbian domestic partners. Fewer (35%) support social security benefits for gay and lesbian domestic partners.
- ❖ One quarter (24%) of this group supports gays and lesbians serving openly in the military. Fewer than one in ten support the legal sanctioning of domestic partnerships (8%), adoption rights (8%) or gay and lesbian marriages (5%).

## **Conclusion**

A national survey of lesbians, gays and bisexuals finds that a large majority believes that there is more acceptance today compared to a few years ago, and most are “out” to friends, family members and co-workers. However, significant numbers report that they have experienced prejudice and discrimination -- including verbal abuse and physical violence -- based on sexual orientation, and one third says that their family or a family member has refused to accept them because of their sexual orientation.

A companion survey of the general public finds generally high levels of acceptance of lesbians, gays and bisexuals in many professional roles. However, such acceptance varies considerably across such demographics as age, gender and religious affiliation. A large majority of the general public now knows someone who is lesbian, gay or bisexual, and most believe that lesbians, gays and bisexuals experience “a lot” of discrimination. Still, a sizeable proportion of the general public believes homosexual behavior is morally wrong.

There is significant public support for many, though not all, policy issues identified as important by lesbians, gays and bisexuals, though as with acceptance, support varies across demographic groups. The highest levels of support among the general public is for anti-discrimination measures. Significantly fewer support key family policies, though support has increased over time. And perhaps portending further change in the future, the majority of young adults age 18 to 29 currently support such measures.

Overall, these surveys paint a picture of a public that is divided on the question of whether or not homosexuality is morally wrong and some of the policy issues this question raises. At the same time, the public is increasingly accepting of gays and lesbians and supports anti-discrimination measures and expanded rights and benefits for domestic partners.

## **Survey Methodology**

The Kaiser Family Foundation *Inside-OUT: A Report on the Experiences of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals in America and the Public's Views on Issues and Policies Related to Sexual Orientation* was designed and analyzed by researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation. Dr. Randall Sell of Columbia University served as an academic consultant on the design of the survey. Fieldwork was conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates from February 7 through September 4, 2000. The study had two components, the General Public (GP) Survey and the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual (LGB) Survey. The GP results of this project are based on a telephone survey among a randomly selected nationally representative sample of 2,283 adults 18 years or older living in continental United States. Interviews were completed in both English and Spanish, according to the preference of the respondent. The margin of sampling error for the GP survey is +/- 3.5 percentage points. For results based on subsets of respondents the margin of sampling error is higher. Note that in addition to sampling error there are other possible sources of measurement error.

Estimates of the number of men and women in the United States that identify as lesbian, gay or bisexual vary considerably, and drawing a scientific random sample of a group that is a relatively

small percentage of the U.S. population without knowledge of its absolute size or geographic distribution poses numerous challenges. In an attempt to have a representative, random sample of opinions, we assembled a random sample of telephone households geographically limited to 15 major U.S. metropolitan areas. All sampled households were asked a series of questions inventorying household member characteristics, including whether there was any adult “who is gay, lesbian, bisexual.” The LGB survey results are based on 405 telephone interviews among these randomly selected, self-identified gay, lesbian and bisexual adults 18 years or older. The margin of sampling error for the LGB survey is +/- 5.9 percentage points.

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## **Endnotes**

<sup>1</sup> Gallup, July 20-July 21, 1983, sponsored by Newsweek, data provided by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.

<sup>2</sup> Princeton Survey Research Associates, July 30-July 31, 1998, sponsored by Newsweek, data provided by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.

<sup>3</sup> Gallup, June 22-June 23, 1998, sponsored by CNN and USA Today, data provided by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.

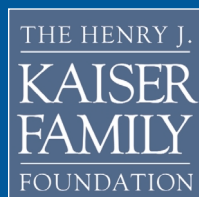
<sup>4</sup> Yankelovich Clancy Shulman Poll, August 19-August 20, 1992, sponsored by Time and CNN, data provided by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.

<sup>5</sup> Princeton Survey Research Associates, July 30-July 31, 1998, sponsored by Newsweek, data provided by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.

<sup>6</sup> Princeton Survey Research Associates, February 3-February 4, 1994, sponsored by Newsweek, data provided by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.

<sup>7</sup> Princeton Survey Research Associates, July 30-July 31, 1998, sponsored by Newsweek, data provided by the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut.

<sup>8</sup> National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Issue Map: The Right to Privacy in the U.S., July 2001. (<http://www.nglftf.org/downloads/sodomymap0701.pdf>)



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