Pressure to Conform: The Impact of Peer Victimization on the Mental Health of LGBTQ+ Youth
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Introduction

- Society to some = black and white
- Society in reality = intersectional
- Not going along with predetermined ideas → discrimination

Objectives

- Determine extent of bullying towards school-age LGBTQ+ individuals
- Learn about the mental health ramifications of poor treatment

Method

- 30 topic-related sources (books + peer-reviewed articles)
- Each source was thoroughly analyzed

Results

- Boys are 4x more likely to experience discrimination than girls (Collier, Bos, & Sandfort, 2013).
- LGBTQ+ students experience more discrimination than heterosexual students (Espelage, et al., 2008).
- Mental illnesses (e.g., depression) are common among those discriminated against (Almeida, et al., 2009).
- LGBTQ+ people of color experience more discrimination than white people (Sears, 2005).
- Working class LGBTQ+ people face discrimination 3x more often than upper class people (Lombardi, et al., 2001).
- LGBTQ+ people from older generations report growing up with insufficient support/resources that are typically available to today’s LGBTQ+ youth (Rankin & Beemyn, 2012).

Significance

- LGBTQ+ people being more accepted in today’s society ≠ there is no discrimination.
- Awareness of existing problems → solutions; less problems → less instances of negative mental illness symptoms in LGBTQ+ people
- More research into experiences of LGBTQ+ people of color, of working class, and of older generations → solutions for their unique problems

References