Suggested Reference


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https://researchspace.auckland.ac.nz/docs/uoa-docs/rights.htm
My turn to decide: The trans communities of Aotearoa/New Zealand
The Transgender Tipping Point
America's next civil rights frontier
by Katy Steinmetz
Research aims

- How do transgender communities interact with each other
- What are transgender people’s experiences of social institutions within Aotearoa/New Zealand
- The role of community in identity formation among trans people.
- Telling the stories of trans and intersex people.
Signs and Portents

Employment
- 37% of trans people face economic discrimination
- 63% of experience a serious form of discrimination
- 44% are under-employed, 14% are unemployed, while 16% of respondents engage in the underground employment and 11% work as sex workers

(Grant et al 2011)

Healthcare
- 31.46% experiencing gender insensitivity (making the patient wear gown associated with the opposite sex);
- 28.67% experiencing displays of discomfort (medical professionals unwilling to be around the trans patient);
- 20.97% experiencing denial of services

(Kosenko et al 2013)
Signs and Portents

Education
- U.S. trans school children experience significant harassment (78%), physical assault (35%) and sexual violence (12%), moreover 31% report being harassed by teachers. (Grant et al 2011, 33)
- 47% report having a degree or a graduate degree compared to 27% of the U.S. population (Grant et al 2011)
- 36% and 37% of Australian trans men and trans women have a university education (Leonard et al 2015)

Police and Justice System
- 7% of overall participants reported being arrested because they were trans, rising to 41% of black respondents and 21% of Latino/a respondents respectively (Grant et al 2011)
- 15% reporting sexual assault, 16% suffering physical assault, along 12% report being denied healthcare and 17% denied access to hormones (Grant et al 2011)
Signs and Portents

Mental Health

- 55% and 57% of Australian trans men and trans women have been diagnosed with some form of mental illness (Leonard et al 2015)
- Canadian trans people, 27% who had not begun to transition attempted suicide, but drops to 1% for those who have undergone medical transition (Bauer et al 2013)
The long twilight struggle
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trans theory</th>
<th>Queer theory</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• The evil twin of queer theory (Stryker 2004)</td>
<td>• To explore the role of gender and sexuality in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “importance of the physical embodiment of</td>
<td>trans lives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intersecting identities and the understanding</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>of how the narratives of lived experiences</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>integrate the socially constructed, embodied,</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>and self-constructed aspects of identity are</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>essential” (Nagoshi and Brzuzy 2010)</td>
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</table>
### The long twilight struggle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feminist theory</th>
<th>Community</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- an additional critical lens in “the ongoing process of defining” the needs of transpeople (Elliot 2010)</td>
<td>- The construction of communities – not limited physical locations</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Deconstruction of Falling Stars
Both Qualitative and Quantitative research methods

Community-based participatory research (CBPR) to involve the trans community

(1) combine academic and community expertise; (2) enhance the relevance of research questions; and (3) increase trans communities’ power within research project
## Qualitative methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interviews</th>
<th>Focus Groups</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 10 in-depth interviews</td>
<td>• Up to 7 focus groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Participants will drawn from across the trans community.</td>
<td>• Up to 5 participants of the focus groups</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Focus groups will only consist of members of the same group.</td>
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Quantitative methods

Survey

- Online survey consisting of approximately 140 questions
- Questions include:
  - Being a trans or intersex person in New Zealand.
- About the discrimination trans people experience.
- About how trans people interact with social institutions.
Pirkei Avot (Ethics)
Ethics

Researching trans people

- Trans community can be wary of research
- Because I am CSW with a mental health service – trans clients will not be allowed to interviewed and focus groups.

Being a trans woman

- I know significant numbers of trans people
- A number of trans people know me
Harm minimisation

- Research may raise issues for participants
- Access to a counsellor
A Race through dark places
My turn to decide

THE TRANS COMMUNITY OF AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Who We Are

Marnah is a PhD student at the University of Auckland researching aspects of the trans community in Aotearoa New Zealand. The study will meet academic standards and is covered by the ethical protocols set by the University of Auckland.

Research

I'm interested in your experiences with and observations about being a trans or gender diverse or intersex person and your involvement with transgender communities in New Zealand.

I am looking for 10 trans and/or intersex people to interview. Interviews would be face-to-face or by Skype. 1-2 hours long and in the style of an informal conversation.

Focus groups will be a group discussion. People of all sexual preferences, genders, cultural and ethnic identities, and backgrounds are invited to participate. The focus groups will be 1-2 hours with up to 8 participants in each group.

I am looking for 5 trans and/or intersex people to be part of an online survey. People of all sexual preferences, genders, cultural and ethnic identities, and backgrounds are invited to participate.

You must be over 18 years and living in New Zealand. Participation is voluntary, confidential and based on informed consent.
Results so far

- 1 Complaint
- 23 surveys completed
- 5 potential interview subjects found
- 3 potential focus group participants
• Any questions???


