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LGBTQIA+ Disproportionality and System Involvement

Presented by Nathan LaChine

Community Educator, Coordinated Care

Statement of Gratitude

We offer this statement of gratitude for the Indigenous lands that hold important teachings, where language and culture are interwoven to create strength and resiliency for American Indian and Alaska Native youth in care.

As we gather today, we invite in these teachings and while unlearning western ways of being that will help us better serve these youth:

- Land is sacred
- People and environment are all connected
- Time is measured in seasons
- Comfort is in the quality of our relationships

Welcome

1) Facilitator Introductions	7) LGBTQIA+ Mental Health
2) Ground Rules/Guidelines	8) HRC WA Report Card
3) Stressors for LGBTQIA+ Youth	9) Survival vs Thriving Perspectives
4) LGBTQIA+ Youth Outcomes	10) OSPI – Schools and Sports
5) Societal Impacts	11) Criminal Justice Disproportionality
6) LGBTQIA+ Mental Health	12) Q&A and Final Thoughts

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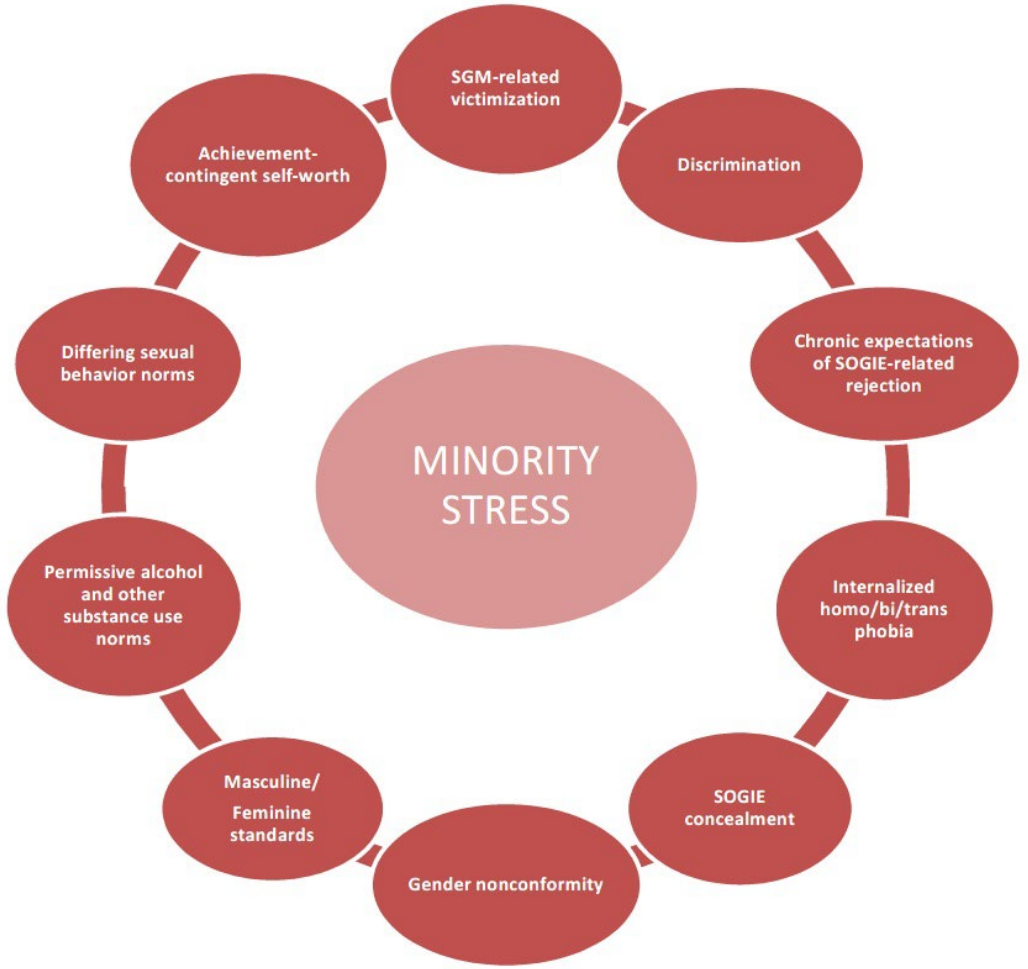
Stressors for LGBTQIA+ Youth

- SGM-related victimization
- Discrimination
- Chronic expectations of SOGIE-related rejection
- Internalized homo/bi/trans phobia
- SOGIE concealment



- Gender nonconformity
- Masculine/ Feminine standards
- Permissive alcohol and other substance use norms
- Differing sexual behavior norms
- Achievement-contingent self-worth

“I see you” can prevent ICU.

Using a youth’s correct name and pronouns, and recognizing their needs, is a form of suicide prevention.

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LGBTQIA+ Youth Outcomes

Research has shown that some children know their sexual orientation as early as 7-9 years old and that most children begin to express gender preferences (for clothes, toys, personal items, etc.) and have a consistent gender identity around ages 2-3

9% of youth in Washington foster care identify as LGBT

4% of those stated their LGBT identity had created problems for them in their placement

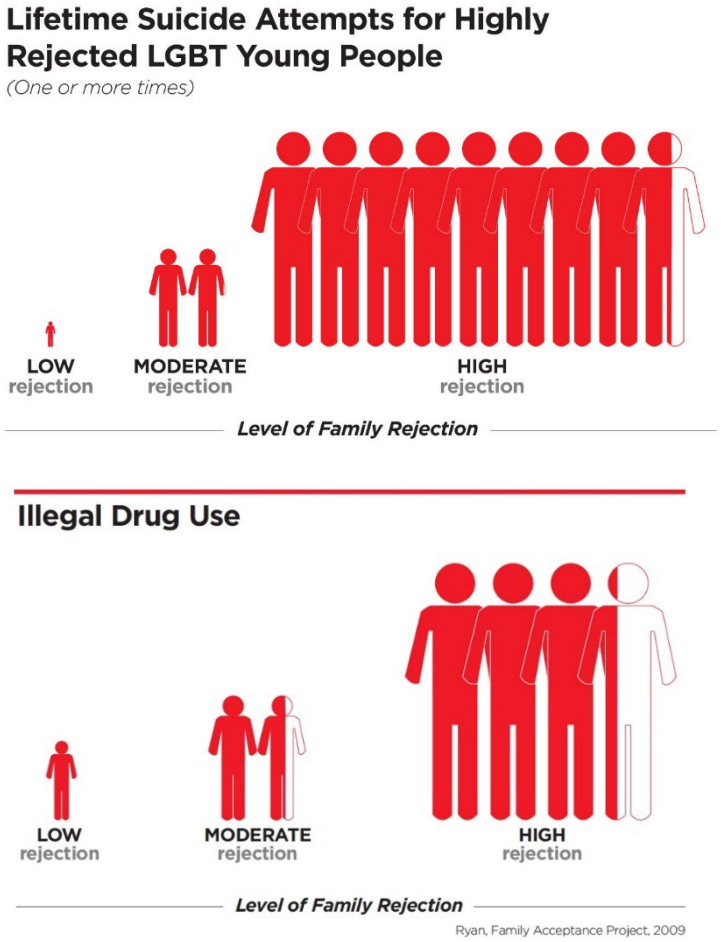
A national survey found that only **25% of LGBTQ youth have families who show support** for them by getting involved in the larger LGBTQ and ally community

LGBTQ youth are 120% more likely to experience homelessness than their heterosexual peers

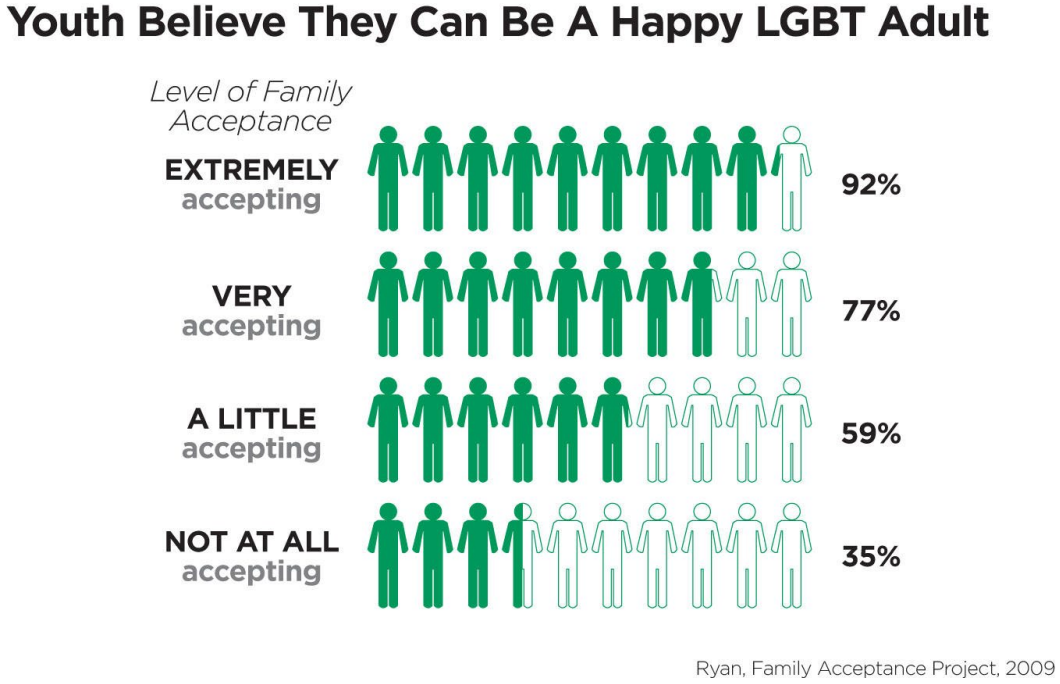
46% of LGBTQ+ youth of color report experiencing physical violence related to their sexual orientation

A national survey found that only 27% of LGBTQ youth can "definitely" be themselves in school as an LGBTQ person, and only **13% report hearing** positive messages about being LGBTQ

LGBTQIA+ Youth – Societal Impacts



Family Acceptance Project



2022 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health

45% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year.

Nearly 1 in 5 transgender and nonbinary youth attempted suicide and LGBTQ youth of color reported higher rates than their white peers.

LGBTQ youth who felt high social support from their family reported attempting suicide at **less than half the rate** of those who felt low or moderate social support.

Fewer than 1 in 3 transgender and nonbinary youth found their home to be gender-affirming.

https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2022/

2022 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health

LGBTQ youth who found their school to be LGBTQ-affirming reported **lower rates of attempting suicide.**

60% of LGBTQ youth who wanted mental health care in the past year were not able to get it.

LGBTQ youth who live in a community that is accepting of LGBTQ people reported **significantly lower rates of attempting suicide** than those who do not.

https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2022/

Human Rights Campaign: Working Toward Equality Index – Washington State 2023

Youth Laws

Pro-Equality Laws

- Anti-Bullying Laws - Enumerated Categories in Law
- Anti-Bullying Laws - Enumerated Model Policy
- Anti-Bullying Laws - Alternative Discipline
- Anti-Bullying Laws - Cyberbullying
- School Suicide Prevention Policies Required
- Protection from Conversion Therapy
- Laws to Address LGBTQ+ Youth Homelessness
- LGBTQ+ Inclusive Sex Education Laws
- LGBTQ+ Inclusive Juvenile Justice Policies

Parenting Laws

Pro-Equality Laws

- Second Parent Adoption
- Surrogacy Laws
- Foster Care Non-Discrimination
- Parental Presumption for Same-Sex C
- Foster Parent Training Required
- Consent to Inseminate
- De Facto Parent Recognition

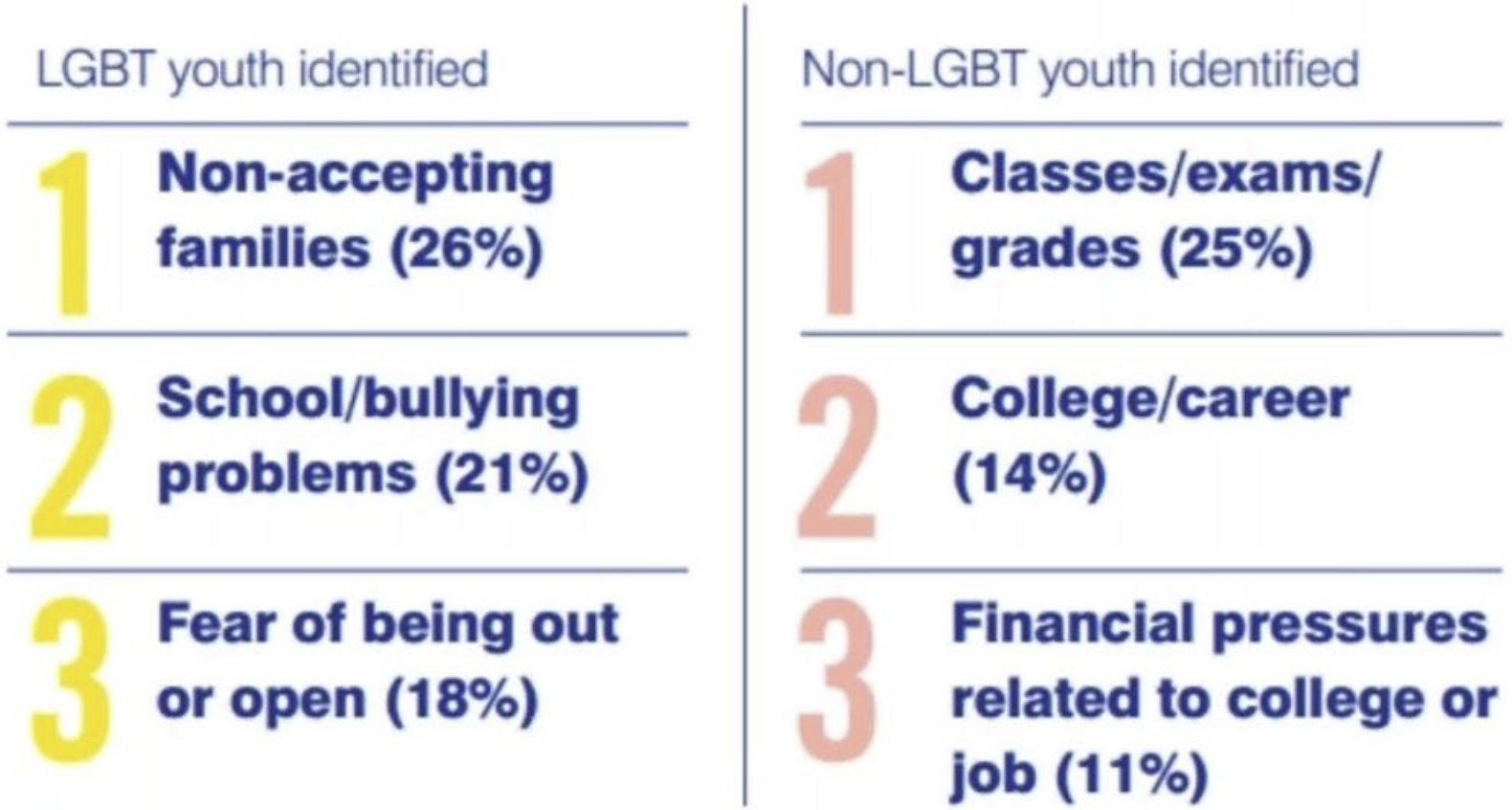
Health & Safety Laws

Pro-Equality Laws

- LGBTQ+ Non-Discrimination Protections in ACA Exchanges
- Ban on Insurance Exclusions for Trans Healthcare
- Transgender Healthcare Inclusion in State Medicaid
- Trans Inclusive Health Benefits for State Employees
- Name and Gender Marker Updates on Driver's Licenses
- Name and Gender Marker Updates on Birth Certificates
- Health Data Collection - BRFSS
- Health Data Collection - YRBSS
- All-Gender Single Occupancy Facilities

https://www.hrc.org/resources/state-scorecards/washington-3

Most Important Problems



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Safe & Nondiscriminatory Environment, Free from Harassment

Washington public schools have a responsibility to provide a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all students, including transgender and gender-expansive students. Bullying or harassment that targets a student based on their gender identity or gender expression is discriminatory harassment. Schools must take steps to protect students from discriminatory harassment and must investigate possible harassment as soon as they know or reasonably should know about it, even if a parent or student does not file a formal complaint.

Names, Pronouns, & Gender Designations

In Washington public schools, students have the right to be addressed by their requested name, pronoun (e.g., he/him, she/her, they/them, etc.), and gender designation.

All school records should use the student's requested name, pronoun, and gender designation unless there is a legal reason not to do so.

https://www.k12.wa.us/policy-funding/equity-and-civil-rights/resources-school-districts-civil-rights-washington-schools/gender-inclusive-schools

Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Dress Codes & Gender Expression

School dress codes should be gender-neutral and should not restrict a student's clothing choices on the basis of gender.

Sex-Segregated Facilities & Activities

Restrooms - Public schools must allow students to use the restroom that corresponds to their gender identity. Any student—transgender or not—who requests greater privacy for any reason should be given access to an alternative restroom, such as a staff restroom or health office restroom, if one is available. However, school staff cannot require a student to use an alternative restroom because of their transgender or gender diverse status.

Locker Rooms - Public schools should provide access to the locker room that corresponds to a student's gender identity. Public schools may provide a separate changing schedule or use of a private area, such as a nearby restroom stall with a door or an area separated by a curtain, to any student-transgender or not-who voluntarily seek additional privacy.

Sports & Physical Education Classes - Public schools must allow all students to participate in physical education and athletics that correspond to their gender identity.

https://www.k12.wa.us/policy-funding/equity-and-civil-rights/resources-school-districts-civil-rights-washington-schools/gender-inclusive-schools

LGBTQIA+ YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

HOW LGBTQIA+ YOUTH SUFFER DIFFERENTLY FROM HOMELESSNESS COMPARED TO CISGENDER YOUTH

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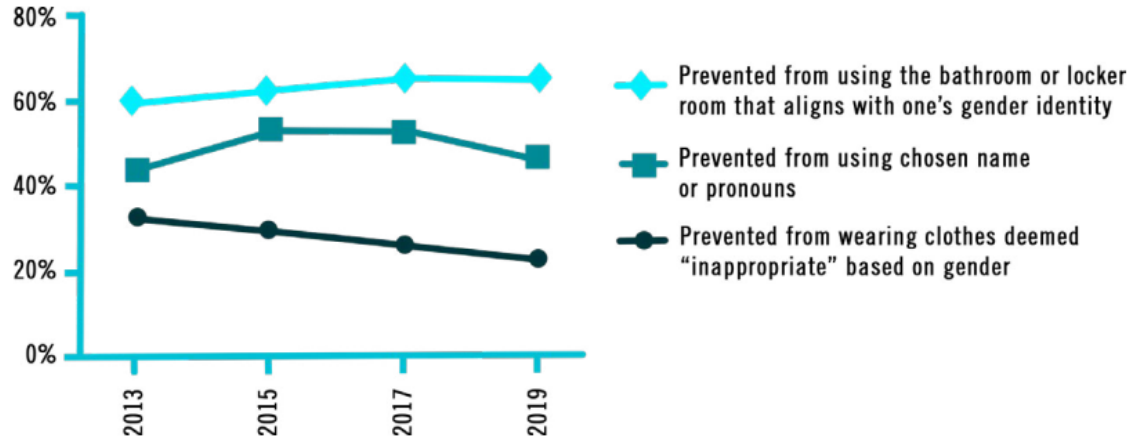
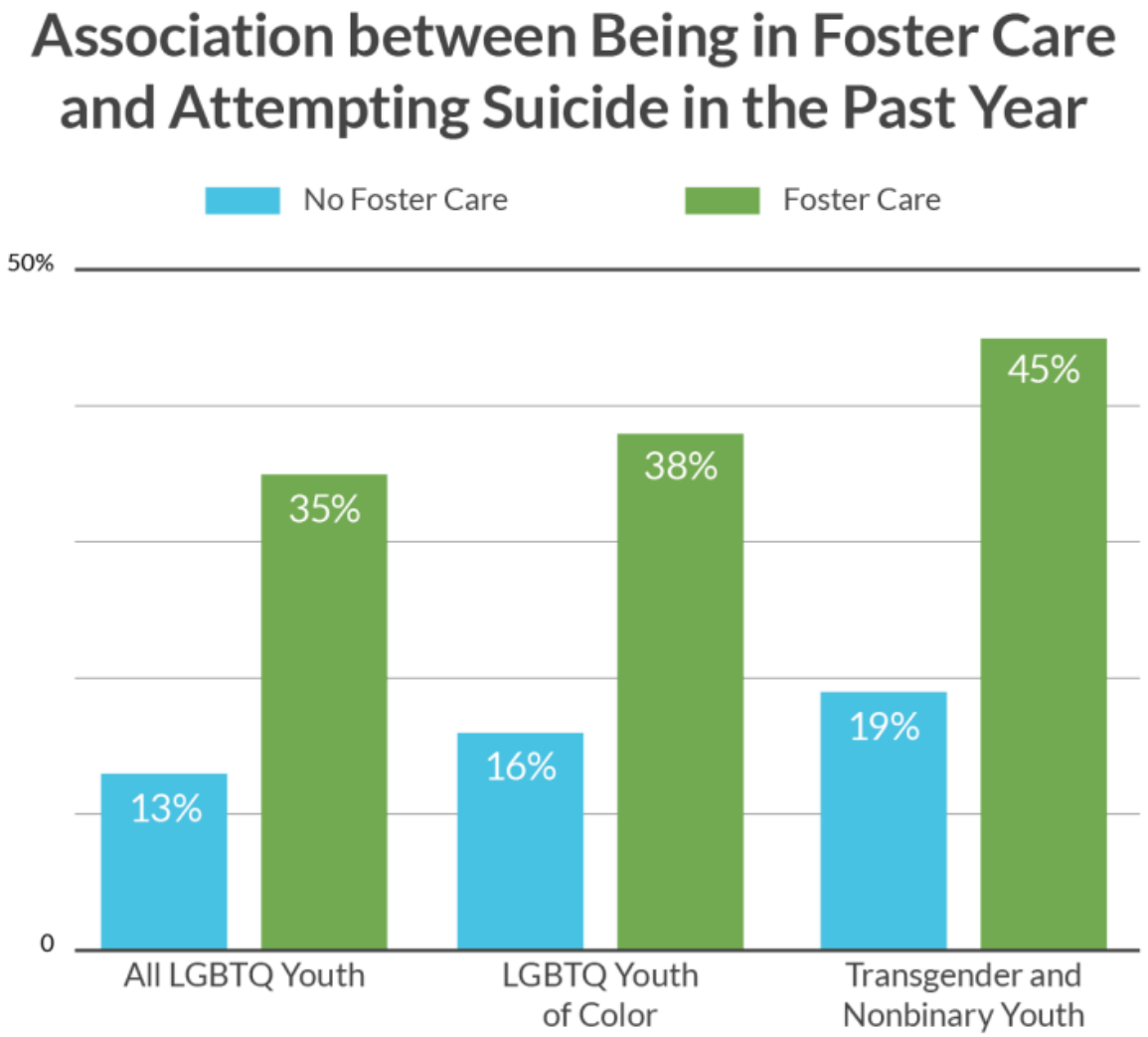


https://www.glsen.org/research/2019-national-school-climate-survey

LGBTQIA+ Youth & Foster Care

Approximately 30% of youth in foster care identify as LGBTQ+, while they only comprise around 9.5% of the general youth population.

LGBTQIA+ youth in the Foster Care are more likely to experience longer length of stays as well as placement instability.



LGBTQIA+ Youth & Education

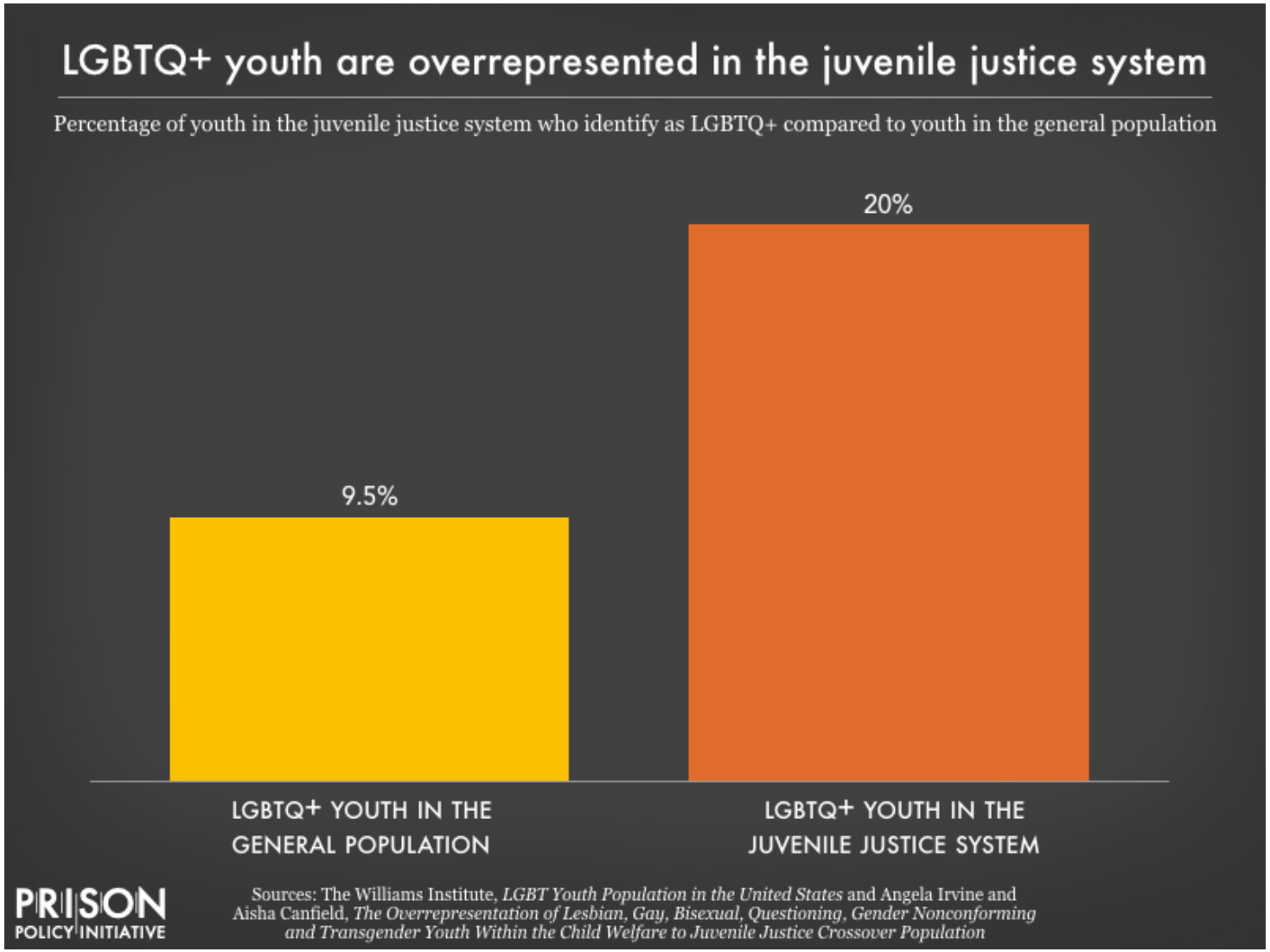
69%
of LGBTQ+ students have experienced Verbal Harassment at school, including homophobic or transphobic remarks.

58%
of LGBTQ+ students have experienced Sexual Harassment at school, including unwanted sexual comments or advances.

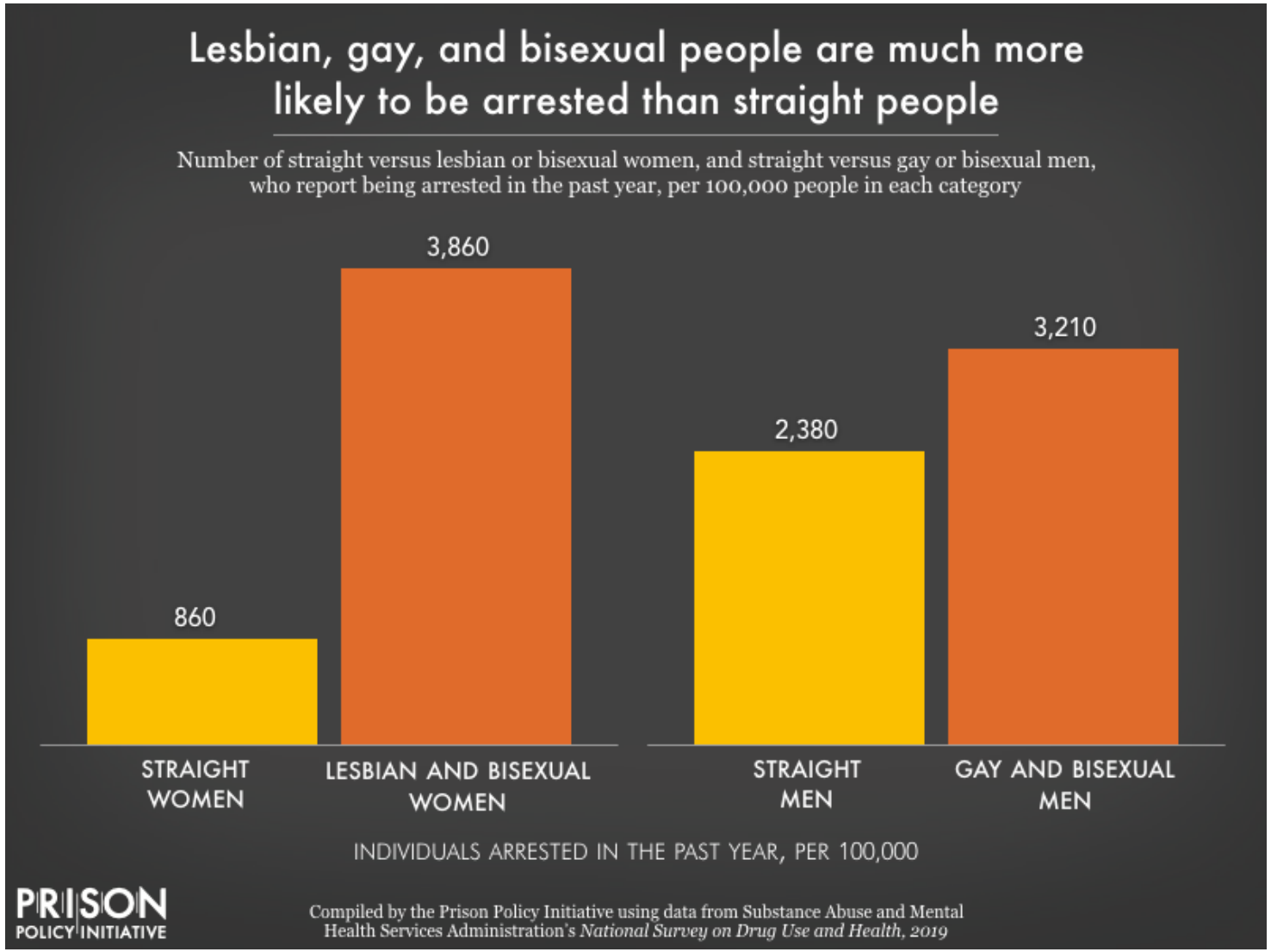
33%
of LGBTQ+ students 13 - 17 report experiencing school discipline while only making up 10% of population

Over 25%
of LGBTQ+ students have been Physically Harassed at school, facing unwanted physical contact or bullying.

11%
of LGBTQ+ students have been Physically Assaulted at school, facing serious physical attacks.



https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2021/03/02/lgbtq/



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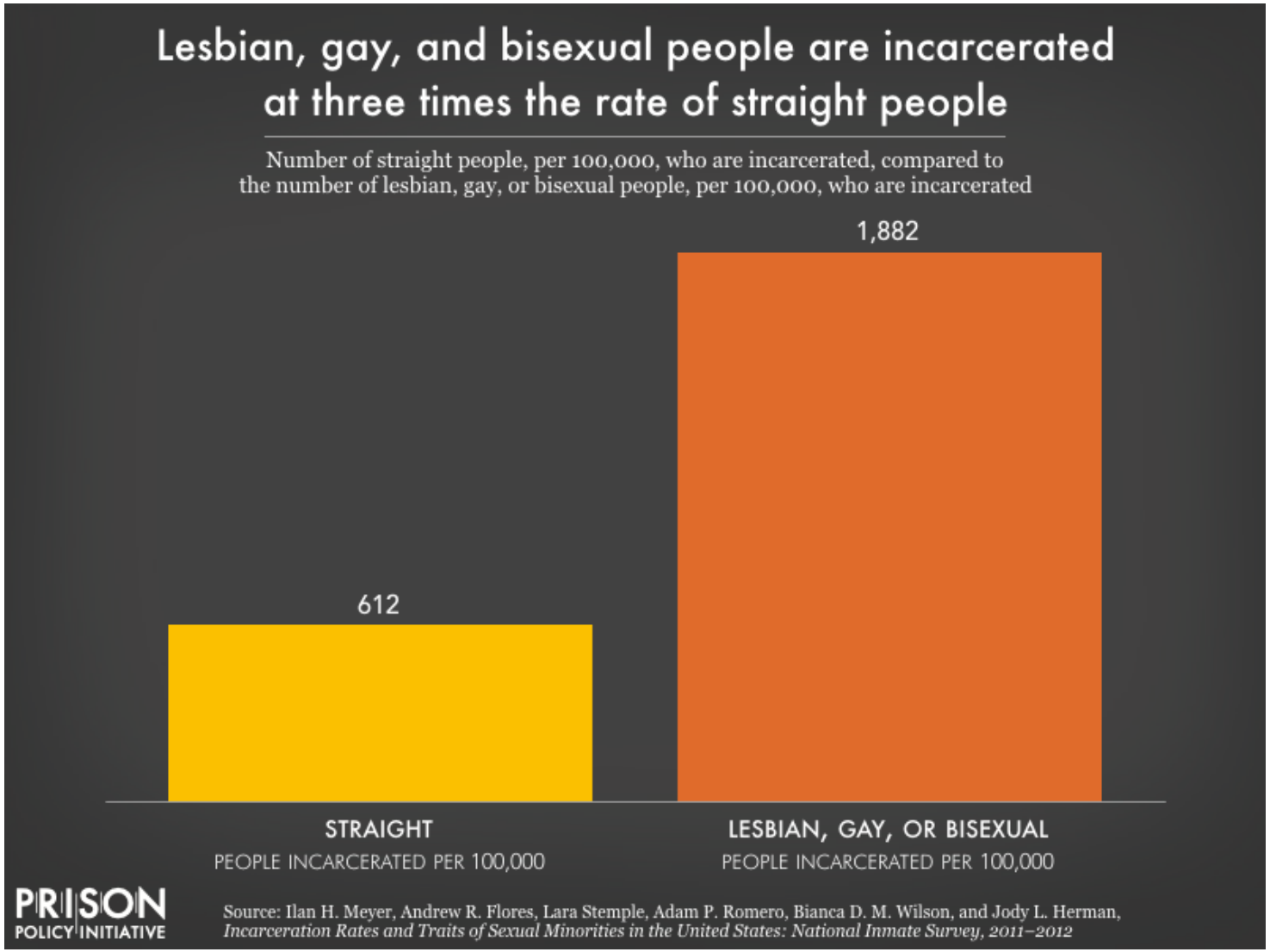

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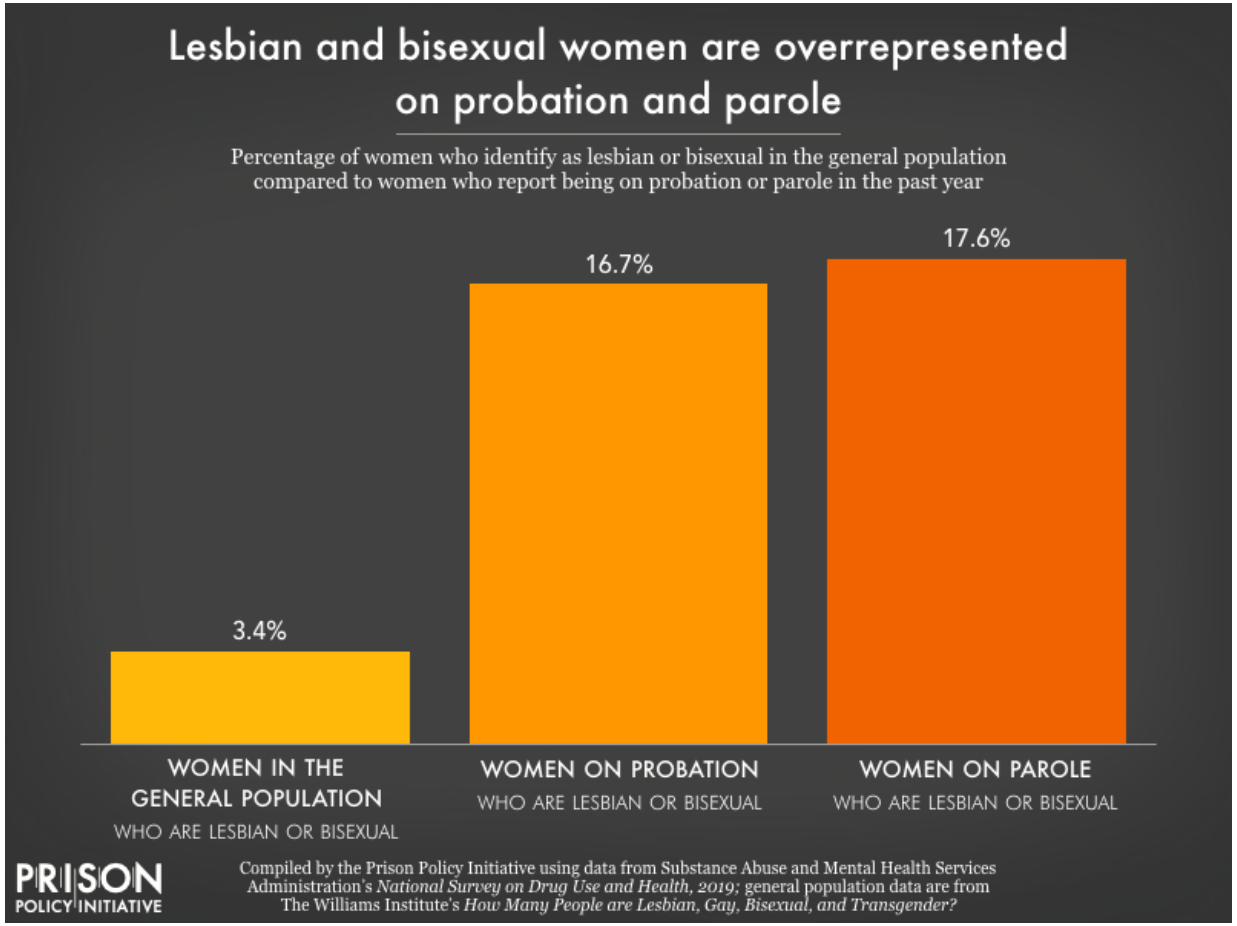

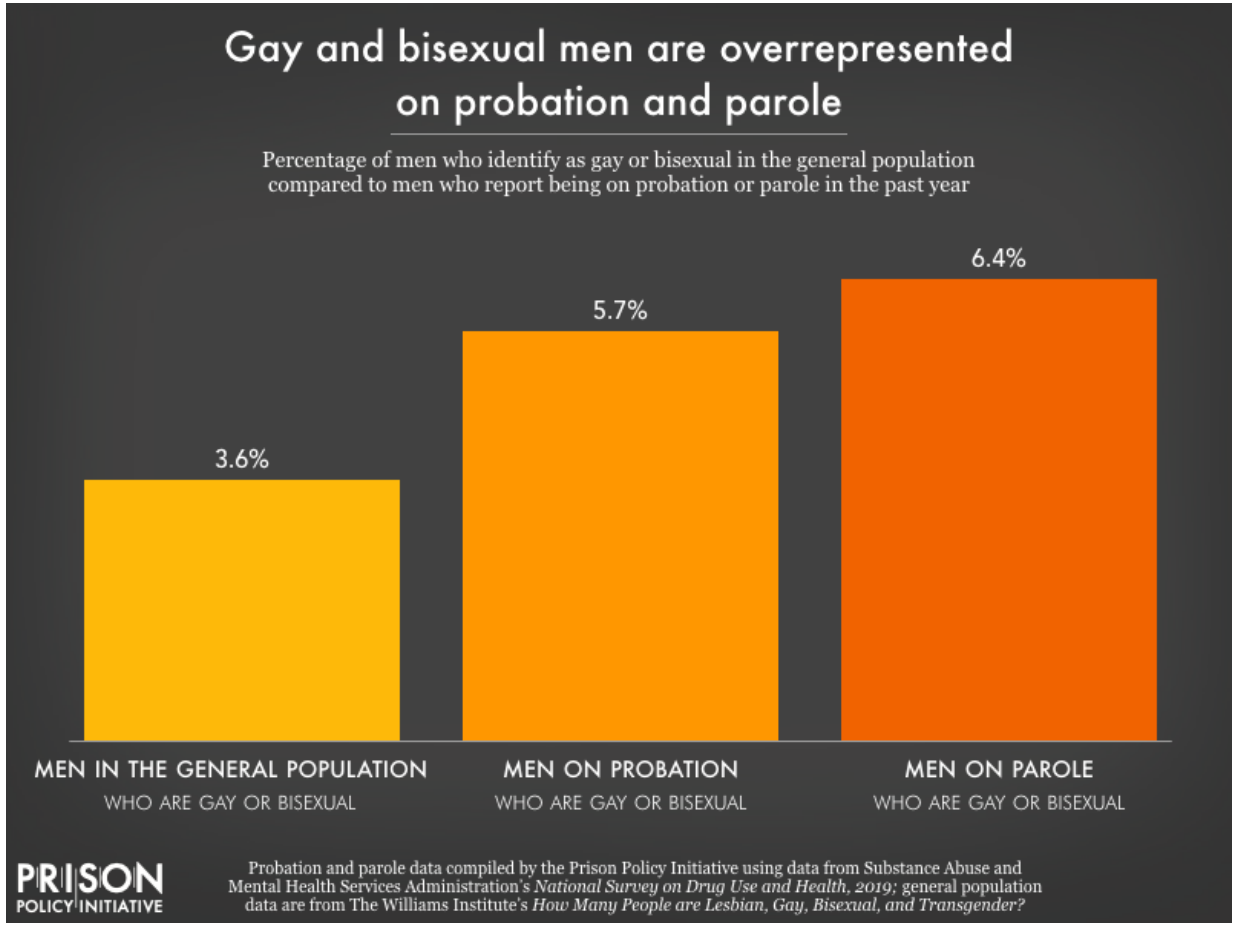

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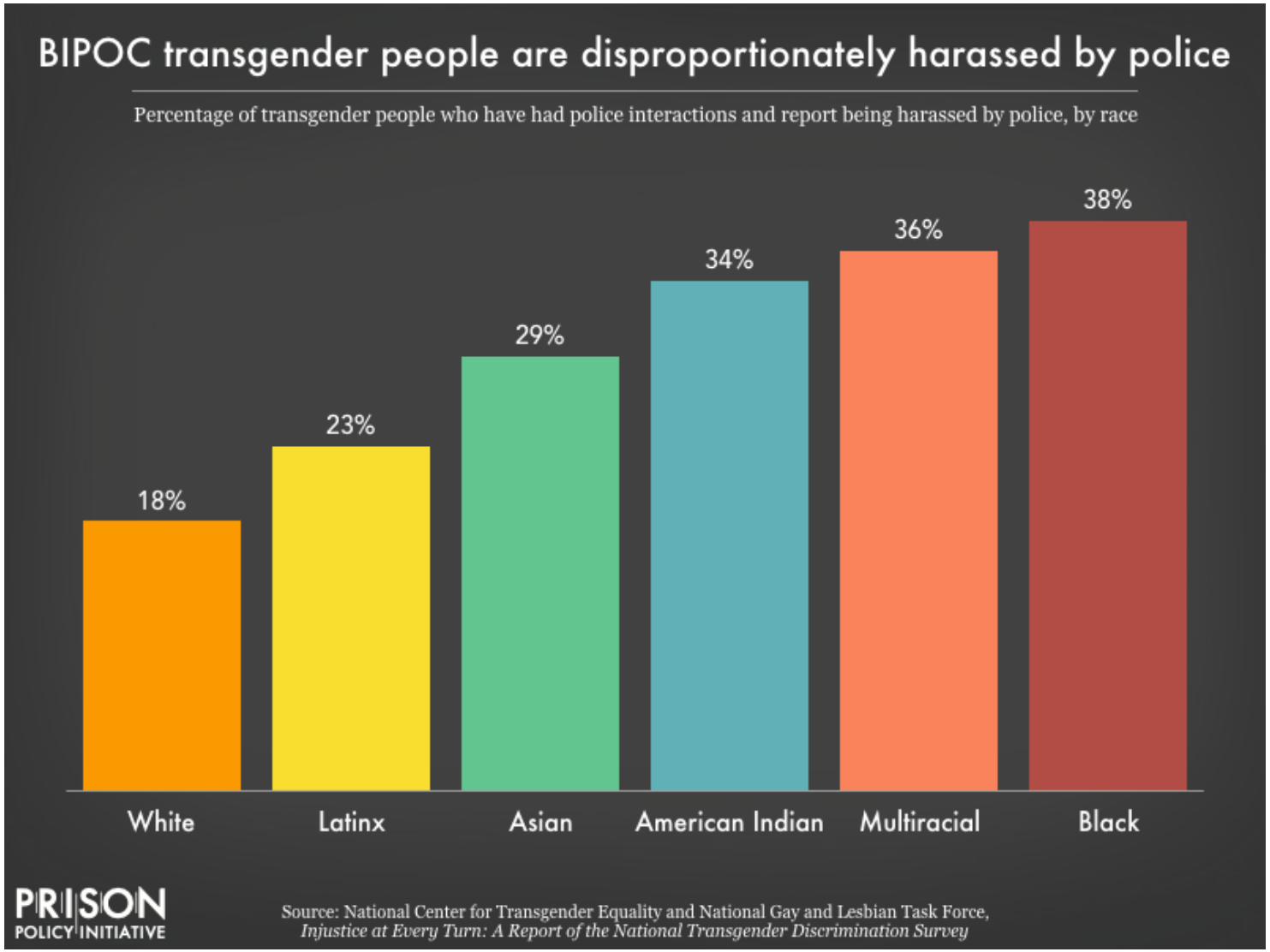

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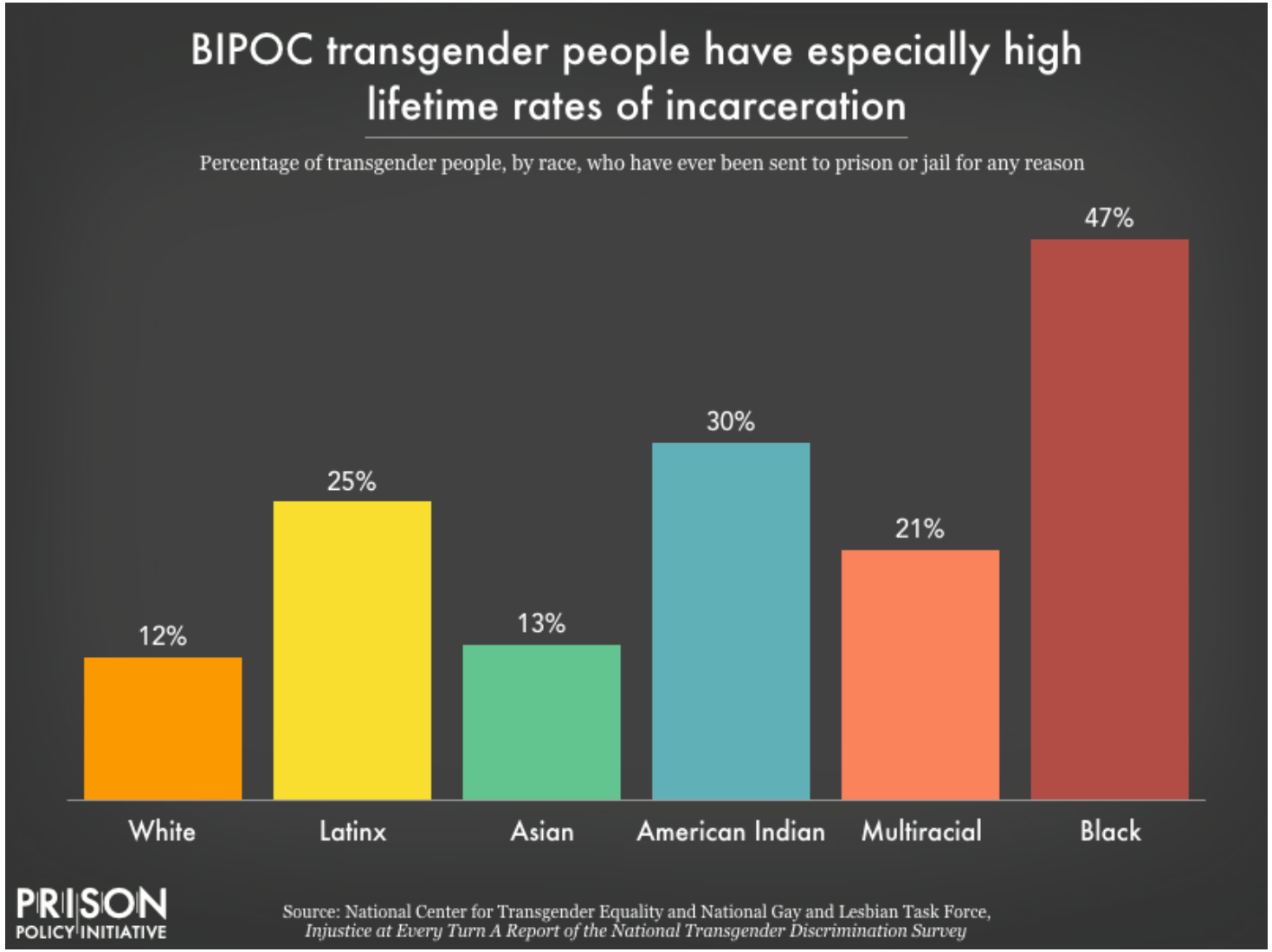

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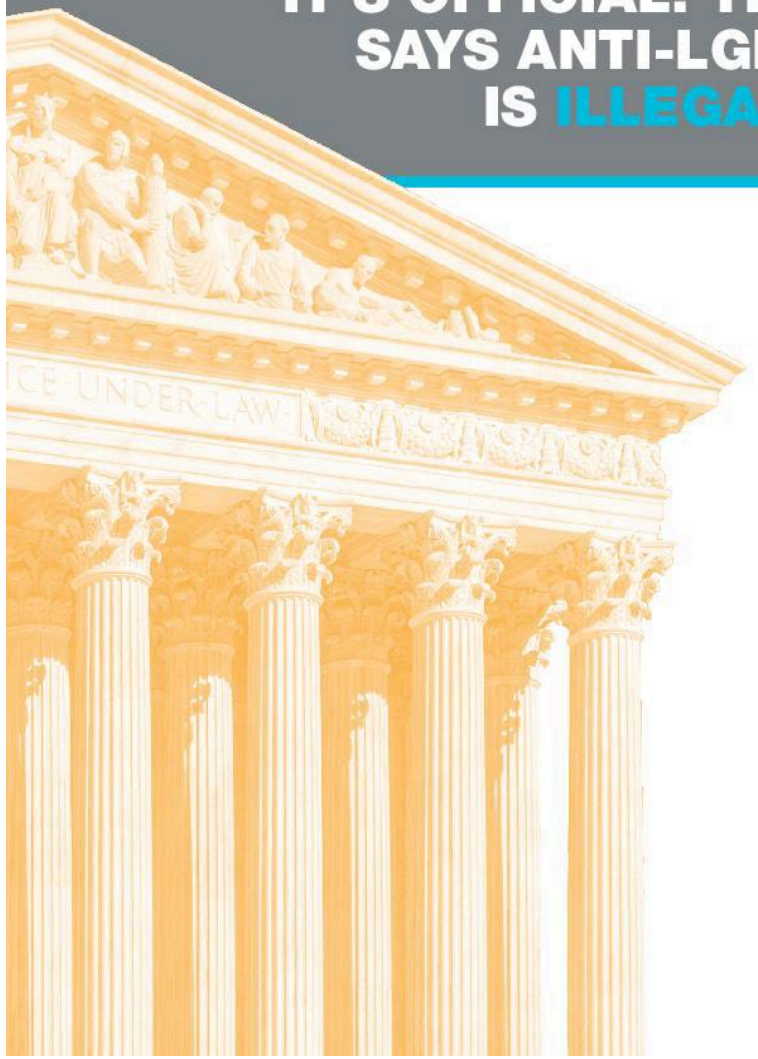
IT'S OFFICIAL: THE US SUPREME COURT SAYS ANTI-LGBTQ+ DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL.



No matter what you may have heard in the past, harassment and discrimination against LGBTQ+ students are against the law. If you go to a public school, they're also against the Constitution. Unfortunately, many LGBTQ+ students still experience them every day. Here's what you need to know.

Stay in Touch!

Nathan LaChine
He/him
Community Educator, Coordinated Care
Nathaniel.LaChine@CordinatedCareHealth.com
(253) 691-0998