

UCLA

School of Law

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August 24, 2021

LGBTQ youth in state systems

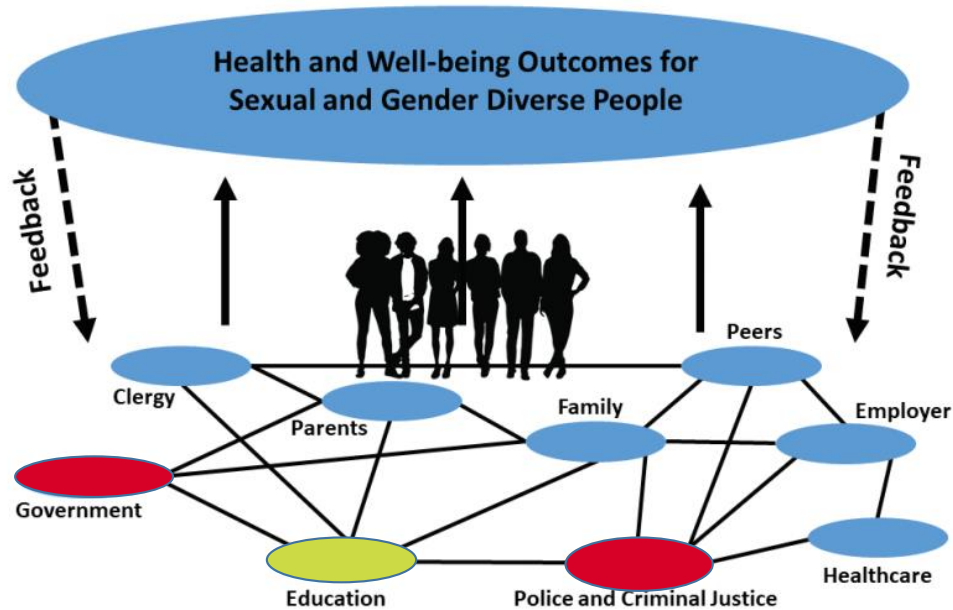
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SYSTEMS FRAMEWORK

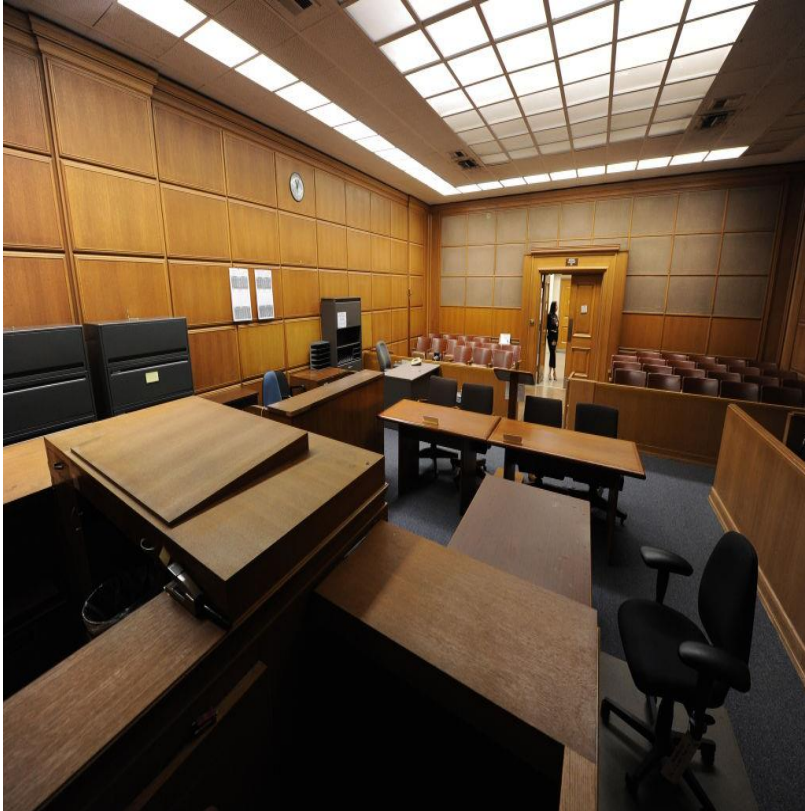
UNDERSTANDING THE WELL-BEING OF LGBTQI+ POPULATIONS



System Sectors and Agents

NASEM, 2020

Foster Care



- 19-32% of foster youth are LGBTQ
 - Majority are girls
 - Majority youth of color
- Moved around more placements
- More likely to live in a group home
- Experienced homelessness at higher rate
- Mental health disparities
- Poor school functioning
- Substance use

(Baams et al., 2019; Matarese et al., 2021; Sandfordt, 2020; Wilson et al 2014)

Juvenile Criminalization and Detention



- 12-20% incarcerated youth in juvenile facilities are LGBTQ
 - 58% of girls
 - 7% of boys
- Kept longer in custody
- Experienced more sexual victimization by peers
- History with foster care system

(Irvine & Canfield, 2016; Wilson et al 2017)

Homelessness



- 22% of youth experiencing homelessness are LGBTQ (Dworsky et al., 2020)
- Experience high rates of
 - service denial
 - violence from breach of confidentiality
 - poor treatment by staff and other recipients of public services (Dank et al 2015)

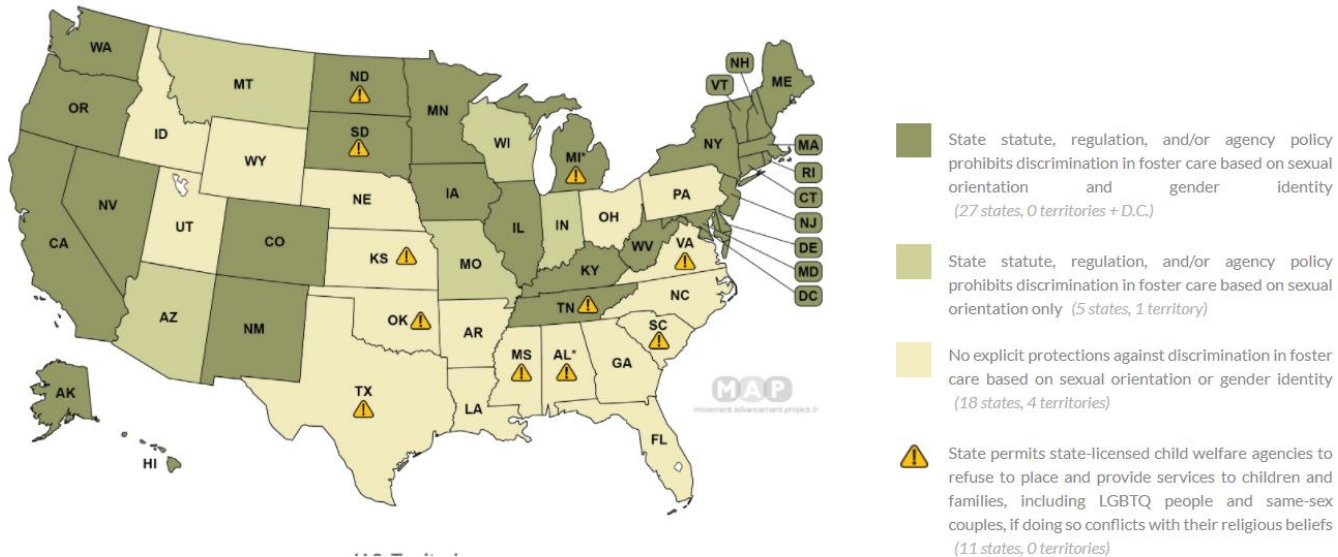
INTERVENTION CONSIDERATIONS BY LEVEL

- **Social work, case management, officer practice**
- **Organizational and structural change in administration**
 - Limitations of one-shot trainings
 - Need for more attention to synergy between ongoing initiatives (e.g., apply ecological framework by JG Kelly)
 - Abolitionist movement as intervention

INTERVENTION CONSIDERATIONS BY LEVEL

- **Policy and law**
 - Focused on non-discrimination protections
 - Important foundations but disparities persist
 - Need for evaluation of existing policies
 - Implementation
 - Impact
 - Data gaps – limits intersectional analysis of root causes

SOGI PROTECTIONS IN FOSTER CARE





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