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Diverting Youth from Criminal Justice Systems with Intersectional Approaches

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What we know about LGBT youth in the juvenile justice system



LGBQ/GNCT youth are over-represented in the juvenile justice system

- 20% percent of youth in the juvenile justice system are LGBQ/GNCT
- 40% of percent of girls in the juvenile justice system identify as LGBQ/GNCT
- 85% percent of LGBQ/GNCT youth in the juvenile justice system are also of color

WHAT IS THE WHOLE YOUTH PROJECT?

- Training
- Policy development
- Data collection and analysis
- Recommendations for improvements
- Ongoing peer-to-peer support

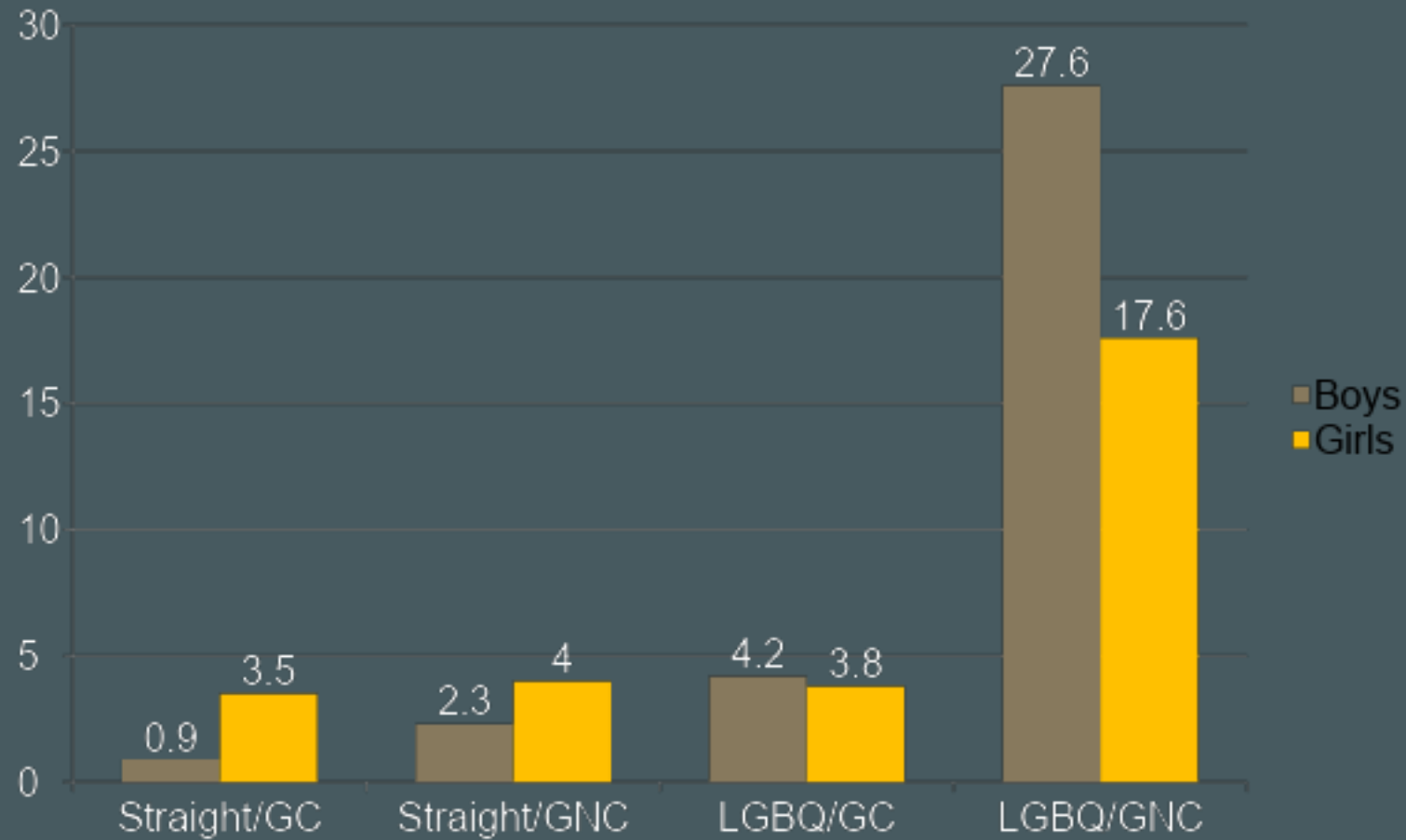


WEAPONS CHARGES

Black and Latinx youth who are masculine--boys who are gender conforming, gender nonconforming girls, or transgender boys--are more likely to receive violent and weapons charges.

Gender nonconforming Black girls and transgender black boys are 3.9x more likely (290%) more likely to be in this group.

CHARGES RELATED TO THE SEX WORK



Irvine, Angela, Shannan Wilber, and Aisha Canfield. 2017. The Overrepresentation of LGBTQ/GNCT Youth in California. Practice guide published by Impact Justice, Oakland, CA and the National Center for Lesbian Rights, San Francisco, CA



RELEVANT REFORMS

Given these findings, we could consider:

- Developing community programs for masculine youth with violent and weapons charges that did not involve serious injury.
- Ensure programming for youth involved in sex work considers their SOGIE and race/ethnicity.
- Build capacity at general youth serving organizations to intentionally serve LGBTQ/GNCT youth of color.