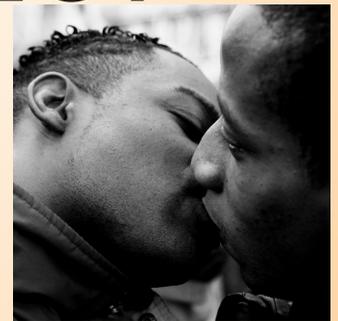
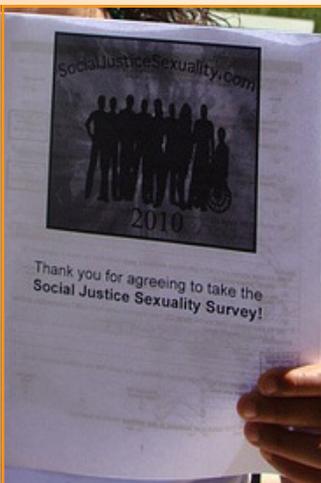


SOCIAL JUSTICE SEXUALITY .com PROJECT



THE  
BLACK  
SAMPLE

# SOCIOPOLITICAL INVOLVEMENT

## Economic Issues are most important to Black LGBTs

When asked to list the “most important” issue facing them today, Black LGBTs most often reported “economic issues,” “equality and marriage/domestic partnership,” and “healthcare.” When asked about the “most important” issue facing LGBT communities of color, Black LGBTs listed “sexual health education and HIV and AIDS,” followed by “discrimination,” and “equality and acceptance.”

### Important Issues Facing Me

Economic Issues



Marriage/ Domestic Partnership



Equality/ Acceptance



“ I completely support and believe in community services that allow young gay people — especially youth, teenagers, and pre-teens — to be in a positive environment where they can be themselves. ”



**BLACK, GAY**  
**HERE TO STAY**  
WE ARE YOUR FAMILY

Compared to other LGBT people of color, **Black LGBTs feel less connected to the LGBT community**

Compared to other LGBT people of color, Black LGBTs are no more likely to feel homophobia is a problem in their neighborhood/community



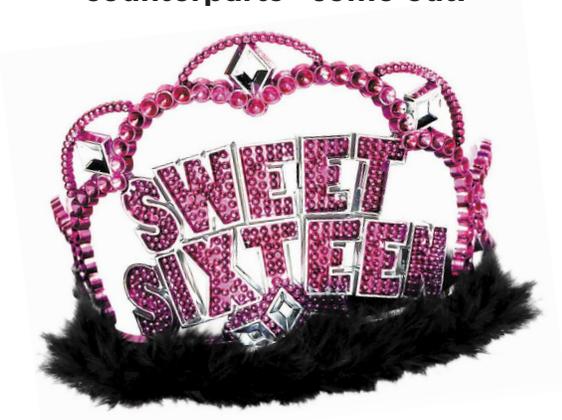
# IDENTITY

Compared to other LGBT people of color, **Black LGBTs** are more likely to feel their racial or ethnic status is an important part of their identity.



Nearly three-quarters of Black LGBTs (73.6%) indicated that their racial or ethnic status was an important part of their identity, and a similar percentage (74.4%) said that their sexual orientation was an important part of their identity.

On average, Black LGBTs “come out” at around age 16, which is also the same age as when their LGBT of color counterparts “come out.”



## Over 90% of Black LGBTs are out to their friends and family

Seven in 10 Black LGBTs (70.4%) report feeling supported by their families to some degree, with 36.9% feeling completely supported. The majority (62.3%) reported being out to most of their family members, and nearly half (43.9%) reported that they were out to all of their family members.



“ I personally don’t see a problem with identifying yourself as something as long as it is your choice. I think if you were to sit there and say I’m a lesbian and an African American or I’m Black or whatever it takes to make you feel like you belong to a group ... because sometimes it is better to be on the inside than on the outside. ”

# SPIRITUALITY & RELIGION

“ I think because I was oppressed because of my religion — that by me fighting against that oppression to be in a place where I was comfortable with myself, I’ve become ultimately more comfortable with my sexuality. ”

- Every Week 8
- 2+ times a month 7
- 1-2 a month 6
- Once a month 5
- Several times a year 4
- 3-4 times a year 3
- 1-2 times a year 2
- Never 1

Black LGBTs **attend religious services more frequently** than do their LGBT of color counterparts

**4.45**

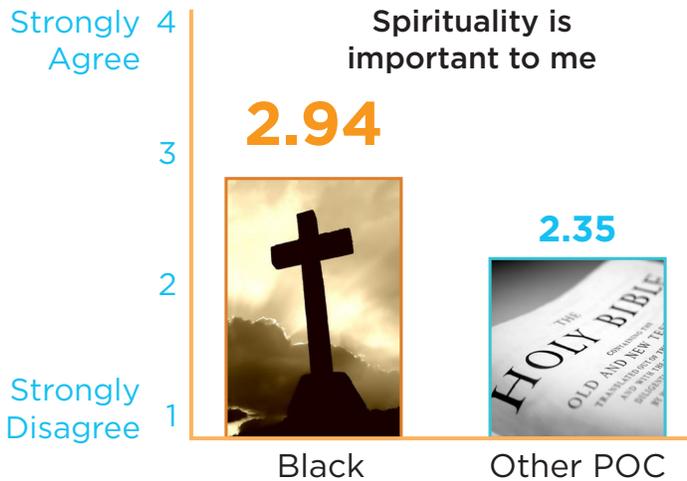


Black

**3.12**



Other POC



Compared to other LGBT people of color, **spirituality and religion are more important to Black LGBTs.**

Among Black LGBTs, **religion is not likely to have any more of a negative or positive influence** than it does for other LGBT people of color counterparts.

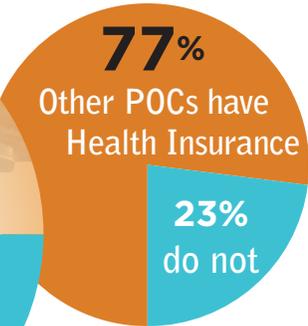
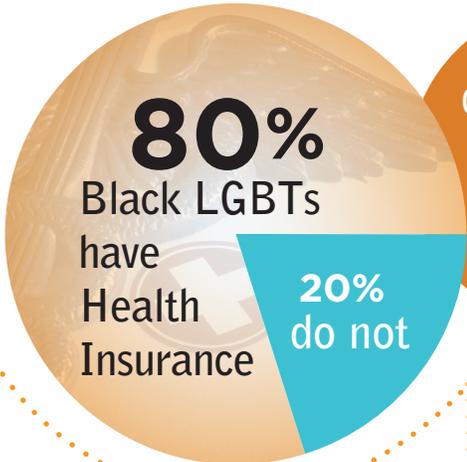


“ I am a member of a church; but it’s a very liberal Methodist church, that’s explicitly embracing of gay, lesbian, and transgender communities. ”

# HEALTH & HEALTH CARE

“ I mean it’s uncomfortable sometimes coming out to a doctor, but it hasn’t been a barrier to doing it.”

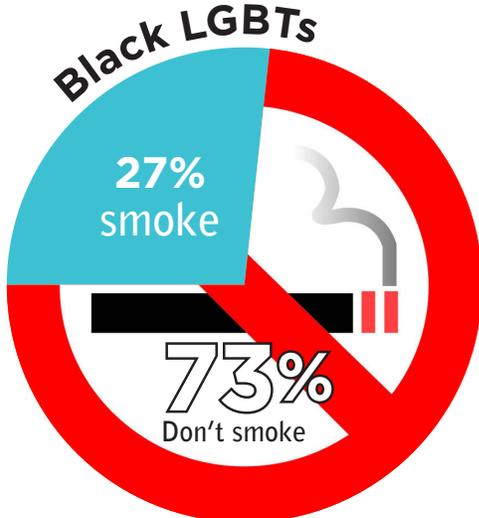
**Black LGBTs’** perception of their general health is better than that of their LGBT of color counterparts.



**Black LGBTs are more likely to have health insurance than are their LGBT of color counterparts.**

Black LGBTs are more likely to **have a regular doctor or health care provider** than are their LGBT of color counterparts.

**Black LGBTs are less likely to smoke than are their LGBT of color counterparts.**

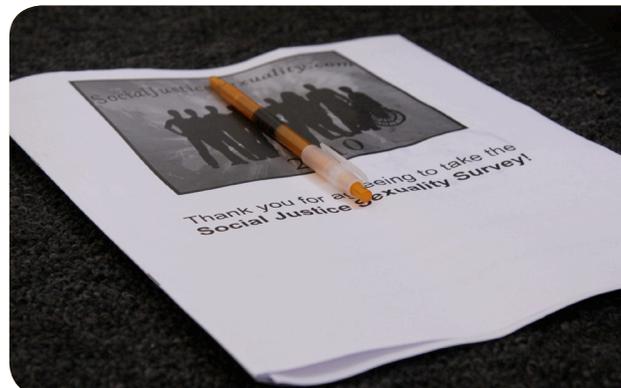


There is no difference between Black LGBTs and their LGBT of color counterparts on their perceived mental health.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE SEXUALITY PROJECT

The Social Justice Sexuality Project is one of the largest ever national surveys of Black, Latina/o, Asian and Pacific Islander, and multiracial lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people. With over 5,000 respondents, the final sample includes people from all 50 states, Washington, DC, and Puerto Rico. This report is based on more than 2,100 Black respondents from all walks of life, including those living in big cities, as well as rural and suburban areas, people from a variety of ages, racial/ethnic identities, sexual orientations, and gender identities.

The goal of the Social Justice Sexuality Project is to expand our understanding of the intersectionality of race, sexuality, and social justice for LGBT people of color. The purpose of the SJS Project is to document and celebrate the experiences of LGBT people of color. All too often when people think about LGBT people of color, they do so through a lens of pathology. In contrast to this perspective, the SJS Project is designed to convey the diversity of experience among LGBT people of color. The SJS survey investigates the sociopolitical experiences of this population around five themes:



Racial and Sexual Identity  
Family Formations and Dynamics  
Spirituality and Religion  
Civic and Community Engagement; and  
Mental and Physical Health.



**Suggested Citation: Juan Battle, Antonio (Jay) Pastrana, Jr., and Jessie Daniels. 2012. Social Justice Sexuality Survey: The Executive Summary for the Black Population. New York, NY.**

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