Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity, Socioeconomic Status, and Health across the Life Course (SOGI-SES)

PAA Webinar – COVID 19 in Longitudinal Studies
Carolyn T Halpern, PhD
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Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity, Socioeconomic Status, and Health across the Life Course

• Co-PI

Kerith Jane Conron, ScD, MPH
Blachford-Cooper Research Director and Distinguished Scholar
Williams Institute
UCLA School of Law
Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity, Socioeconomic Status, and Health across the Life Course

• Health disparities among sexual and gender minorities (SGM) are well-documented

• Overall Goal – Examine socioeconomic factors that may serve as chronic stressors contributing to disparities

• Why SES? – surprisingly understudied
  • Socioeconomic factors are fundamental contributors to health across the life course
  • Inadequate resources are stressors
Hypothesized Pathways Linking Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Gender Expression to Adult SES & Health

- Parent-Child Relationship Quality
- Intergenerational Economic Transfers
- Adult SES
- Stress
- Depressive Symptomology
- Sexual Orientation
- Gender Identity
- Gender Expression
- Discrimination
- Minority Stress Processes
  - Internalized Stigma
  - Concealment
  - Avoidance (Expectations of Rejection)
National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health

Principal Investigators/Directors:

Waves I – III: J. Richard Udry, PhD
Waves IV & V: Kathleen Mullan Harris, PhD
Wave VI: Robert A. Hummer, PhD
Add Health’s Longitudinal Design

**Wave I** 1994-1995 (79%)
- Students 90,118
- School Admin 144
- Adolescents in grades 7-12 20,745
- Parent 17,670

**Wave II** 1996 (88.6%)
- Students 90,118
- School Admin 128
- Adolescents in grades 8-12 14,738

**Wave III** 2001-2002 (77.4%)
- Partners 1,507
- Young Adults Aged 18-26 15,197

**Wave IV** 2008-09 (80.3%)
- IIV Study ~100
- Adults Aged 24-32 15,701

**Wave V** 2016-19 (71.8%)
- SOGI-SES N~4,665
- IIV Study ~100
- Adults Aged 32-42 12,300
- Parent 5,000

Wave V Data released in 2019
Add Health is uniquely suited to address issues related to the health of SGMs

• More than three thousand Respondents who are sexual or gender minorities, or gender non-conforming
  • Not selected into the sample on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression
• Diverse in terms of race/ethnicity, SES indicators
• 20+ years of prospectively collected data
Study Aims

Aim 1. Develop survey module to capture information about SGM developmental processes and deeper SES information.

Aim 2. Conduct an ancillary web survey with all Add Health sexual and gender minorities and a comparison sample of cisgender heterosexuals.
Aim 3. Clean, document, and prepare data for dissemination to Add Health Users

Aim 4. Conduct substantive analyses to understand how socioeconomic stressors contribute to mental health inequities among sexual/gender minorities
**SOGI-SES Sampling Strategy**

**Participated in Wave V (N=12,300) and have Wave I Weights**

n=11,718

Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM): defined as Minority if any of the below are true

- Sexual Identity (mostly het-100% homo) [w3, w4, or w5] (n=2430)
- Any discordant Sex Assigned at Birth and Gender Identity [w5] (n=21)
- Discordant Sex Assigned at Birth and Gender Expression (equally masculine and feminine – completely gender nonconforming) [w5] (n=489)
- Same Sex Partner (ever and/or in past 12 months) [w3, w4, and/or w5] (n=1767)

**Total SGM Included with Certainty N ~ 3165**

**ELSE**

**Heterosexual/Cisgender (Het/Cis) Comparison group (n=1,500)**

**Het/Cis Sample Pool**

N ~ 8553

**Sampled on:**
- Sex assigned at birth (w5)
- Race/ethnicity
- Poverty Level (w5)

**Sampled Het/Cis Comparison Group**

n=1500

**SGM + Het/Cis Total Recruitment N ~ 4665**
Did you or other adult household family members have any of the following experiences because of COVID-19 (coronavirus)? *Check all that apply.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>You</th>
<th>Other Adult Household Family Members</th>
<th>Neither or Not Applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less paid work because an employer reduced your hours, including being put on leave (furloughed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less paid work if self-employed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less paid work because you had to provide care to children, elders, or other dependents</td>
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<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Job loss</td>
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COVID SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

• Were you, a family member or close friend hospitalized because of COVID-19 (coronavirus)?
  • Yes
  • No

• Has a family member or close friend died from complications related to COVID-19 (coronavirus)?
  • Yes
  • No
## Already Included Measures – Assess Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Proposed indicators</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic supports and strains</td>
<td>Intergenerational transfers (cash, education, wedding, home-buying, family formation expenses, loans, co-signing) and other material support (housing)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Personal income</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Family household income, debts, assets</td>
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<td>Employment – R and other HHD adults</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Health insurance and medical expenses</td>
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<td>Reproductive technology and adoption costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>Diagnosed health conditions, self-rated health</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Depression, generalized anxiety disorder, suicide attempts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strains and supports</td>
<td>Stressful life events</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Employment and other forms of major life discrimination (education, housing)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economic strain</td>
</tr>
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<td>Minority stressors (proximal) (internalized stigma, concealment, avoidance)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Health</td>
<td><strong>Diagnosed health conditions, including COVID 19</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where is SOGI-SES Now?

• Actively working on:
  • Wrapping up programming web-based survey
  • Tracing to update contact information
  • Tweaking recruitment materials

• Goals:
  • July 2020 – begin field data collection, all web-based
  • ~ 6 to 7 months in the field
  • Early 2022 – data cleaned and released to Add Health users
SOGI-SES data access through the Add Health Data Portal

https://data.cpc.unc.edu/projects/2/view
Add Health Wave VI Core Project and Covid-19

- Will be ideal data set for tracking long-term health, social, and economic implications of Covid-19
- Wave VI of Add Health (planned for 2022-24) will add Covid questions
- Plans underway to add short battery of Covid questions during fall 2020 panel maintenance
SOGI-SES
Funders: NICHD and NIMHD

Carolyn T Halpern, PhD
• Professor & Chair, Maternal and Child Health
• University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
• CB #7445
• Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7445
• P (919) 966-9306 (MCH)
• P (919) 962-6155 (CPC)
• carolyn_halpern@unc.edu

Kerith Jane Conron, ScD, MPH
• Blachford-Cooper Research Director and Distinguished Scholar
• UCLA School of Law
• 385 Charles E. Young Drive East
• Los Angeles, CA 90095-1476
• P (310) 794-6193
• F (310) 825-7270
• conron@law.ucla.edu