Activist Librarian II: Engaging in LGBTQ Cultural Competencies

Juan Carlos Vega, MLS
Libraries ~ Public Health ~ Community Engagement

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Real Health: The Importance of Professionals in Today’s Information Climate

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Can you identify a moment when you provided a library user or information seeker with a reference to a resource that you know because you are a member of a community or simply because you think is “real information”?

In a few words identify issue or theme and what resource you referred to that is not in your stacks or online?
# LGBTQ TERMINOLOGY

## SEX *(category)*
- Male *(descriptor)*
- Female

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION
- Lesbian
- Gay
- Bisexual
- Heterosexual
- Queer

## GENDER/GENDER ROLE
- Male
- Female
- Masculine
- Feminine

## GENDER IDENTITY
- Transgender
- Transsexual
- Male
- Female
- Queer or Genderqueer
ABOUT LGBTQ COMMUNITIES

• LGBTQ people face isolation, violence, overt discrimination and inequitable benefits and policies, including access to health services
• We have borne a heavy burden in our communities
• Strong LGBTQ community structures exists that offer social support, legal assistance, health services, and provide an organized platform to advocate for what we need
• LGBTQ communities lack a sense of trust with institutions and government
• We are diverse: LGBTQ is not just 1 single community
• Partnership with LGBTQ communities is an UNTAPPED resource to affect change
LGBTQ HEALTH DISPARITIES

Research from the Institute of Medicine suggest that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people “face barriers to health care that profoundly affect their overall well-being;” “have higher prevalence of tobacco use,” “higher risk of depression and anxiety disorders,” and show “less frequent use of preventative screening” for cancer.

Source: IOM Report’s The Health of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People: Building a Foundation for Better Understanding
Purple = States banning discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity
Pink = Laws banning discrimination based on sexual orientation
LGBTQ HEALTH RISK & CONCERNS

- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Mental Health
- Obesity
- Nulliparity
- HIV
- Cancer (HPV)
TOBACCO HEALTH DISPARITIES

8 WAYS TOBACCO AFFECTS VULNERABLE PEOPLE

- Tobacco use is 71% HIGHER among adults with mental illness - National Council for Behavioral Health
- Tobacco use is OVER 50% HIGHER among LGBT adults - LGBT Healthlink
- Tobacco use is 35% HIGHER among American Indian and Alaskan Native - National Native Network

Asian American men smoke at 215% HIGHER rate than Asian American women - The RAISE Network

1.5 TIMES as many Hispanic middle school students report using tobacco compared to other middle school students - Nuestras Voces

22.4% of people in remote areas smoke VS 14.7% of their urban counterparts smoke - Geographic Health Equity Alliance

Tobacco use is 310% HIGHER among homeless adults compared to the general population - SelfMade Health Network

African Americans smoke menthol-flavored cigarettes at nearly 3 TIMES the rate of Whites, and are more likely to die from smoking-related illness. - National African American Tobacco Prevention Network

This infographic brought to you by: LGBT Healthlink, Centerlink
IT’S TIME FOR SMOKING TO COME OUT OF THE CLOSET

1964
FIRST SURGEON GENERAL’S REPORT:
Smoking & Health establishes that smoking causes higher death rates from lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and cardiovascular diseases

1960s–1990s
24 additional Surgeon General’s Reports on smoking are released, ZERO MENTION LGBT

2001
Surgeon General’s Report Women & Smoking mentions LGB SMOKING DISPARITY for the first time

2014
LGBT CLEARLY Delineated as a population experiencing tobacco disparities in the 50th Anniversary Surgeon General’s Report

33 TOTAL SURGEON GENERAL’S REPORTS ON SMOKING

3 MENTION LGB AND/OR T

SMOKING IS THE LGBT COMMUNITY’S BIGGEST HEALTH BURDEN

$7.9 billion
Estimated annual LGBT money spent on cigarettes

20% U.S. Population
LGBT people smoke cigarettes at rates that are 68% HIGHER than the rest of the population.

33% LGBT Population
LGBT-smokers with HIV vs 12.3 non-smokers with HIV

LIFE-YEARS LOST

For citations and references, please visit http://bit.ly/SGR50LGBT

LGBTHEALTHEQUITY.WORDPRESS.COM
LGBTQ SMOKING DISPARITY

National Adult Tobacco Survey data found that LGBT people smoke at rates 50% higher than the general population.

Queer data is not collected.
LGBTQ ATOD REALITIES

• Stigma
• Youth coming out
• Where are LGBTQ people?
• Smoking is not a priority
• And…
"Project SCUM" focused on the gay community in the Castro and homeless people in the Tenderloin, both neighborhoods of San Francisco. The documents recount how one tobacco company tried to capitalize on what it called "consumer subcultures" to boost sales of its cigarettes among San Francisco's gay and homeless people in the 90s.

American Legacy Foundation
1995 Parliament promotion *Details, Cosmopolitan, Mademoiselle, Penthouse...* and *Out Magazine*
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL BOMBARDMENT
INFORMATION AND RESOURCES
BEYOND JOURNAL ARTICLES
AND BOOKS IN THE STACKS

- Website development
  - Consortium of Electronic Libraries of Puerto Rico [https://www.ctcpr.org](https://www.ctcpr.org)
  - Citizen’s Alliance Pro LGBTTA Health of Puerto Rico [www.lgbtta.org](http://www.lgbtta.org)
- Blogs, fact sheets, promising practices and reports
- Webinars and conference presentations
  - LGBTQ health summits
- Development of bilingual and culturally competent health promotional materials
- Capacity building to DOH’s, community based organizations, local coalitions, women entrepreneurs, and health service providers across the U.S. and Puerto Rico
- Grant writing
- Photography
LGBTQ RESOURCES

BREAK THE CYCLE AND CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH
SMOKEFREE.

You can quit. For free help, call 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

Si fumas, SE TE APAGA.
dejaloyapr.com

SMOKING OUT THE TRUTH:
TOBACCO IS DESTROYING
THE LGBT COMMUNITY

In California:

Lesbians smoke almost 3x as much as straight women

Gay men smoke nearly 2x as much as straight men

THE LAST DRAG

Should you have to hide the real you to be accepted?
go to discriminatie.nl

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Smart Thinking: Reaching LGBT Smokers on their Smart Phones

N.C. Chronic Disease and Injury Section
HELP QUEERS QUIT SMOKING

I quit for a new girlfriend. We’ve been together 20 years now.
– Amari, former smoker

I avoided other smokers, “smoky” places, and even asked local bars for smoke free nights.
– Juan Carlos, former smoker

I challenged myself to quit from Christmas to New Years and said, “If I can last that long then I can do it longer.” It’s been 11 years.
– Stacy, former smoker

I now use my social smoking time to actually get fresh air.
– Corey, former smoker

Smoking is a barrier to trans affirming surgery as it affects the vascular system which is crucial for healing.
– Jada, former smoker
HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT LGBT INCLUSION IN YOUR LIBRARY OR RESEARCH CENTER?

Think of:

• Language
• Physical settings (signage, rainbow flag)
• Events and programs
• Staff
• Policies
• Collections
• Administration (forms include sexual orientation and transgender options)

How can they be improved?
WHERE TO ENGAGE LGBTQ COMMUNITIES LOCALLY

- Bars and clubs
- Social and support organizations
- Churches, university programs, and health programs
- Media and social media outlets (print and online)
  - Free Local Weekly/Monthly magazines and newspapers
  - Directories:
    - Pink Pages
    - LGBTQ Yellow pages
    - Gay and Lesbian Directory
  - Online LGBTQ’s social platforms:
    - Curves
    - Scruff
    - Grindr
    - AfterEllen
  - Facebook, Twitter, and blogs
ABOUT LGBT HEALTHLINK

- A program of CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers
- One of eight CDC-funded cancer and tobacco disparity networks.
- Advances LGBT wellness by addressing LGBT tobacco and cancer health disparities
- Links people with information and promote adoption of best and promising practices
PROMOTES

• Tobacco prevention and cessation
• Decreased second-hand smoke exposure
• Cancer prevention and screenings
• Improve quality of life for those with cancer

PROVIDES

• Technical assistance
• Trainings, webinars and presentations
• Needs Assessment Tool
• Sample non-discrimination policies
• Tobacco and Cancer DOH Census
• Cross-sectoral connections between health systems, providers, community centers and departments of health
JOIN THE MOVEMENT TO ACHIEVE LGBT HEALTH EQUITY!

HealthLink members have access to:

• Weekly LGBT Health News Roundup
• Scholarships to help support and promote leadership in LGBT health
• Members-only online networking groups
• Exclusive webinars and resources available for download
• Co-branding opportunities

www.mylgbthealthlink.org
SUPPORT FROM

Thank you! GRACIAS!

Contact me

ActivistLibrarian@gmail.com