

2SLGBTQIA+ STUDENTS IN ALBERTA

12 EVIDENCE-BASED FACTS



1

There is more than XX and XY.

Worldwide, people born with bodies outside of traditional male/female categories are **as common as people with red hair** (or twice the estimated population of Canada).



3

Gay and bisexual male students are **twice as likely to self-harm**. Lesbian and bisexual female students are **two to three times more likely to self-harm**.



5

Schools are identified by 2SLGBTQIA+ youth as potential **safe havens**.

7

Providing gender-neutral bathrooms to all students **helps 2SLGBTQIA+ youth feel safer at schools**.



9

Schools with established GSAs and anti-homophobic bullying policies have **lower odds of discrimination, suicidal thoughts, and attempts among LGB and heterosexual students**.



11

The NHL-endorsed **Pride Tape** lets allies show their support for LGBTQ+ students, **decreasing the risk of harassment** and poorer mental health, and **fostering LGBTQ2+ inclusion in sports**.



2

75% of surveyed Canadian transgender youth reported **self-harming** in the past year, nearly 50% experienced **extreme stress** in the past 30 days, and a third had **attempted suicide** in the past year.

4

75% of trans students in Alberta (ages 14-18) reported experiencing discrimination, 70% were sexually harassed, **35% were physically threatened or injured**, and 32% had run away from home.



6

All Alberta students (LGBTQ+ and otherwise) are **legally entitled to privacy and confidentiality, to start a GSA in their school**, and to attend a discrimination-free school.

8

Transgender students in Alberta who reported feeling **connected to their schools** were twice as likely to report **good or excellent mental health**.



10

A school GSA costs about an hour per week to sponsor a teacher or public health nurse during the school year (about \$1,000). This can **save \$183,000 in healthcare costs**.

12

Displaying **2SLGBTQIA+ friendly symbols** helps improve 2SLGBTQIA+ youths' self-esteem and fosters a sense of belonging.



THE RESEARCH BEHIND OUR FACTS

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About SARAVYC

The Stigma and Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre (SARAVYC) aims to understand the influences of stigma and discrimination on health disparities of marginalized youth, including sexually exploited, street-involved, and 2SLGBTQIA+ (Two Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans*, Queer and Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual) youth. In collaboration with youth and their communities, we develop interventions to improve health outcomes and equity for marginalized youth.

Since 2006, SARAVYC has been dedicated to using mixed method research approaches to identify strategies that reduce stigma and improve resilience among youth and share those results with the public. We collaborate with health professionals, policy-makers, educators, service providers, and youth to produce evidence-based research that influences policy, practice, and health.



Stigma and Resilience
Among Vulnerable
Youth Centre



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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