

# LGBTO+ & Gambling Disorder: A Cultural-Competency Primer

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#### Presentation Roadmap (with activities/discussions throughout)

1) LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency

2) LGBTQ+ & Addiction

3) LGBTQ+ & Gambling Disorder

4) LGBTQ+ & the Gambling Industry

5) Advice for Working with LGBTQ+ Clients

6) Q & A



# Today's Audience

# I anticipate you come from four potential backgrounds:

- 1) Have little knowledge of LGBTQ+ Issues and also are new to understanding Gambling Disorder 2) Work with LGBTQ+ clients and/or have knowledge of
- 3) Work with clients with Gambling Disorder and/or have knowledge of problem gambling, but little understanding of LGBTQ+ identities/issues
- Work with clients with Gambling Disorder and have a good understanding of LGBTQ+ issues/identities

My hope is that today's presentation will LGBTQ+ issues, but little understanding of Gambling

# Rate your Knowledge

On a scale of 1-10 (10 being an expert):

Where would you rank your personal knowledge of gambling disorder?

Where would you rank your personal knowledge of LGBTQ+ individuals/community?

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# Constructs of Cultural Competence Cultural awareness Self-examination and in-depth exploration of one's own cultural and professional background Cultural knowledge Process of seeking and obtaining a sound educational foundation about there cultural and eitheric groups Cultural skill Ability to collect relevant cultural data regarding the clients problem as well as accurately performing a culturally based physical assessment Cultural encounters Encourages the health care provider to directly engage in crosscultural interactions with clients from culturally diverse backgrounds

**Cultural Competency Key Concepts** 

Cultural desire Motivation of the health care provider to want to, rather than have to, engage in the process of being culturally aware

(Campinha-Bacote 2002)

# Moving Beyond "Cultural Competence"

- Critiques of cultural competence:

   Can be seen as endpoint rather than a process (Kumigai & Lypson, 2009, Campinha-Bacote, 2002, Weep et al., 2018, Tervalion & Murray-Garcia, 1988).

   Acknowledges group difference, but not systems of power and oppression (Schill& Caxa), 2019, Kumagai & Lypson, 2009, Wesp et al., 2018).
- Does not acknowledge power imbalance of healthcare system (Schill & Caxaj, 2019, Kuzma, Pardee, & Darling-Fisher, 2019, Kumagai & Lypson, 2009, Wesp et al, 2018, Tervalon & Murray-Garcia, 1998
- Focus is on knowledge, not on action and reflection (Schill & Caxaj, 2019, Kuzma, Pardee, & DarlingFisher, 2019, Kumagai & Lypson, 2009, Wesp et al, 2018, Tervalon & Murray-Garcia, 1998, Schwarz et al, 2015)

# What is required? Humility (Learning from patients/community members) Continual self-reflection

- Put knowledge into practice





Lots of models, all agree that this is a process, that involves knowledge, practice and self-reflection (models pictured: Campinha-Bacote, 2002; Goforth, 2016)

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# Why Cultural Competence?

d number of LGBTO+ Adults in the U.S.

% LGBT	# LGBT (Total)	# LGB (Total)	Transgender (Total)
4.5%	11,343,000	10,338,000	1,397,150

- · 2.4 million LGBTQ+ adults over age 50
  - Expected to double to over 5 million by 2030

# **Cultural Competency Key Concepts**

Term	Definition
Health Disparities	Group specific differences in quality of care received, presence of disease, or health outcomes (Healthy People 2020, Dispatties)
Barriers To Healthcare	Obstacles within our health care system that prevent vulnerable patient populations from getting needed health care (Health People 2020, Access to Healthcare)
Minority Stress	The theory that unique stressors experienced by minority populations contributes to health disparities (takan et al. 2011)
Risk and protective factors	Social, behavioral, and environmental factors that make disease more or less likely (Solar & Irwin, 2018)
Social Determinants of Health	The theory that social conditions are the root cause of health disparities (Solar & Irwin, 2016, Healthy People 2020, Social Determinants of Health)

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# Why do health disparities exist?

- · Barriers to care
- · Minority stress
- · Historical discrimination and trauma
- · Social determinants of health

Health disparities are NOT caused by physiological or biological differences

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# Personal Barriers Internalized Stigma Structural Barriers Health Insurance

#### **Barriers to Care for** LGBTQ+ Adults

Provider Knowledge

Lack of Providers

Example: Dept of Veterans Affairs: few providers who specialize in LGBTQ+ health; no coverage for gender affirming surgery: large bureaucracy and slow to change; lingering fear of discrimination from Don't Ask, Don't Tell and bans on transgender service members.

# Minority Stress

- Minority Stress = major discriminatory events and micro-aggressions
- Leads to poor health outcomes through:
   Biological mechanisms (stress hormones, etc.)

Biological mechanisms (tress hormones, etc.)
Direct psychological effects
Unhealthy stress management techniques
(date do use of healthcare
Multiple stressors: race, undocumented status, people
experiencing homelessess, age (young or old))

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# Cultural Competency Key Concepts Term Definition Fivilege Special power and advantages granted systematically to one group over another, and usually portrayed as default and normal advanta, test. Institutional analysis of the state of

(Campinha-Bacote, 2002

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#### The Gender Binary

The idea that there are only two genders – boy/male/man and girl/female/woman and that people must fit into one or the other

How are these genders defined?

What exceptions can you think of?

# LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency

"male"/"female."

Sexual orientation: A person's emotional, sexual, and/or relational attraction to others.

Gender identity: Our internal sense of being male, female, or something else. Because gender identity is internal, it is not necessarily visible to others.

is internal, it is not necessarily visible to others.

"Ciagender refers to people whose gender identity/ expression does not differ from that
typically associated with their assigned sex at birth. For example, a person who was born as
male and identifies as a man may be considered cispends.

"Transgender" describes people whose gender identity/expression is different from that typically associated with their assigned sex at birth.

"Genderqueer" or "Non-Binary" describes people whose gender falls outside of the traditional gender binary structure.

Gender expression: The manner in which people represent their gender to others

Questioning: A term used to describe individuals who are unsure about their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Good resource: https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms

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#### **LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency**

Bisexual: A person who self-identifies as having an emotional, sexual, and/or relational attraction to men and women

Gay: A man who self-identifies as having an emotional, sexual, and/or relational attraction to other men.

Lesbian: A woman who self-identifies as having an emotional, sexual, and/or relational attraction to other women.

MSM: An acronym used to identify men who have sex with men. MSM is a term used to identify and

describe a behavior among males and is not the same as a sexual identity or sexual orientation.

WSW: An acronym used to identify women who have sex with women. WSW is a term used to identify and describe a behavior among females and is not the same as a sexual identity or sexual orientation.

Queer A term usually used to refer to specific sexual orientations (e.g., lebian, ags, bisexual). Note: Some individuals use (queer as an alternative to agy) in an effort to be more inclusives, since the term queer does not convey a sexue of gender. However, depending on the user, the term can have either a derogatory or an affirming connotation.

Good resource: https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms

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# LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency

Why the "+"?

I = intersex

Q = queer/questioning

A = asexual/aromantic/agender or ally

P = pansexual

D = demisexual

The lead Comba

Good resource: https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms

#### LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency More identity terminology:

- Aggressive
- Androgynous
- Androgynous
   Androsexual
- Bigender
- Boi
   Butch
- Demigirl
   Demiguy
- Dyke

- Femr
- Fluid
   FtM/F2M: MtF. M2F
- Genderless
   Gender Variant
- Gynesexual
   Lipstick Lesbian
   Metrosexual
   Pangender

Polyamorous

- Questioning
- Same Gender Loving
- Skiliosexual
   Stud
- 3rd Gender
   Transman
   Transwomar
   Two-Spirit

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# The Age/Racial Divide for Terminology

Some terms – such as "queer" are much more likely to be used by younger LGBTQ+ folks.

While older lesbian women may actually use the term "gay" to refer to themselves.

Some communities of color refuse to use labels and refer to themselves as MSM or WSW



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# LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency

And there are so many more, such as:

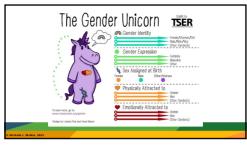
Cross-dresser – a person who wears clothing of a different gender, often heterosexual men who dress in women's clothing. Cross-dressers may or may not be trans identified.

Drag, drag king, drag queen – The performance of one or more genders theatrically. Performers are called drag kings and drag queens.

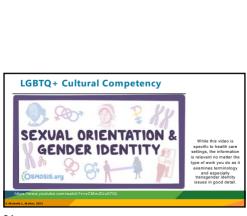
The terms are forever changing, adjusting and being added... being open and willing to google an unknown term is important

Also, never be afraid to ask a client, "what do you mean by "\_\_\_\_\_" because I just want to make sure I understand... (without judgement)

Good resource: https://www.hrc.org/resources/glossary-of-terms







# **Transitioning and Transition Myths**

- The process of transitioning from the gender assigned at birth to the gender an individual identifies
- Myths:
  - All trans people want to take hormones and have surgery
  - All trans people feel they are in the "wrong" body
  - All trans people want to "pass" for the gender they identify with
  - Gender identity always corresponds with gender expression
     All trans people are heterosexual



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#### Your turn to take some action

Turn to the person next to you and introduce yourself with your preferred name and your pronouns:

(she/her/hers)

(he/him/his)

(they/them/theirs)

Or any pronouns your prefer...

Try with a second person...

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# If you make a mistake with pronouns

Correct it, but don't make a big deal about it

Ex: "She had a great idea. I'm sorry, **he** had a great idea."

Apologize later, but don't linger on it

Ex: "I'm sorry I used the wrong pronouns earlier. I know you use he/him. I will be sure to get that right next time."

Practice and do better next time! ©



Questions specifically about terminology and/or gender identity?







# **LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency**

# Issues Faced By LGBTQ+ Folks:

- Fair and Inclusive Workplaces
- Access to Health Insurance
- Access to Culturally Competent Providers
   Freedom from Discrimination
- Safe Schools
- ----
- Family Acceptance
- Public Service
- Welcoming Faith Communities



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# LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency



#### Some Common Myths:

People choose to be gay, bisexual, or transge

According to research, sexual orientation and gender identity emerge early in life and do not depend on such factors as home life. People choose how they express themselves, but their underlying sexual orientation and gender identity are not self-selected and are not "lifestyle" choices.

#### "Being gay or bisexual is a dysfunction that can be cured."

In 2009, the American Psychological Association adopted a resolution stating that "mental health professionals should avoid telling clients that they can change their sexual orientation through therapy or other treatments."

Identifying as LGBTQ+ is not a mental health condition or mental illness. Identifying as LGBTQ+ cannot be cured by psychotherapy or other means. However, mental health challenges can be brought on by victimization, rejection, isolation, and internal struggles with self-acrentance.

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# 15 Minute Break



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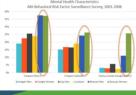
#### Has any part of the session so far made you feel a little uncomfortable?

- · Notice when you have a biased belief or assumption
  - Check your implicit biases by taking an implicit association test for free at https://implicit.harvard.edu/
- Ask yourself:
- "How do my beliefs serve me?"
- "What are the costs of maintaining or changing my beliefs?"
- "What could I gain from changing my beliefs?"



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# Health Disparity: Mental Health



Higher rates of depression, anxiety and suicidal throughs, especially among bisexuals (Conron et al., 2010)

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#### LGBTQ+ & Addiction

Statistics show that LGBTQ+ folks are more than 2x as likely than heterosexual folks to use illicit drugs and almost twice as likely to suffer from a substance abuse disorder

An estimated 20-30% of LGBTQ+ in general populati

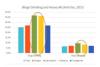
#### WHY?

- Trauma
- Depression Discrimination
- · Lack of support
- Internalized homophobia
- · Co-occurring disorders
- Need for specialized treatment

66 with the social stigma of being LGBTQ, of living in a culture that, for the most part, is homophobic and heterosexist,

#### LGBTQ+ & Addiction – Disparities in Alcohol and Tobacco Use





Sources: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Data Archives, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2015; James et al., 2016

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#### LGBTO+ & Addiction



#### **Early Emotional Trauma**

- Emotional and physical abuse, being kicked out of the house, and even attempts at conversion therapy
- A report regarding LGBTQ+ trauma by the Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network states that "...many individuals are unaware of the traumatic experience faced by some, but not all, within the LGBT population. This trauma may occur in the forms of family, community, or religious ostracism, possible physical beatings, as well as minimal legal protection for housing, employment, and custody concerns."

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#### LGBTQ+ & Addiction



#### Increased Prevalence of Depression

- Up to 3x more likely to experience depression compared to general adult population
- Between 30-60% of LGBTQ+ deal with anxiety and depression at some point in their lives
   'Among individuals with a mood disorder, 32 percent had a co-occurring (substance use disorder). Of individuals with lifetime major depression, 165 percent had an alcohol use

disorder and 18 percent had a drug use disorder." - AJMH report



GBTQ teens are six tin nore likely to experien ymptoms of depressi than their heterosexu

#### LGBTQ+ & Addiction



#### Discrimination and Social Stigma

- Despite growing acceptance in the United States, almost all LGBTQ individuals face some level of homophobia and discrimination
- More than 2/3 report experiencing discrimination in their lifetime
- . This may come from strangers, acquaintances, friends or family
- They also face the constant threat of workplace harassment, bullying, and hate crimes

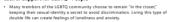


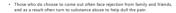
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# LGBTO+ & Addiction

#### Lack of Support for LGBTQ+ People















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#### LGBTQ+ & Addiction

# FEET AND THE STATE OF THE STATE

#### Internalized Homophobia

- Whether or not their families and friends provide acceptance, many members of
- the LGBTQ community suffer from internalized homophobia.
- This happens when they self-identify with anti-gay stigmas. The result is often self-loathing and an inability to feel comfortable in one's own skin.
  - For those suffering from internalized homophobia, substances can serve as an effective mechanism for silencing negative thoughts. When drunk or high, LGBTQ individuals can temporarily enjoy living as their true selves.

#### LGBTQ + & Addiction



#### Co-Occurring Disorders

- Clinical depression, stress, and an
- od disorders, eating disorders, and other types of psychiatr problems
- In addition, some may suffer from serious health issues such as hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, and other sexually transmitted diseases
  - Dealing with these medical issues can interfere with the ability and desire to seek substance abuse treatment
  - Over 50% of LGBTQ+ people with one addiction, struggle with at least one other addiction

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#### LGBTO+ & Addiction

#### The Need for Specialized Treatment There is a fear of seeking treatment.



- Many sexual minorities facing addiction problems are hesitant to seek help from a tradit ment facility
  - me counselors, may display homophobic behaviors or make inappropriate remarks.
  - This prevents recovering addicts from feeling like they can let down their guard, which is
    essential for successful rehabilitation n, most traditional treatments do not address the specific needs of LGBTQ india
    - This includes learning successful coping methods for dealing with social isolation, family problems, homophobia, and violence

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#### **Gambling Disorder**

For a diagnosis of gambling addiction, the **DSM-5** states that a person must show or experience at least four of the following during the past 12 months:

- Need to gamble with increasing amounts of money to feel excitement
- 2. Restlessness or irritability when trying to stop gambling
- Repeated unsuccessful attempts to stop, control, or reduce gambling
- 4. Thinking often about gambling and making plans to gamble 5. Gambling when feeling distressed
- Returning to gamble again after losing money
- 7. Lying to conceal gambling activities 8. Experiencing relationship or work problems due to gambling
- Depending on others for money to spend on gambling





#### Discussion

How might the research on addiction apply to Gambling Disorder?

What does research tell us about the similarities between substance addictions and Gambling Disorder?

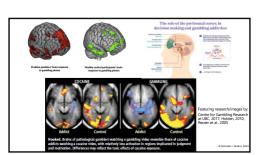
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# **Gambling Disorder**

#### Connection with Other Addictions

- · Problem gambling is often accompanied by substance use
- In many states, casinos are the only indoor places people can use tobacco
- People who gamble can often experience intense excitement, power and hopeful anticipation as a result of gambling similar to the use of other substances
- For some, a dependency on the "action" of gambling occurs in a similar way to dependency on the
  effects of alcohol or other drugs







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# Discuss with your Neighbors:

What issues may be unique with Gambling Disorder from substance addictions?



# **Gambling Disorder & Comorbidity**

#### Connection with Other Addictions

- Problem gambling is often accompanied by substance use
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# LGBTQ+ & Gambling

#### Why LGBTQ+ Gamble

- Fun/Excitement/Action-Seeking
- Escape
- Financial Reasons
  - Expendable funds (if no children)
    - Chasing funds for transgender healthcare
- Homeless youth seeking funds for housing/healthc.
- Self-control research
- Use of drugs/alcohol/tobacco co-occurring disorders
- "Invisible" in gambling establishments

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# LGBQ+ & Gambling Disorder

Massively understudied (just nine studies published within the last decade)

- Problem gambling "may" be more prevalent in the LGBTQ+ community

  One study of problem gamblers found that 20%+ identified as LGBTQ+
- There is disagreement among the currently published studies on Gay or Bisexual men have a higher, equal, or lower prevalence of Gambling Disorder than heterosexual men. Co-occurring issues of drug use and alcohol within the same population.
- Overall adult LBQ Women consistently score at higher prevalence rates for both participating in gambling and having Gambling Disorder than heterosexual women
   LBQ Women may have the highest risk for problem gambling among all sexual minority individuals
- There is also some evidence that older LGBTQ+ individuals are at a disproportionate rate for problem gambling than their heterosexual counterpoints.



# Transgender & Gambling Disorder

- One study exists that assessed gambling behavior among transgender individuals focused specifically on transgender adolescents
  - Transgender adolescents assigned male at birth were most at risk for gambling involvement and problem gambling. While not as highly at risk as trans individuals assigned male at birth, those assigned female at birth were also at a higher risk for problem gambling than cisgender males and females.
  - Overall, over 11% of transgender adolescents met the criteria to be further assessed, while only 4.1% of those identified a cisgender.

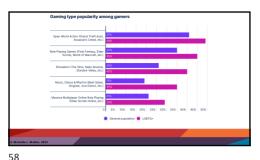
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# LGBTQ+ Representation in Gaming...





The digital world has always been a space where opportunities to discuss sexuality and gender can exist

queer and transgender gamers sometimes selfidentify as "gaymers"



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In a study conducted by Entain (2021), one of the world's largest betting companies, which surveyed over 16,000 people found that those who said they play videos games weekly were 4.3 times more likely to say they bet than those who play less.

 younger adults were most likely to be involved in both betting and gaming (18-24 year olds were the most likely to participate in both, with figures decreasing as age increased) Good Research? But Potentially Important Findings!

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# LGBTQ+ "Friendly" Gambling Establishments

There is some evidence that the gambling industry specifically market to the LGBTQ+ community to gamble at their locations and on their products, claiming to be LGBTQ+ friendly destinations







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# LGBTQ+ as Gambling Industry Marketing Targets

Las Vegas casinos tops for LGBT-friendliness "Foxwoods opens rainbow-heavy LGBTQ+-themed hotel suite"

Harrah's, Atlantic City hope to become 'gay friendly' destinations



Top 5 Gay-Friendly Casinos in the World

Casinos market to gays, lesbians

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What issues may arise for LGBTQ+ within Gambling establishments?



#### Suicide Risk

Consider two of the highest suicide risks colliding:

- Nearly half of LGBTQ+ youth considered suicide within the past year
  - 18% made a suicide attempt 2x the rate of all US teens

LGBTQ+ Adults are 3-6x more likely than heterosexual adults to report suicidal thoughts, plans and attempts



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# Attempted Suicide among Transgender People



41% of transgender people have attempted suicide, compared to 1.6% in the general population (Grant et al, 2011)

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#### Reflect...

Couple that with the fact that people with gambling disorder have one of the highest suicide rates of all addictions....



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#### Advice for Working with LGBTO+ Clients

- Address experiences of lgbtq+ stress and emotional distress
- Consider the role multiple types of discrimination plays in the development and treatment of the client's addicti
- Addressing co-occurring addictions/disorders
  - Not all LGBTQ+ want to disclose their sexual/gender orientation; or feel safe doing so
  - Building positive report with clients and creating a safe environment for sharing of sensitive information could lead to more opportunities for understanding underlying issues based on LGBTQ+ identity
  - Ask about preferred pronouns/name for ALL clients
- · What "term(s)" should you use? Whatever the client uses.
- LGBTQ+ affirmative treatment programs Talking about attending G.A. as LGBTQ+
- Make referrals for issues outside your expertise



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# Putting this all into practice:

- · Talk to your coworkers about how you can make your work environment safer and more welcoming for LGBTQ people
- · Put your assumptions aside when meeting a new person and intentionally try to get to know them as an individual
- · Work on using inclusive language Practice using different pronouns at https://www.practicewithpronouns.com?









#### **ACTIVITY: Scenario**

After her partner of 30 years passes away, Sara starts to go to the local casino to escape her loneliness. Her daughter notices that her mom is spending more and more money at the casino and begs her to seek help from a counselor. At her intake, Sara becomes nervous that if she tells the counselor about losing her partner she may be discriminated against, and instead just tells him that she recently lost a close friend.

What are the problems with this situation?

What issues should you consider based on Sara's demographics?

How could the counselor create a space or otherwise make Sara more comfortable opening up about losing her life partner?

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# Connect with Local LGBTQ+ Organizations

PA Commission on LGBTQ Affairs Philadelphia Office of LGBTQ Affairs The Mazzoni Center (Philadelphia LGBTQ Health & Wellbeing) Attic Youth Center (Phil) Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center (Greater Lehigh Valley) LGBT Center of Central PA LGBT Center of Greater Readi

William Way LGBT Community Center (Phil)

Some National Hotlines: Gay & Lesbian National Hotline (GLNH) 888-843-4564 National Gay & Lesbian Youth Hotline 800-347-8336 The Trevor Helpline (Suicide Hotline) 886-488-7386 SAGE National LGBTQ Elder Hotline 877-360-LGBT

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# Rate your Knowledge

On a scale of 1-10 (10 being an expert):

Where would you now rank your personal knowledge of gambling disorder?

Where would you now rank your personal knowledge of LGBTQ+ individuals/community?



# **Some Additional Helpful Resources**

- American Psychological Association:
   http://www.apa.org/pi/lghtSource\_#2
- National Association of Social Workers: http://www.socialworkers.org/diversity/
- SAMHSA: Top Health Issues for LGBT Populations Information & Resource Kit https://store.samhsa.oc 4684.odf

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# **Questions & Answers**

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