



## FACT SHEET

### Suicide in the Transgender Community

Studies have shown that up to a third of transgender people are struggling with **high rates of substance abuse, depression and suicidal thoughts or attempts** (American Psychological Association, 2008).

Research (Transgender Law Center & National Center for Lesbian Rights, 2002) documents that as a result of workplace discrimination, verbal and physical harassment and lack of access to safe and affordable housing:

- 35% of those transgender people studied noted suicidal thoughts and ideations; and
- **47% reported of those studied making at least one suicide attempt.**

One study (Clements-Nolle, 2006) showed that **approximately 33% of all transgender youth have attempted suicide.**

### Violence against transgender people

There are a number of studies on violence against transgender people. For example, one study (Badgett, Lau, Sears, & Ho, 2007) showed:

- over 40% have experienced some form of physical abuse or violence;
- 80% have suffered verbal abuse or harassment; and
- almost 50% feel unsafe at any given time.

A UCLA/Rutgers University study (Lombardi, Wilchins, Priesing, & Malouf, 2001) of transgender people found:

- over 50% have experienced some kind of harassment or violence in their lives; and
- 25% report experiencing a physically violent incident.

In 2006, over 50 transgender people under the age 30 were murdered (Gender Public Advocacy Coalition, 2006).

## **Suicide in the transgender community Violence against transgender people**

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### **Works Cited**

American Psychological Association, *Report of the Task Force on Gender Identity and Gender Variance*, August, 2008.

Badgett, L., Lau, H., Sears, B. & Ho, D. Bias in the Workplace: Consistent Evidence of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Discrimination, June, 2007.

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Lombardi, E. L., Wilchins, R. A., Priesing, D., & Malouf, D. (2001). Gender violence: Transgender experiences with violence and discrimination. *Journal of Homosexuality*, 42(1), 89-101.

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