

## LGBTQ Youth & Human Trafficking

- LGBTQ youth make up approximately 40% of the homeless and runaway youth population. Homeless youth are at higher risk for trafficking & LGBTQ are disproportionately represented in this population.
- Increased vulnerability: LGBTQ youth are more likely to face discrimination, violence, and economic instability
- LGBTQ youth are more likely to have low self-esteem in response to family rejection and bullying from peers
- LGBTQ youth are 7.4x more likely to experience sexual violence than their heterosexual peers
- LGBTQ youth are 3 – 7x more likely to engage in “survival sex” to meet their basic needs
- 58.7% of homeless LGBTQ youth have been sexually victimized in comparison to 33.4% of their heterosexual peers.
- Young men who have sex with men are more likely to be forced into prostitution than any other youth population as evidenced by arrest records.
  - 1% of heterosexual boys who were arrested were charged with prostitution in comparison to 10% of gay or bisexual boys.
- Lesbian and bisexual adolescent women experience detention for prostitution at twice the rate of their heterosexual female peers.



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