

# Criminalization and Social Punishment of LGBT UVU Students

Blaine Rizzo  
Madeline Graviet  
Aubrey Siddoway

# Research Questions

**This research project set out to understand the criminalization and social punishment of sexual orientation of LGBT students at Utah Valley University.**

1. What aspects of living as LGBT at UVU contribute to social punishment faced at the university?
2. What attributes of cisgender heterosexual students may contribute to this social punishment?





# Literature Review

**A study led by Warren Blumenfeld was conducted researching the level of harassment LGBTQ individuals experience on college campuses across the United States.**

- Included LGBTQ students on campus as well as faculty, staff, and administrators who identified with this group.
- Responses from campuses from all fifty states with the concluded that 71% were relatively comfortable with the campus climate.

**In 2014 the U.S Department of Education expanded the scope of Title IX to include sexual orientation and gender identity as a protected class.**

- Due to the university's proximity to a large organized religion, there are influences from Mormonism that affect the social climate around the university, that diverge from universities in other states.
- This aids in a social atmosphere that states that homosexuality is a sin, and, when the government is influenced, a crime.

# Research Design

## Anonymous Qualtrics Survey

- Consent form
- 31 Questions
- Approximately 10 minutes to complete
- No identifiable information
- Randomized sample of students from the IRI



# Survey Metrics

Confidence level: 95%

Confidence interval  $\pm 13.09$

Population size: 41,728 students (# as of Fall 2019)

Designated Sample Size: 500

Final Sample Size: 56



# 11.2%

Response Rate is the percentage of people who completed the survey.

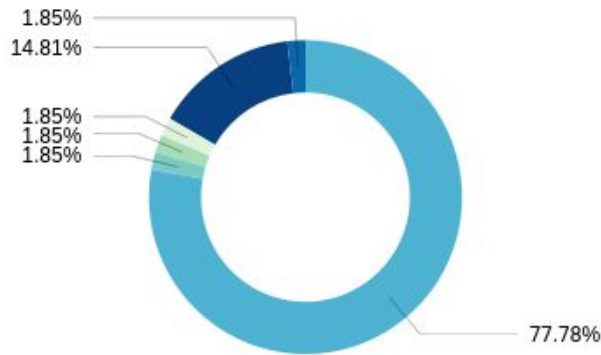
External surveys generally have a response rate between 10-15%.

You'll see higher response rates for internal surveys at workplaces.

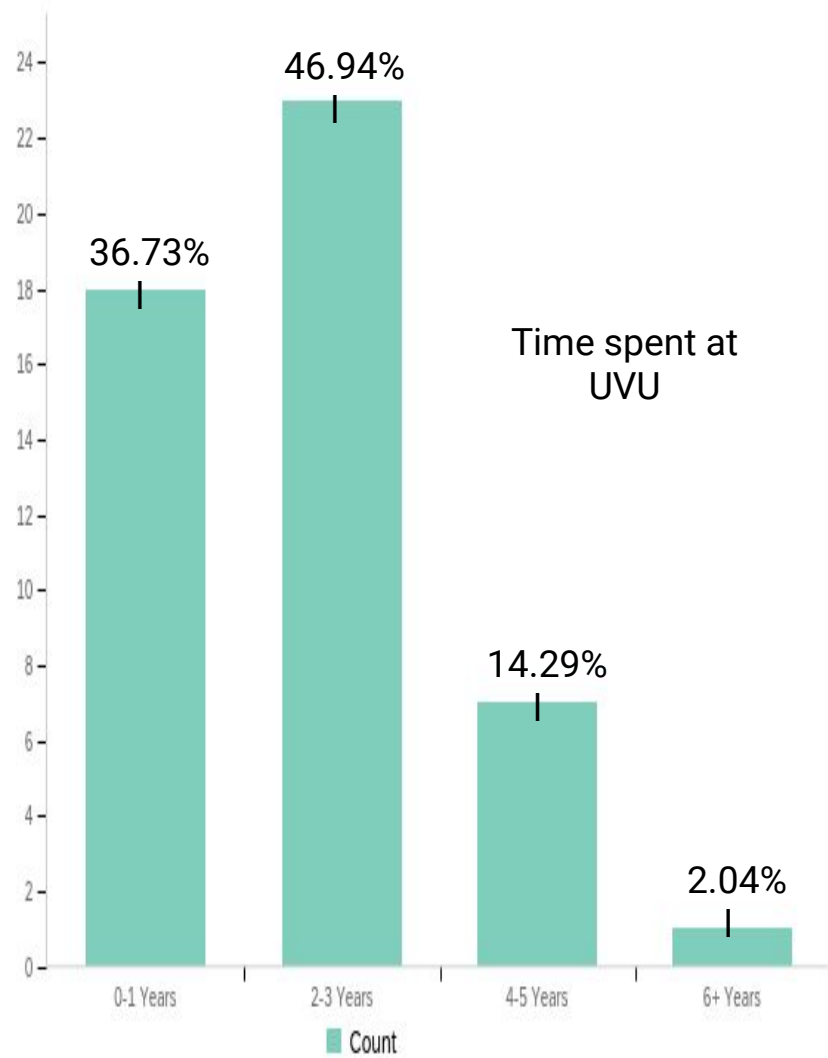




Male (18) Female (29) Nonbinary (2) Other (0)



White (42) Black or African American (1) American Indian or Alaska Native (1) Asian (0)  
 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (1) Hispanic or Latino (8) Other (1)



## Sexual orientation of survey participants

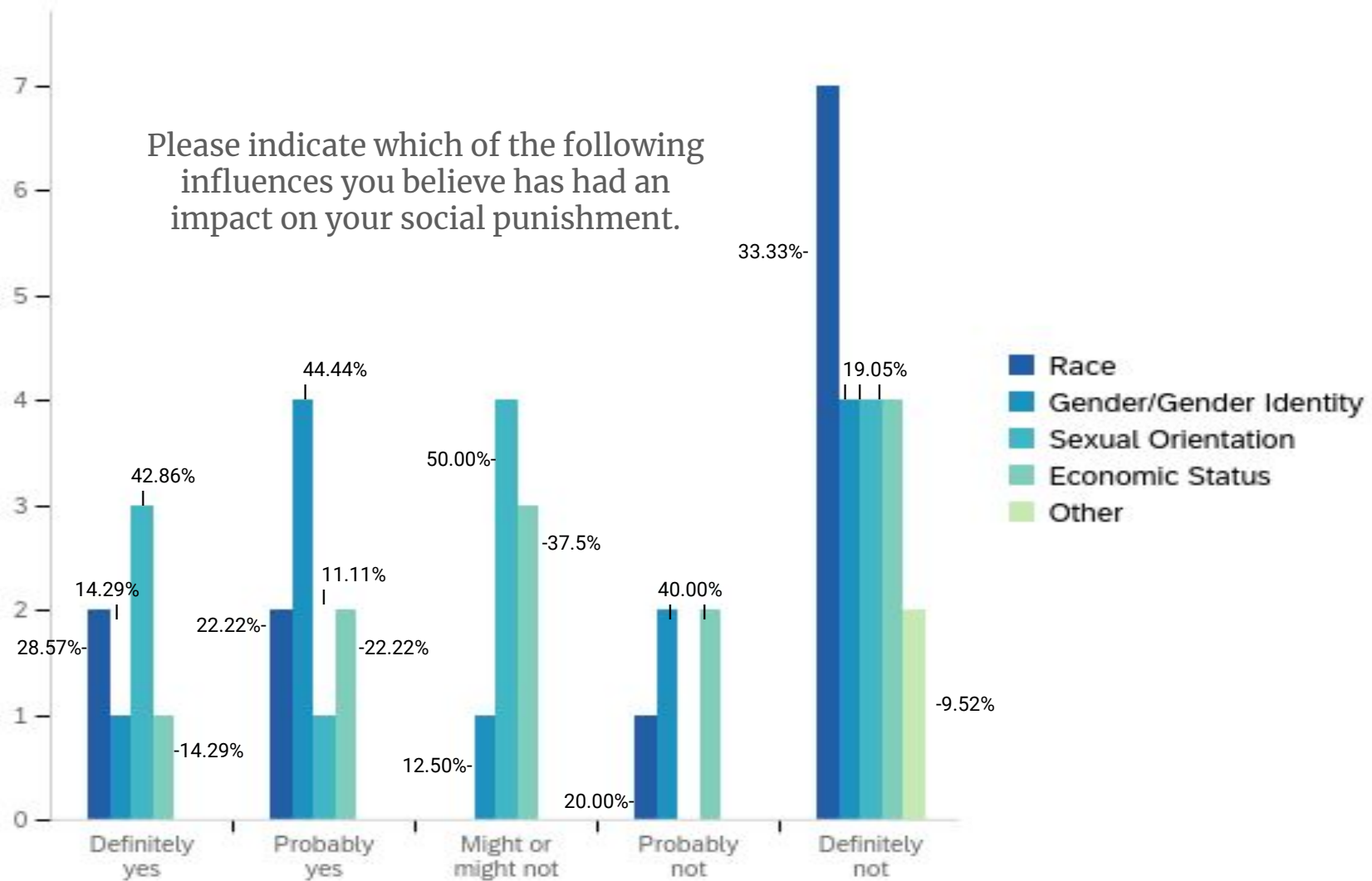


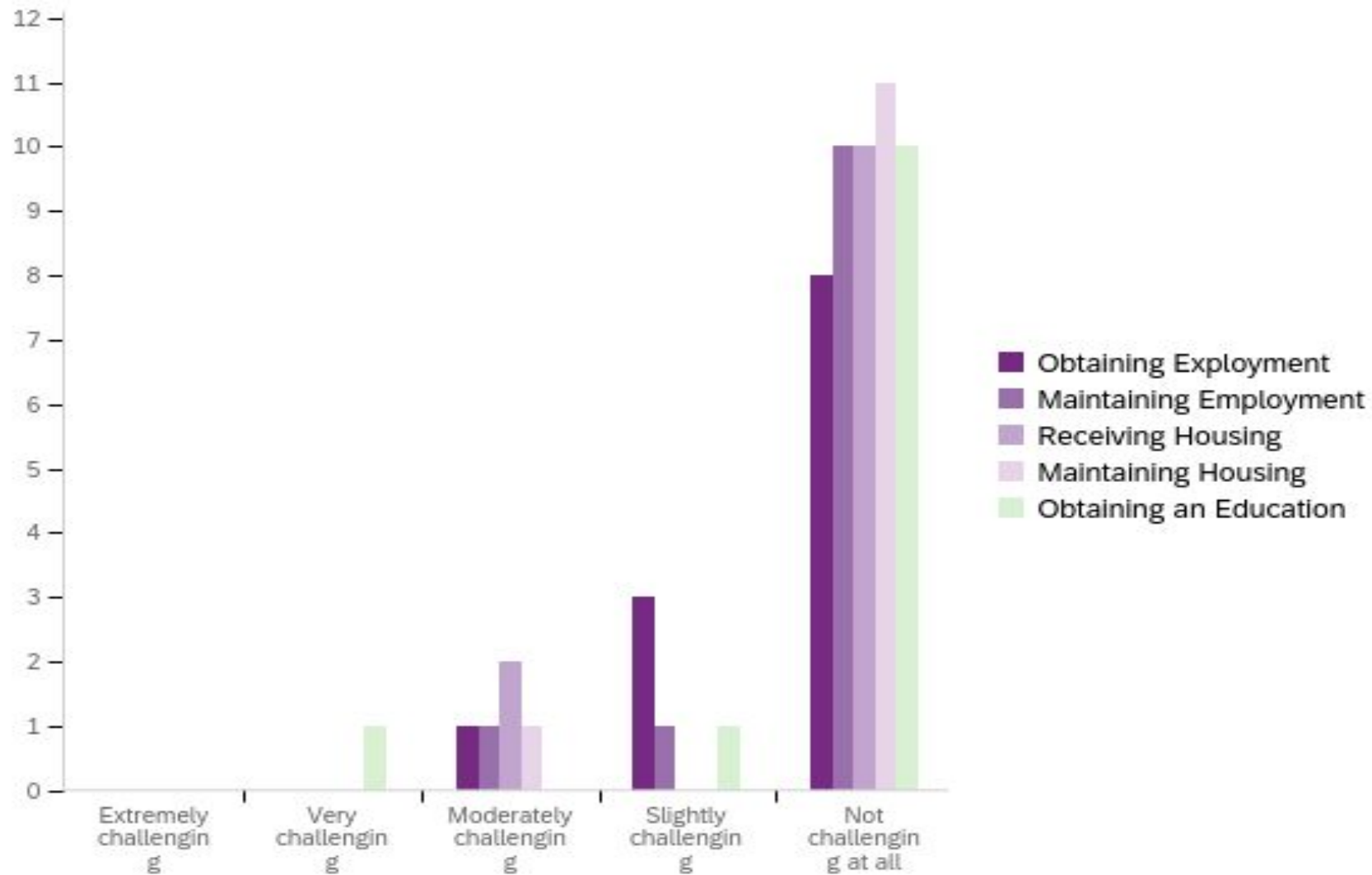
LGBT Affiliate (14)

Non LGBT Affiliate (41)



Please indicate which of the following influences you believe has had an impact on your social punishment.





# Bias

\*Non Response Bias

\*Response Bias

\*Order Bias



# Challenges For LGBT+ Students

-Employment

-Housing

-Education

The more challenging one aspect was, indicated a student would have challenges in other aspects as well.



Being publicly out as LGBT+ increased the likelihood of these challenges being present.

# Aspects of Social Punishment

Responses are affected by whether or not a student is publicly out.



- Sexual orientation
- Race
- Gender/Gender Identity
- Economic Status

The most consistent aspect of social punishment for LGBT students is race, followed closely by gender/gender identity.

# Cisgender Heterosexual Attitude Influences

Negative, positive, and neutral responses all indicated similar levels of influence.

1. Religion
2. Family and Social Sphere

Education was noted by one student to be an influence. Personal experience was also mentioned.



# Cisgender Heterosexual Beliefs

Indicated they have not witnessed injustices towards LGBT people.

*LGBT people are more likely to be victimized.*

Not more likely to commit crime.



# Views on UVU

Validate LGBT Students and Staff

Values Diversity

Wants LGBT+ Students to  
Succeed

Note: we cannot accurately depict the effect employees have on these views as they were only included in one question.

“I know there is an LGBT Community at school but I haven’t seen much promotion about it other than what seems to be the LGBT community promoting themselves, not much else to do with UVU and their support”

“I don't ever see anything for the community.”

“Honestly, I haven’t seen anything directly about LGBT students, but it only makes sense that UVU would simply because they care about the success of every student. I don’t know why that wouldn’t apply to LGBT students.”

“It'd be nice to have some events and some recognition”





# Faculty Members, Classmates and Counselors



Note: This section does not include our nonbinary respondents due to the filter question not explicitly including nonbinary as transgender.

## Our Transgender (1) Respondent Reported:

- Use of incorrect name and pronoun use
  - Professors refusing to use the respondent's correct name and pronouns

This was due to gender stereotypes, prejudice and laws.