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Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Bullying in Childhood

Meghan D'Amico, Arianne Parahoo, Sara Smith, and Barbara Bellini

Introduction
There is substantial research to maintain the impression that sexual and gender minorities encounter higher rates of bullying in childhood than individuals identifying as heterosexual and cisgender (Angoff & Barnhart, 2021). The purpose of the research is to present the association between sexual and gender minorities and bullying in childhood.

Methods

- Electronic informed consent was obtained.
- 1316 participants were recruited via reddit and took part in a digital quantitative cross-sectional study.
- Information was collected from February 2022 to March 2022.
- Survey questions asked about sex assigned at birth, gender, sexual orientation, income, race/ethnicity, highest level of education, and bullying experiences in childhood.

Discussion
The novel research, that has been presented, adds to the concurrent literature published on the prevalence of bullying of sexual and gender minorities. Results from the study show that the sexual minorities assigned male at birth have a higher prevalence (86.5%) than gender minorities assigned female at birth (77.7%) of experiencing bullying. This means that sexual minorities assigned male at birth are the vulnerable group within the margins of this study. Therefore, people who are assigned male at birth are more susceptible to the effects of bullying by classmates or peers.

Reference
Angoff, H. D., & Barnhart, W. E. (2021). Bullying and cyberbullying among LGBQ and heterosexual youth from an intersectional perspective: Findings from the 2017 national youth risk behavior survey. *Journal of School Violence, 20*(3), 274-286.

BULLY

Results
Association of Identity and Bullying in Childhood

Group	Prevalence (%)
gender minority afab	77.7%
gender minority amab	86.5%
sexual minority afab	77.7%
sexual minority amab	86.5%

Conclusions
There were 1,316 participants recruited to determine prevalence between sexual orientation, gender identity, and childhood bullying. The initial hypothesis of an association between sexual and gender minority identity and bullying in childhood was proven to have a positive correlation. This is seen by the high statistics of sexual minorities assigned male at birth. This highlights a link between bullying in childhood and a minority population. Further research is required to create solutions to this issue as it gains prevalence in this field of study.

