

Books/Novels

Berg, Ryan. *No House to Call My Home: Love, Family, and Other Transgressions*. Nation Books, 2016.

Author Ryan Berg was a caseworker in New York City at the 401 and Keap Street LGBTQ group homes. Throughout the book Ryan describes nine stories and experiences of residents in the group homes. Each story shows the reader a story of resilience, compassion, and hope. While not every story has a light at the end of the tunnel, each one is pure in its truth and the brutal reality that each residents live throughout their lives in foster care.

“One study suggests nearly half of New York City’s homeless have gone through the foster care system at one time or another and 40 percent of homeless youth in New York City identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender” (p. 172).

“Forty percent of gay teens said they were forced into sexual contact against their will, compared to 8 percent in the overall population. Gay teens are more likely to abuse alcohol and drugs more frequently” (p. 191).

“Gay teens are more likely to join a gang as a way to eliminate bullying. Unemployment in the trans community is four times the national average” (p.191).

“As a result, many teens resort to sex work in order to survive. Another report indicates that gay, lesbian, and transgender youth are at least twice as likely to attempt suicide as their straight peers” (p. 191-192).

Bleuel, A. (2017). *Project Semicolon: Your Story Isn’t Over*. Turtleback Books.

Project Semicolon: Your Story Isn’t Over is a series of short stories written by those who are connected to suicide awareness in some way, shape, or form. The stories feature experiences from survivors, stories from loved ones of those whom they have lose, thank you notes, apologies, and acceptances. The extremely powerful book reminds readers that mental illness comes in all shapes and sizes and is significant no matter what.

Russo, M. (2018). *If I Was Your Girl*. New York: Flatiron Books.

Amanda transfers schools after her transition from Andrew. Her journey is one of finding herself and entering a new life. Amanda makes many friends and even begins a relationship with football star Grant. As Amanda gains his trust, she wonders if it is safe to tell him the whole truth.

SMITH, A. (2019). *LAST TO LET GO*. MARGARET MCELDERRY BKS.

Brooke Winters is a young girl going into her junior year of high school. As the summer commences, she is making plans to transfer to a new school for a fresh start when something unexpected occurs. Brooke's mother kills their abusive father. Her whole world is thrown upside-down as she discovers new freedom and struggles with her identity.

Journals

Aratani, Yumiko. "Homeless Children and Youth Causes and Consequences." BRIEF, Sept. 2009, pp. 1–14.,

www.researchgate.net/profile/Yumiko_Aratani2/publication/265156110_B_R_I_E_F_Homeless_Children_and_Youth_Causes_and_Consequences/links/54ada3790cf24aca1c6f6958.pdf.

Aratani describes the importance of a stable home to a youth's development. Additionally, the current recession of American economics further puts youth at risk to homelessness. While this article does not focus on LGBTQ youth specifically, it allows for great insight into the importance of a home.

Ashworth, Sam, et al. "The Pernicious Myth of Conversion Therapy: How Love In Action Perpetrated a Fraud on America". McDermott and the Mattachine Society of Washington, DC, 2018.

The Mattachine Society draws upon the growing importance of needing to fight for LGBTQ rights that continuously remain under assault. The journal article focuses on how we as people can catalyze society and law to meaningfully change and end discrimination and intolerance.

Keuroghlian, A. S., Shtasel, D., & Bassuk, E. L. (2014). Out on the street: A public health and policy agenda for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth who are homeless. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 84(1), 66-72.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/h0098852>

<http://psycnet.apa.org/fulltext/2014-06035-011.pdf>

Keuroghlian, Shtasel, and Bassuk enlightens readers that LGBTQ youth experience homelessness at a much higher rate than their heterosexual peers. Additionally, LGBTQ youth have higher rates of mental health and substance abuse problems, suicidal thoughts and actions, violent victimization, such as rape and sex-trafficking, and a range of diseases such as HIV risk behaviors. Also, the three individuals analyze the complexities of how LGBTQ youth become homeless.

Jack Drescher (2015) Can Sexual Orientation Be Changed?, *Journal of Gay & Lesbian Mental Health*, 19:1, 84-93, DOI: 10.1080/19359705.2014.944460

Dr. Jack Drescher is an expert in the field of conversion therapy. Drescher describes the intricacies of conversion therapy from the perspective of it being beneficial and harmful.

Kang, Miliann, et al. Introduction to Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies. University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries, 2017.

This online textbook breaks down the intricacies of intersectionality, binary systems, institutions, culture, gender gap, and feminist movements.

“LGBTQ History Month: Early Pioneers of the Gay Rights Movement.” NBCNews.com, NBCUniversal News Group, www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/lgbtq-history-month-early-pioneers-gay-rights-movement-n922031.

This article highlights many LGBTQ pioneers of the American Gay Rights Movement from the 1950’s to present.

Markus P. Bidell PhD (2014) Is There an Emotional Cost of Completing High School? Ecological Factors and Psychological Distress Among LGBT Homeless Youth, Journal of Homosexuality, 61:3, 366-381, DOI: [10.1080/00918369.2013.842426](https://doi.org/10.1080/00918369.2013.842426)
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00918369.2013.842426?scroll=top&needAccess=true>

Dr. Bidell reflects on the nucleus of the home and school climates that highly influence psychological distress of LGBTQ homeless youth. Furthermore, Bidell states that higher levels of

psychological distress were found in LGBTQ high school graduates that reported to be harassed at home.

Intended Reading List for Fall 2019

Boy Erased by Garrard Conley (memoir)

Redefining Realness by Janet Mock (memoir)

Oddly Normal by John Schwartz (memoir)

Surviving Madness by Betty Berzon (memoir)

The Meaning of Matthew: My Son's in Laramie, and a World Transformed by Judy Shepard
(memoir)

The Lesbian Gay Studies Reader by Abelove Barale Halperin

Vested Interests by Mariorie Garber

Hidden From History Reclaiming the Gay and Lesbian Past by Martin Duberman, Martha
Vicinus, and George Chauncey Jr.