



FACT SHEET

LGBTQ & Two-Spirit Victims of Violence

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Almost all Native American tribes traditionally recognized “two-spirit” people of non-binary or mixed gender. Sometimes they played a spiritual role. They appear as sacred figures in Native American rituals and myths.

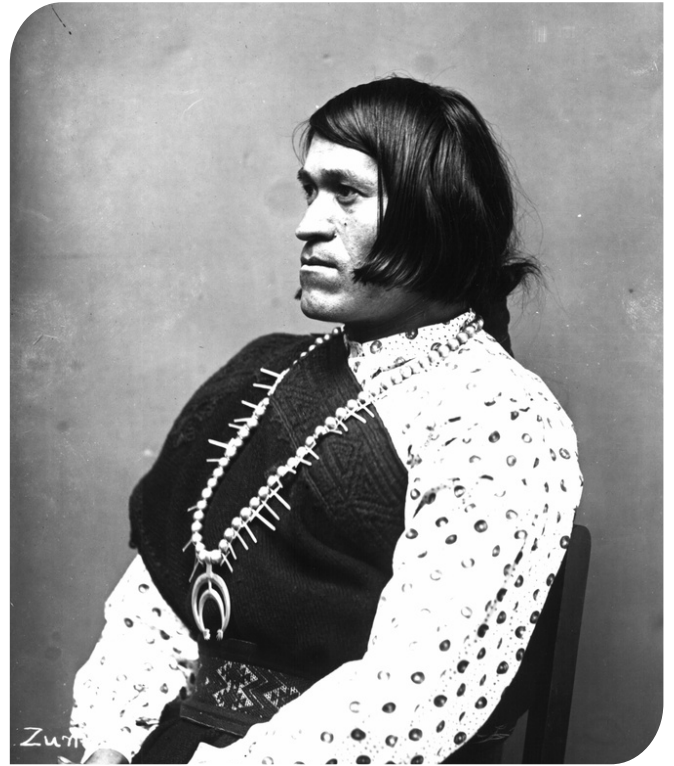
Our Two Spirit relatives have always held important roles and places in our traditional tribal societies since time immemorial. Colonization has changed our worldview of Two-Spirit/LGBTQ+ and now, they face some of the highest disparities across all social and health indicators. So many of these disparities negatively affect the everyday lives of our Two-Spirit relatives including high rates of victimization.

Over **50%** of Native LGBTQ students experience physical violence at school because of their sexual orientation.

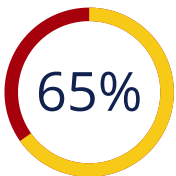
More than **1 in 3** students reported missing class at least once a month for fear of being bullied or harassed because of their sexual orientation and/or gender.

Nearly **48%** of Native LGBTQ people were told they were not a “real” woman or man and/or threatened with being outed by having their transgender status revealed.

Nearly **61%** of Native LGBTQ and Two-Spirit people experienced some physical violence by an intimate partner.



Two-Spirit and LGBTQ people contend with the intersecting impact of discrimination, bias, and harassment, which exacerbates economic inequality.



65% of American Indian/Alaska Native transgender and gender-nonconforming people were harassed.

- 40%** of Two Spirit adults experience some form of harassment in the workplace.
- 14%** have been physically assaulted at work.
- 10%** have been sexually assaulted at work.

- 14%** were more likely to be refused healthcare.
- 22%** have experienced harsh or abusive language.
- 23%** were blamed for their health status.
- 12%** received physically rough or abusive treatment.

Sources: James, S.E., Jackson, T., & Jim, M. (2017). 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey: Report on the Experiences of American Indian and Alaska Native Respondents. Washington, DC: National Center for Transgender Equality Tribal Equity Toolkit 3.0: Tribal Resolutions and Codes To Support Two-Spirit and LGBTQ Justice In Indian Country: <https://www.thetaskforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/TET3.0.pdf>

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