PRIDE & PLEASURE

Supporting health & wellness of LGBTQ+ young people
TODAY’S TEAM

VIOLETA ACUNA
(SHE/HER)
ECHO

SEBAS ABBATE
(HE/HE/SHE)
YOUTHRESOURCE

LOUIE ORTIZ-FONSECA
(HE/they)
ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH
OUR MISSION

Advocates for Youth partners with young people and their adult allies to champion youth rights to bodily autonomy and build power to transform policies, programs and systems to secure sexual health and equity for all young people.
OUR VISION

Rights.
Respect.
Responsibility.
ECHO
Young People living with HIV organizing efforts in their communities
LGBTQ+ Young People advocates for LGBTQ+ health & rights
COMMUNITEA

Young Black women raising awareness of HIV among young Black women
INTRODUCTIONS

• Name
• Pronouns
• A song that reminds you of summer/pride
TODAY’S GAY AGENDA

- Shifting from stigma to Pleasure
- Creating safer space for open communication
- Centering lived experiences of LGBTQ+ Young People
How does the current model of sexual health education based on risk and fear fail us?
A FEW STATS...

Statistics

According to the CDC, 15–24 year-olds accounted for 53% of new STIs in 2020.

According to the CDC, birth rates among 15–19 year-olds was 13.5 per 1,000 cis females.

According to the US Bureau of Justice, between 2017–2022, LGB persons had victimizations rates 2x that of their heterosexual counterparts.

According to the U.S Transgender Study, 47% of transgender people are sexually assaulted at some point in their life.
The ACLU is tracking **496** anti-LGBTQ bills in the U.S.

Choose a state on the map to show the different bills targeting LGBTQ rights and take action. While not all of these bills will become law, they all cause harm for LGBTQ people.

View past legislative sessions.
HIV CRIMINALIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES
AN OVERVIEW OF THE VARIETY AND PREVALENCE OF LAWS USED TO PROSECUTE AND PUNISH PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV (PLHIV) IN THE US.

LEARN MORE AT HIVLAWANDPOLICY.ORG

30 STATES HAVE HIV-SPECIFIC CRIMINAL LAWS AND/OR SENTENCE ENHANCEMENTS APPLICABLE TO PLHIV
(Notes: totals reflect overlap among the 25 states with HIV-specific laws and the 5 with sentence enhancements.)

25 STATES WITH HIV-SPECIFIC CRIMINAL LAWS
including laws targeting sex, non-disclosure, exposure to bodily fluids, needle-sharing, sex work, and blood/organ/sexual donation.

9 STATES WITH SENTENCING ENHANCEMENTS applicable to PLHIV who commit an underlying sexual assault crime.

25 STATES THAT HAVE PROSECUTED PLHIV UNDER NON-HIV-SPECIFIC, GENERAL CRIMINAL LAWS
This number represents states with reported charges and/or convictions for non-HIV-specific offenses, where positive HIV status was relevant in establishing a (non-HIV-specific) element of the offense.

©2021 The Center for HIV Law and Policy. Please do not alter or select for organizational or personal use.

Updated June 2021. Laws change frequently and this map is only accurate to the best of our knowledge. It is not a substitute for legal advice.

6 STATES MAY REQUIRE REGISTRATION AS A SEX OFFENDER as part of the punishment under HIV-specific laws

13 STATES HAVE REFORMED OR REPEALED one or more parts of their HIV-specific criminal laws

Advocates for Youth
Young. Powerful. Taking Over.
WHAT IS A ROLE YOU HAVE IN A YOUNG PERSON'S LIFE?
HOW HAVE WE BEEN TAUGHT TO TALK ABOUT SEX & HIV PREVENTION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE?
HOW IS PLEASURE TYPICALLY FRAMED WHEN WE TALK ABOUT PREVENTION & TREATMENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?
The Pleasure Project is the world’s leading organization putting the *sexy* into *safer* sex since 2004.

A pleasure based approach is “one that celebrates sex, sexuality, and the joy and wellbeing that can be derived from these, and creates a vision of good sex built on sexual rights.”
THE PLEASURE PRINCIPLES

Love Yourself:
Have kindness for yourself and others

Embrace Learning:
Be willing to learn new techniques and spread that knowledge

Talk Sexy:
Adopt pleasure-inclusive language and imagery

Be Flexible:
Be adaptive and recognize that pleasure based sexual health is possible for all

Think Universal:
Recognize how everyone’s differences affect their concept of sexual health

Rights First:
Sexual rights are the building blocks of pleasure-based sex

Be Positive:
Sex Positivity Is Key
SHIFTING FROM STIGMA TO PLEASURE

- Not Framing sex (with or without a condom) as “dangerous”
- Framing prevention & sex ed as a way to enhance pleasure
- Support & Promote Bodily Autonomy
A SAFER SPACE IS...

the environmental product of a conscious set of decisions and actions taken by individuals to promote equality, fairness, non-violence and affirmation of the unconditional value of all peoples, where youth are free to grow, thrive and express their individual identities.
How to Create a Safer Space

Safe Spaces will allow for your clients to feel seen, heard, and open up more.

Visual Cues
All-Gender Restrooms
Non-discrimination/Inclusion Policies
LGBTQ+ Affirming Paperwork
Diverse Staff
Right Person in the Right Job
Develop Effective Collaborations
Provide Continuing Education for Staff
Safer Spaces are particularly vital for LGBTQ young people and young people living with HIV.
CENTERING THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF LGBTQ+ YOUNG PEOPLE

What Do We Need?

- Use inclusive language
- Include All Bodies
- Cultural Responsiveness
- Risk to Reasons
WAYS TO CREATE A SAFER SPACE

• Affirm by listening
• Use people first language
• Validate experiences of young people, especially young people living with HIV
• Be open to learning something new
MAY 21rst
MEDICAL
MENTORSHIP FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE
LIVING WITH HIV
QUESTIONS/
COMMENTS/
CLARITY
PRIDE & PLEASURE

a community playlist

SCAN ME