

Statistics

Feeling Unsafe at School

- 53% of California students reported that their school is unsafe for “guys who aren’t as masculine as other guys” and 34% reported that their school is unsafe for “girls who aren’t as feminine as other girls.”¹
- 90% of transgender youth surveyed for a nationwide survey reported feeling unsafe at school because of their gender expression.²

Hearing Negative Comments

- 63% of California students reported that they sometimes or often hear students make negative comments based on gender presentation.³
- 13% of California students report that they sometimes or often hear teachers make negative comments based on gender presentation.⁴
- Only 40% of California students report that sometimes or often they hear teachers or staff stop others when others make negative comments based on gender presentation.⁵

Experiencing Harassment

- 27% of California students report being harassed because they aren’t “masculine enough” or aren’t “feminine enough.”⁶
- 55% of transgender youth on a nationwide survey report being physically harassed at school because of their gender expression.⁷
- 81% of transgender youth on a nationwide survey reported being sexually harassed at school in the past year because of their gender expression.⁸

Improving Protections and Reducing Harassment and Violence

- California students were less likely to be harassed for gender non-conformity if their school harassment policy included sexual orientation and gender, teachers intervened when negative comments were made, their school had a Gay-Straight Alliance club, and students learned about LGBT issues in school.¹⁰
- In a recent poll, 95% of youth supported expanding current hate crimes laws to cover gender and sexual orientation.¹¹
- In the U.S., 4 states, 52 cities and 9 counties include transgender people in their anti-discrimination laws. This means that 24% of the U.S. population is protected from discrimination on the basis of gender identity by statute, and 76% are not.¹²

1 California Safe Schools Coalition, *Safe Place to Learn: Consequences of Harassment Based on Actual or Perceived Sexual Orientation and Gender Non-Conformity and Steps for Making Schools Safer*, p. 16 (2004) (hereinafter *Safe Place to Learn*), available at <http://www.casafeschools.org/SafePlacetolearnLow.pdf>.

2 Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), *National School Climate Survey (2001)*, available at http://www.glsen.org/binary-data/GLSEN_ATTACHMENTS/file/185-1.pdf.

3 *Safe Place to Learn*, supra note 1, at p. 16.

4 *Id.* at p. 16.

5 *Id.* at p. 16.

6 *Id.* at p. 15.

7 GLSEN, *National School Climate Survey*, p. 33 (2003), available at http://www.glsen.org/binary-data/GLSEN_ATTACHMENTS/file/1851.pdf.

8 *Id.* at p. 19.

9 *Safe Place to Learn*, supra note 1, at p. 20.

10 MTV, *Fight for your rights, take a stand against violence: MTV Nationwide Poll (1999)*.

11 National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, *Scope of Transgender-Inclusive Anti-Discrimination Laws (2003)*, available at <http://www.thetaskforce.org/downloads/TransInclaws.pdf>.

12 National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, *Populations of Jurisdictions with Explicitly Transgender-Inclusive Anti-Discrimination Laws (2003)*, available at <http://www.thetaskforce.org/downloads/TransInclaws.pdf>.