

ANTI-LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER VIOLENCE IN 2007

A Report of the
National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs



2008 Release Edition



National Advocacy for Local LGBT Communities

The production of this report was coordinated by the

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2008 RELEASE EDITION

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

This is a report about bias-motivated incidents targeting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals in the U.S during the year 2007. Its author is the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP), a network of over 35 anti-violence organizations that monitor, respond to, and work to end incidents of hate and domestic violence, HIV-related violence, pick-up crimes, rape, sexual assault, and other forms of violence affecting LGBTQ communities.

Fourteen NCAVP members collected detailed information about anti-LGBTQ incidents occurring in their regions throughout 2007 and this data constitutes the basis for most of the analysis in this report. The regions participating in this year's report are Chicago, IL, Colorado, Columbus, OH, Houston, TX, Kansas City, MO, Los Angeles, CA, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, NY, Pennsylvania, San Francisco, CA, Vermont, and Milwaukee, WI. Additionally, we have included information from some regions where there are currently no NCAVP members.

Ultimately, we expect that this report will not only draw attention to the incidents and trends it documents, but that it will also highlight the need for more comprehensive responses to bias violence at the community level and assist NCAVP in advancing such efforts.

Highlights of Findings

The total number of victims reporting anti-LGBTQ violence to NCAVP in 2007 was **2,430** which represents a **24% increase over the total number of victims reported in 2006.**

Regions reporting **increased numbers of victims in 2007 over 2006** include **San Francisco** (+24, 7%), **Pennsylvania** (+10, 28%), **Minnesota** (+85, 135%), **Michigan** (+201, 207%), **Kansas City** (+17, 142%), and **Los Angeles** (+243, 100%).

Regions reporting **decreases in numbers of victims in 2007 include New York City** which reported 82 fewer victims than in 2006 (-14%)

NCAVP MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Members participating in this report are in bold-type

ARIZONA

Wingspan

Anti-Violence Project
425 East 7th Street
Tucson, AZ 85705

Phone (Client): (800) 553-9387
Phone (Client): (520) 624-0348
Phone (Office): (520) 624-1779
Fax: (520) 624-0364
www.wingspan.org

ARKANSAS

Women's Project/
Proyecto Mujeres
2224 Main Street
Little Rock, AR 72206

Phone (Office): (501) 372-5113
Fax: (501) 372-0009
www.womens-project.org

CALIFORNIA

**Community United
Against Violence**

170-A Capp St Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

Phone (Client): (415) 333-HELP
Phone (Office): (415) 777-5500
www.cuav.org

**L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center/
Anti-Violence Project**
1625 North Schrader Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 9002

Phone (Client): (800) 373-2227
Phone (Client): (323) 993-7673
Phone: (Spanish):(877) 963-4666
Fax: (323) 308-4420
www.laglc.org

L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center
STOP Partner Abuse/
Domestic Violence
1625 North Schrader Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90028

Phone (Client): (323) 860-5806
Phone 2: (323) 993-7645
Fax: (323) 308-4114
www.laglc.org/domesticviolence

San Diego LGBT Community
Center
2313 El Cajon Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92104

Phone (Client): (619) 260-6380
Phone (Office): (619) 260-6380
Fax: (619) 718-644
www.thecentersd.org

**COLORADO
Colorado Anti-Violence
Program**

P.O. Box 181085
Denver, CO 80218

Phone (Client): (888) 557-4441
Phone (Office): (303) 839-5204
Fax: (303) 839-5205
www.coavp.org

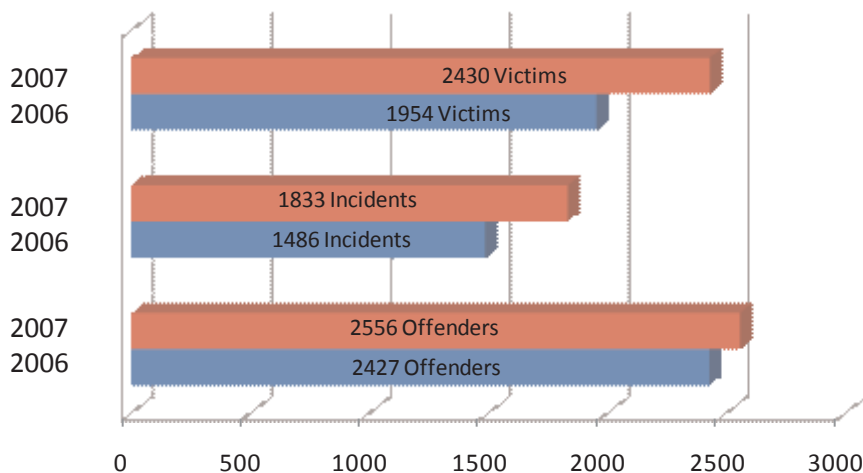
and **Colorado** (-27%), which received 45 fewer reports.

Regions with only **slight or no changes** include **Chicago, Massachusetts, Columbus, Houston, Vermont, and Milwaukee.**

Other Trends of Note

- o Murders more than doubled (10 to 21).
- o The biggest increase percentage-wise in any demographic category was in reports from transmen which rose 65% (from 26 to 43).

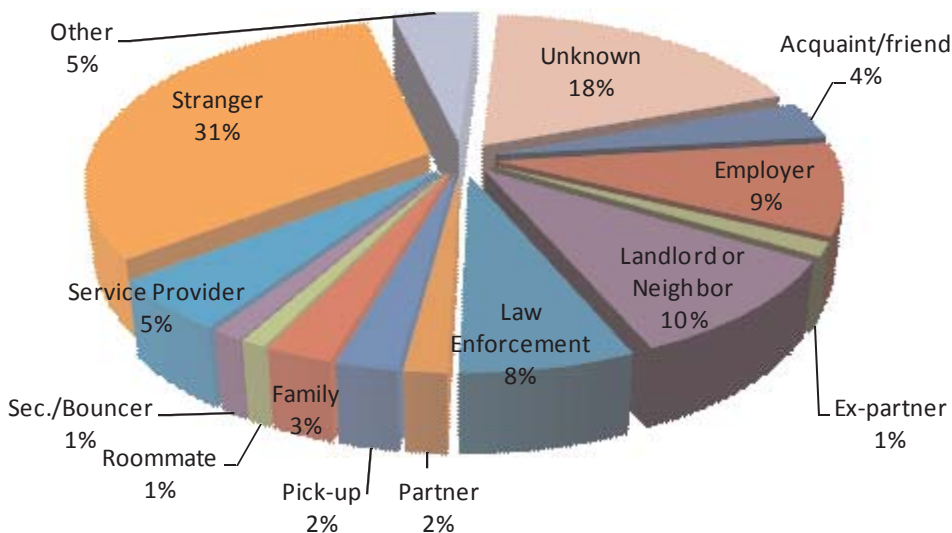
Victims, Offenders, and Incidents 2006 - 2007



- o Reports of sexual assault rose 61% from 70 to 113.
- o There was a 23% increase in reports from women and a 29% increase in reports from men.
- o Reports from trans women decreased slightly (238 to 231), while intersex, and non-specified gender identities stayed about the same.
- o Reports from Asian/Pacific Islanders rose 34%, reports from Latina/os rose 15%, self-identified rose 67%, multi-racial rose 20% and reports from whites rose 35%.

- o Reports from Indigenous, Black, and Arab/Middle Eastern communities stayed about the same, but with the large overall victim increase, the absolute percentage of reports from these communities actually decreased.
- o Non-injury incidents increased 28%.
- o Minor injury decreased slightly 293 to 275 (-6%) but given the overall increase of incidents, that could constitute a more significant drop.
- o Reports of serious injuries also decreased from 234 to 214.

Relationship of Victims to Offenders in 2007 (Out of 2,500 Offenders)



- o Percentage of incidents involving weapons use rose from 557 to 587 up 5% from 2006.
- o Bias violence from strangers decreased 20% from 1015 in 2006, to 809 in 2007.
- o Bias violence from nonstrangers increased 25% from 1394 in 2006 to 1741 in 2007.
- o There were 215 recorded incidents of police misconduct. Law enforcement and police accounted for 8% of the 2550 total offenders for 2007, the 4th largest offender category.

ILLINOIS

Center on Halsted Anti-Violence Project

3656 North Halsted
Chicago, IL 60613

Phone (Client): (773) 871-CARE

Phone (Office): (773) 472-6469

Fax: (773) 472-6643

www.centeronhalsted.org

Howard Brown Health Center
4025 N Sheridan Road
Chicago, IL 60613

Phone (Office): (773) 388-8882

www.howardbrown.org

MASSACHUSETTS

Fenway Community Health Center, Violence Recovery Program

7 Haviland Street
Boston, MA 02115

Phone (Intake): (800) 834-3242

Phone (Office): (617) 927-6250

Fax: (617) 536-7211

www.fenwayhealth.org

The Network/La Red

P.O. Box 6011

Boston, MA 02114

Phone (Hotline): (617) 423-7233

Phone (Office): (617) 695-0877

Fax: (617) 423-5651

www.thenetworkklared.org

MICHIGAN

Triangle Foundation

19641 West Seven Mile Road
Detroit, MI 48219

Phone (Client): (877) 787-4264

Phone (Office): (313) 537-7000

Fax: (313) 537-3379

www.tri.org

MINNESOTA

OutFront Minnesota

310 East 38th Street
Suite 204

Minneapolis, MN 55409

Phone (Hotline): (612) 824-8434

Phone (Office): (800) 800-0350

Fax: (612) 822-8786

www.outfront.org

MISSOURI

Kansas City

Anti-Violence Project

P.O. Box 411211

Kansas City, MO 64141-1211

Phone: (816) 561-0550

www.kcavp.org

Anti-Violence Advocacy Project

P. O. Box 15067

St. Louis, MO 63110

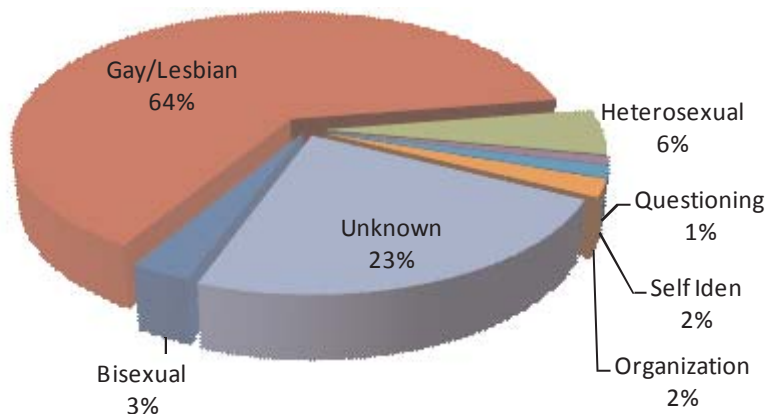
Phone: 314-503-2050

www.stlouisantiviolence.org

- o Strangers accounted for 31%, Nonstrangers accounted for 69% (Landlord/Neighbor accounted for 10%, Employers were 9%).
- o Of the incidents where numbers of offenders were known, 384 (21%) involved multiple offenders targeting an individual (overall ratio of offenders to victims is unknown because there were 403 cases where total number of offenders were unknown and there were no offender numbers available for LA for 2007).
- o Members documented 939 out of 1,833 incidents with one offender and 49% with multiple offenders.
- o Assault without a weapon and assault with a weapon both increased 6%.

Sexual Orientation of Victims & Survivors in 2007

(N=2,430)



- o 24% of incidents reported this year (444 out of 1,833) were reported as serial offenses, with some offenders targeting the LGBTQ caller an excess of 10 times prior to the victim reporting to the organization.
- o 288 (16%) of the total incidents reported in 2007 were in whole or in part, anti-trans motivated.
- o 94 (5%) of the total incidents reported were HIV related.

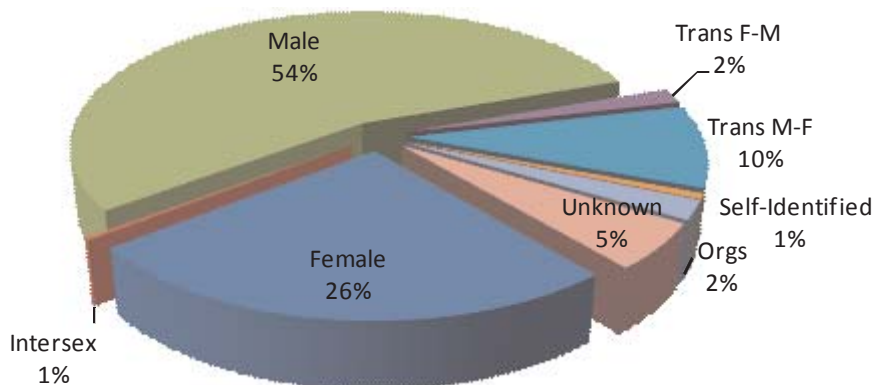
Victims and Survivors of Bias-Motivated Violence

As is generally the case in this report, there are mixed conclusions that can be drawn from the data submitted this year. Regardless of whether or not a particular region charted increases or decreases in reports, overriding concerns expressed by reporting agencies included the twin challenges of continued insufficient levels of funding coupled with an increasing need for services.

Lesbians and gay men represent the majority of those reporting incidents to participating programs. They represent 64% of all victims for whom sexual orientation was known. Bisexual-identified callers

Gender Identity of Victims & Survivors in 2007

(N=2,430)



represented about 3% of reports and those questioning their sexual orientation or gender identity represented 1% of victims. Those with a self-identified orientation other than LGB comprised 2% of victims.

Previous editions of this report have noted an ongoing increase in the number of victims of anti-LGBTQ violence who identify as heterosexual. The trend shifted in 2007, with a 29% drop in reports from heterosexual identified people. Those identifying as heterosexual made up 6% of victims, down slightly from the 10% who identified as such in 2006. A portion of these victims are people of transgender experience who identify as heterosexual, but additional information indicates that the majority of these victims are non-trans, heterosexual men and women who are thought to be gay men or lesbians by their attackers. Perpetrators seldom differentiate between sexual orientation and gender identity in the bias-motivation for their attacks.

MONTREAL

Groupe d'intervention en violence conjugale chez les lesbiennes
C.P. 47577, COP Plateau Mont-Royal
Montreal, Canada H2H 2S8

Phone: (514) 526-2453
www.givcl.org

NEW YORK

Gay Alliance of the Genessee Valley
875 E. Main St., Suite 500
Rochester, NY 14605

Phone (Office): (585) 244-8640
Fax: (585) 244-8246
www.gayalliance.org

In Our Own Voices, Inc.
33 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12210

Phone (Hotline): (518) 432-4341
Phone (Office): (518) 432-4188
Fax: (518) 436-9351

Long Island Lesbian and Gay Youth
34 Park Avenue Avenue
Bayshore, NY 11706

Phone (Office): (631) 665-2300
Fax: (631) 665-774
www.ligaly.org

New York City
Anti-Violence Project
 240 West 35th Street, Suite 200
 New York, NY 10001

Phone (Hotline): (212) 714-1141
 Phone (Office): (212) 714-1184
 Fax: (212) 714-2627
 TTY: (212) 714-1134
 www.avp.org

OHIO
Buckeye Region
Anti-Violence Organization
 P.O. Box 82068
 Columbus, OH 43202

Phone (Office): (614) 294-7867
 (STOP)
 Phone (Hotline): 1-866-86-BRAVO
 Fax: (614) 294-3980
 www.bravo-ohio.org

The Lesbian & Gay Community
 Service Center of Greater
 Cleveland
 6600 Detroit Avenue
 Cleveland, Ohio 44102

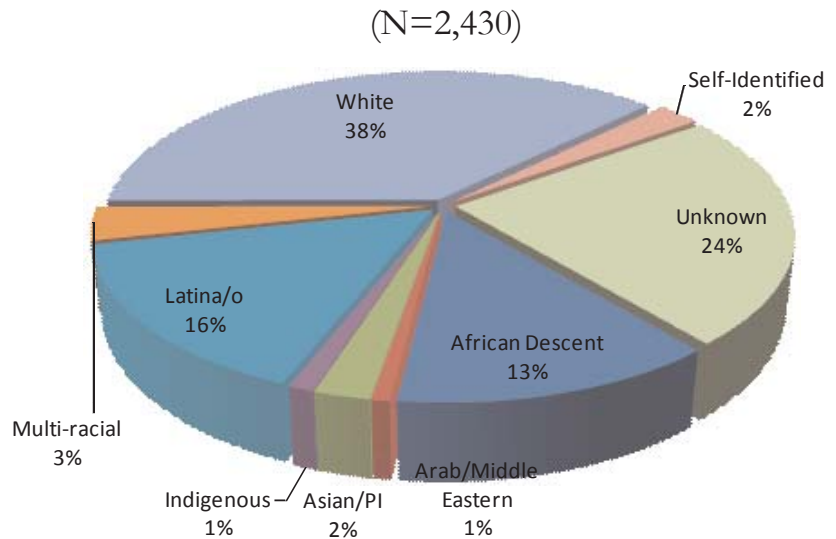
Phone: (216) 651-5428
 Fax: (216) 651-6439
 www.lgcsc.org

ONTARIO
 The 519
 Anti-Violence Programme
 519 Church Street
 Toronto, Ontario Canada
 M4Y 2C9

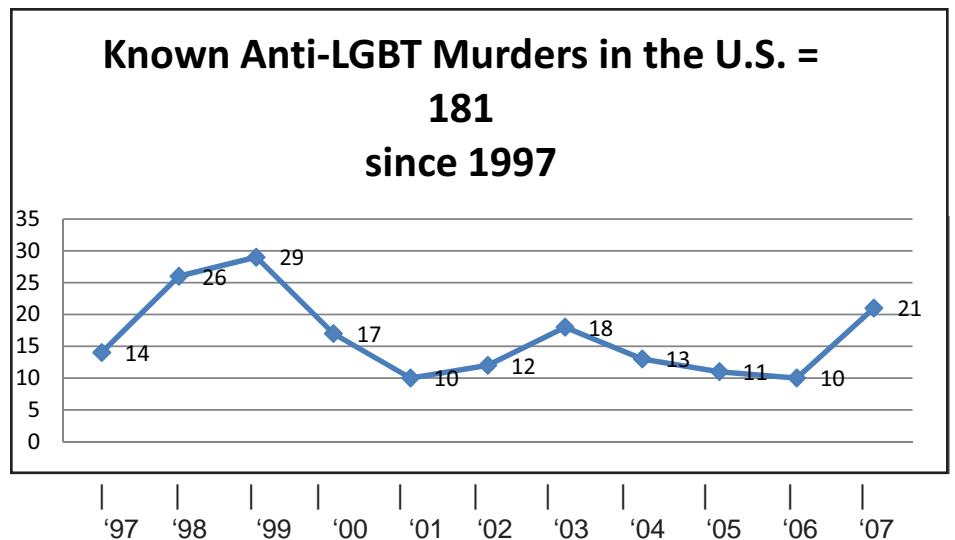
Phone (Client): (416) 392-6877
 Phone (Office): (416) 392-6878
 Fax: (416) 392-0519
 www.the519.org

People of color comprised 51% of callers for whom such data was known in 2007. Specifically, people of African descent made up 17% of victims, Latina/o victims comprised 20%, people of Arab/Middle Eastern descent made up about 1% of victims, as did Native American/Indigenous people. People of Asian descent comprised 3% of victims and those identifying as multiracial made up about 5%. White callers comprised 49% of the total for whom race was known. The chart includes the relatively large 24% of victims for whom race was unknown.

Race/Ethnicity of Victims & Survivors for 2007



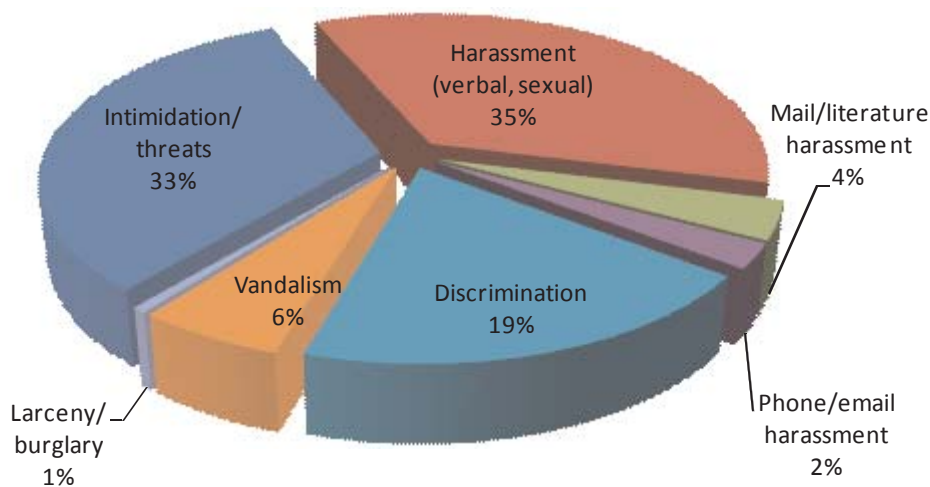
Anti-LGBT related deaths were the third highest ever in NCAVP's reporting history. In 1998, the year of Matthew Shephard's murder, NCAVP members documented a total of 26 anti-LGBT murders. Incidents peaked the following year at 29. The 21 known deaths in 2007 represents the most murders in any given year since the turn of the century. The largest category of offenses (75%)



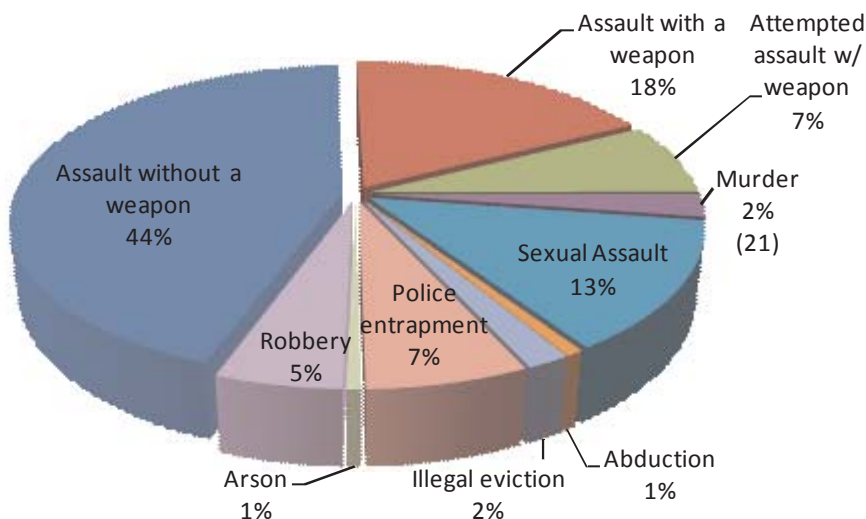
were non-injury offenses such as harassment, threats, and vandalism. While it is encouraging that more than half of the incidents reported did not result in injury, it is important to note that hate violence tends to follow a pattern of escalation with offenders committing “minor” offenses and getting more violent over time if there is no intervention.

Assault without the use of a weapon was the most common form of anti-LGBT assault. However, perpetrators used weapons in numerous

Crimes and Offenses - Harassment and Threats, Non-Physical (N=2,445)



Crimes and Offenses - Physical Contact (N=847)



PENNSYLVANIA
Equality Advocates
Pennsylvania
 1211 Chestnut Street
 Suite 605
 Philadelphia, PA 19107

Phone: (215) 731-1447
 Fax: (215) 731-1544
www.equalitypa.org

TEXAS
Montrose Counseling
Center
 401 Branard Avenue
 Houston, TX 77006

Phone (Office): (713) 529-0037
 Fax: (713) 526-4367
www.montrosecounselingcenter.org

Resource Center of Dallas
 Family Violence Program
 P.O. Box 190869
 Dallas, TX 75219

Phone (Office): (214) 540-4455
 Fax: (214) 522-4604
www.rcdallas.org

Project Get the Word Out
 El Paso, TX 77006
 Phone: (915) 626-5292

VERMONT

**SafeSpace Anti-Violence
Program of the RUI2
Community Center**
P.O. Box 5883
Burlington, VT 05402

Phone (Client): (866) 869-7341
Phone (Office): (802) 863-0003
(V/TTY)
Fax: (802) 863-0004
www.safespacevt.org

VIRGINIA

Equality Virginia Education Fund
Anti-Violence Project
403 N. Robinson St.
Richmond, VA 23220

Phone: (804) 643-4816
Fax: (804) 643-1554
www.equalityvirginia.org/avp

WASHINGTON

The Northwest Network
P.O. Box 20398
Seattle, WA 98102

WASHINGTON D.C.

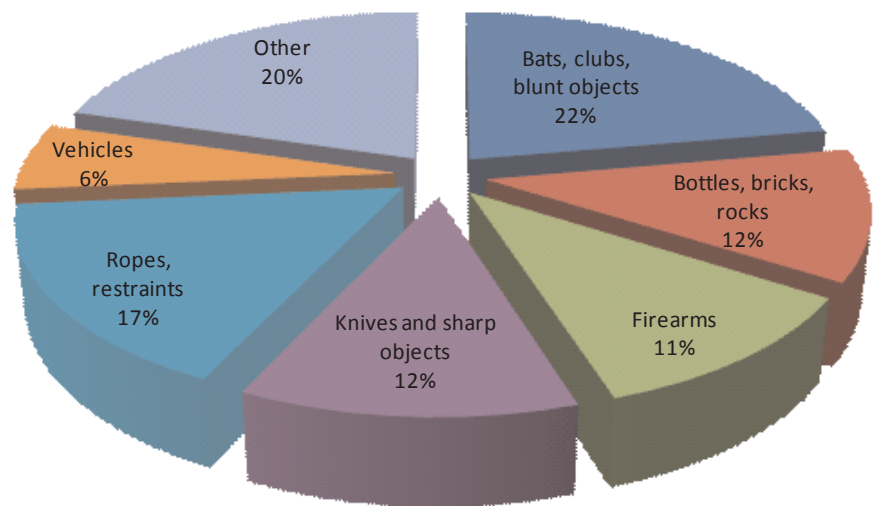
WEAVE Inc, Anti-Violence
Project
1111 16th St NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

assaults in 2007. **While overall anti-LGBT incidents rose 24%, weapons use rose by 28% (from 261 in 2006 to 333 in 2007).**

The most significant changes in weapons use included a 244% increase (from 16 cases in 2006 to 55 cases in 2007) in the use of ropes and/or restraints in the commission of bias crimes. The bulk of this increase occurred in Minnesota. **Other changes included an increase in the use of bats, clubs, and blunt objects (+54%) and a 25% increase in firearm use (from 29 in 2006 to 37 in 2007).**

Weapons Use in 2007

(N = 333)

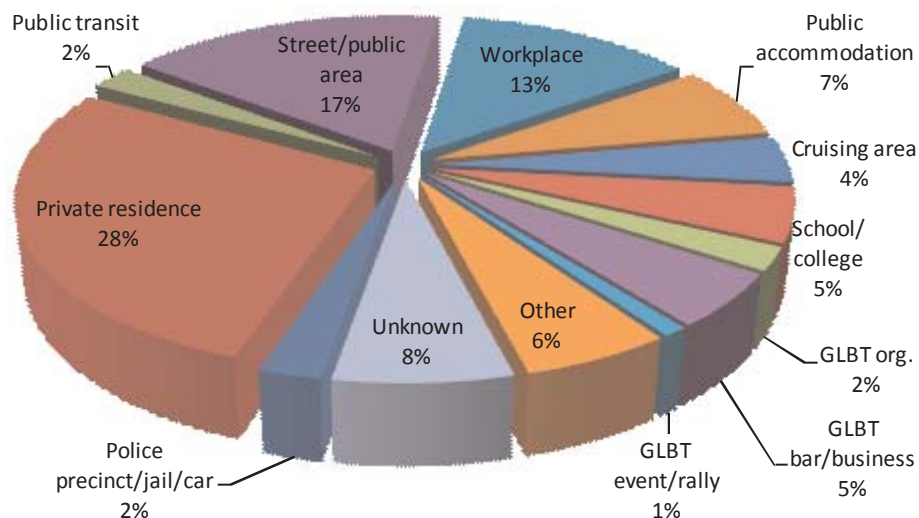


Location of Incidents

One in four incidents where the location was known took place in a private residence. This represents a 33% jump over 2006 numbers, which also correlates with the increase in non-stranger offenders. One possible explanation for this shift could be a growing intolerance for public displays of anti-LGBT behavior and thus a greater need for assailants to isolate their victim. Street/public areas still come in second, though, with 17% of incidents perpetrated publicly. Public accommodation comes in at 7% and primarily represents targeting of trans and gender non-conforming people in restrooms, locker rooms, shelters, jails, and other gendered spaces.

Sites of Anti-LGBT Incidents in 2007

(N = 1,833)



Police Response

Police were known to have been called in 528 (29%) of the total cases reported to NCAVP in 2007. In 894 (49%) cases, the victim(s) did not report to police, but 63 out of the 894 were weighing the possibility of reporting to police at the time they called an organization for help. Additionally, there were 76 (4%) cases where the victim attempted to report and the report was refused by the police. This means there were about 335 cases where we are not certain if the survivor reported to the police. Arrests were made in 118 of the reported cases (22%).

Just over 46% of victims identified the law enforcement they interacted with as “courteous”(176). “Indifferent” was the attitude descriptor offered by 140 victims (37%). Forty two victims (11%) described police as “verbally abusive” (but not physically abusive) and of those, 16 of them reported a use of homophobic or transphobic slurs. Physical abuse from police was reported by 21 victims, with 18 of them identifying physical abuse happening in tandem with slurs.

In 71 cases (a 92% increase over 2006), the individual identifying as the *victim* was arrested. Law enforcement made up an overall 175 of the primary offenders, which is actually a 19% drop from 217 in 2006. Given the overall increase in incidents, this represents a significant drop in the absolute percentage of law enforcement as offenders. Thirty-nine incidents took place in police custody - either a precinct,

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center
315 West Court Street
Suite 101
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Phone (Office): (414) 271-2656
Fax: (414) 271-2161
www.mkelgbt.org

NATIONAL

For Ourselves: Reworking Gender Expression Survivor Project
PO Box 1272
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Phone (Office): (414) 559-2123
Fax: (414) 278-6031
www.forge-forward.org

National Leather Association - International Domestic Violence Project
P.O. Box 423
Blacklick, OH 43004-0423
www.nlaidvproject.us

jail, or car. There was also a 133% jump (from 24 to 56) in cases of police entrapment.

There were fluctuations in information relative to the disposition of reports made to law enforcement. One hundred eighty-three cases (35%) of reports received bias classification by law enforcement - about the same as 36% in 2006. Fifty seven cases (11%) were refused bias classification, marginally higher than the 6% refusal rate in 2006.

Limitations of the Report

Self-Selected Sample

The information contained in this report comes from people who experienced violence *and* who called our organizations for information, support, and/or services. NCAVP requires its members to adhere to standardized and verifiable reporting procedures, however we cannot correct for outside variables. Consistently, far more victims report to NCAVP member agencies than to law enforcement, but even community-based documentation depends on a victim's knowledge of the existence of these organizations *and* the desire to access their services (rather than report solely for statistical purposes). For this reason, NCAVP members engage in various kinds of education and outreach, designed to increase visibility of programs and awareness of services, which can strongly influence the number of reports they receive.

Because anti-LGBTQ violence has historically been poorly addressed by law enforcement (and because law enforcement officials remain one of the prime categories of offenders documented by NCAVP each year), it is very often underreported to police even in jurisdictions where relationships between law enforcement and the LGBTQ population have improved.

Categories of “Unknowns”

On a hotline call, it is not always possible to get all the information about the victim(s), the offender(s), the incident, etc., because the focus of our work is supporting survivors rather than gathering information. Many callers prefer to remain anonymous and many prefer not to disclose any information beyond the recent incident they experienced. As a result, we are often left with a great deal of ‘unknowns’ with regards to some specifics. We are continuing to improve the efficacy of our advocacy services in ways that allow us to learn as much as possible about the people who call us, both to improve the quality of our services as well as the depth of our research.

Geographical Gaps

NCAVP does not currently have member organizations in every single region of the U.S. working with victims and survivors of hate violence. Consequently, there are gaps in geographical areas and incidents happening in those regions are missing from this report. We continue to do outreach in regions where we have gaps and our coalition is continually growing. If you are interested in becoming an NCAVP member, please contact us at info@ncavp.org or 212.714.1184.

This report, despite its limitations, offers some very important information and resources on the issue of anti-LGBTQ violence.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1:

Create a Climate of Respect that Shuns Violence

Foster public, educational, political and cultural messages at local, state and federal levels that make clear acts of hate violence and bias have no part in our communities. Specifically, schools should adopt violence prevention education curricula for youth, as well as develop protocols for protecting students who identify themselves as, or are perceived to be, LGBTQ. Political leaders of every party should speak out forcefully against anti-LGBTQ discrimination and violence and support genuine efforts to end them; businesses should establish and enforce appropriate anti-discrimination standards for the workplace that are inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity; religious leaders should make clear that no major religious tradition holds violence as an acceptable tenet; and the media should explain and report anti-LGBTQ violence in its proper context, i.e., without placing blame on a victim's gender presentation, family status, occupation, etc.

Recommendation 2:

Add Protected Communities

At the federal and many state levels, expanding protected categories would be achieved by passage of new legislation adding sexual orientation and gender identity and expression to existing statutes. Ideal federal legislation would both authorize the U.S. Attorney General to investigate and prosecute bias motivated crimes - particularly those cases in which it is determined that local law enforcement does not have the adequate resources, mandate, or willingness to do so. A primary piece of any federal hate crimes legislation should provide additional resources for enhanced education programs for law enforcement agencies, criminal justice personnel and community groups, actively addressing hate

crimes, and in fact, it is our belief that such resources should be the primary goal of hate crimes legislation rather than the more typical or popular element of penalty enhancements.

Further address violence motivated by homophobia and transphobia at the state level by passing legislation that addresses bias-motivated crime to heighten public awareness and acknowledge the seriousness of the impact of such violence on all marginalized communities.

Recommendation 3:

Encourage Development of Community-Based Solutions

Additional resources should be made available to encourage the development of community-based responses and solutions to anti-LGBTQ violence, as well as hate-motivated violence targeting other marginalized communities. These efforts should prioritize serving victims, reducing the number of incidents that occur through the use of education and information, as well as creating means of redress outside of the criminal justice system - particularly for youth and first-time offenders.

Recommendation 4:

Provide Rehabilitation & Alternatives to Incarceration

As organizations dedicated to the cessation of violence in our society, many NCAVP members and NCAVP itself strongly oppose the use of the death penalty. By extension, though NCAVP recognizes that increased penalties may be part of a legislative and criminal justice strategies to combat hate violence, the coalition does not believe that sentencing enhancements can comprise the sole or even primary method of addressing such violence. In fact, rather than viewing hate violence as a criminal justice problem with social implications, NCAVP believes that hate violence is a social and public health issue with criminal justice implications. To that end, NCAVP recommends that, instead of hate crimes laws that provide only increased penalties, enhanced rehabilitation be provided to convicted offenders to reduce recidivism and interrupt escalating cycles of abuse. Once again, it is essential that alternatives to incarceration be developed, particularly for youth and first-time offenders.

Recommendation 5:

Fund Community-Based Initiatives

A realistic appraisal of the work being accomplished to combat hate-motivated violence at the community level must acknowledge that there is a cost associated with that effort. It is essential that local, state and federal governments fund com-

munity-based anti-violence initiatives such as training programs for law enforcement officers and district attorneys, victims' services and monitoring and reporting efforts like this one. The benefit will be to mitigate and prevent acts of violence against LGBTQ individuals, improve the lives of those who are victimized by them, and build cooperative relationships between LGBTQ communities and a wider range of partners in both the public and private service sectors.

Recommendation 6:

Increase the Efficacy of Law Enforcement

Establish and promote anti-bias units or hate crimes task forces in every major metropolitan and state police force. Investigate and prosecute acts of harassment, intimidation and abuse committed by police officers against LGBTQ individuals. Also provide training and resources to change police cultures and attitudes overall, and end the use of police as instruments of officially sanctioned anti-LGBTQ oppression.

Recommendation 7:

Disallow the Gay and Trans Panic Defenses

Disqualify the so-called “gay panic defense” and the “trans panic defense” as legal resorts for those accused of committing hate-motivated acts against LGBTQ people. In the alternative, the burden of proof in such cases should be shifted onto defendants - similar to that required in many temporary insanity cases.

Recommendation 8:

Fund Research

Comprehensive research involving surveys of LGBTQ people across the country ought to be funded. Research should include qualitative and quantitative approaches - prevalence of violence, origins, and impacts in physical, financial and social respects. In addition, mandate participation in gathering and reporting data by every political jurisdiction, down to the county level. Include analyses of data from community organizations that investigate and address bias violence.

Conclusion

In any given edition of this report, we are careful to note that in general, statistical increases and decreases in our data are not solely a function of rising or declining levels of hate, but may also be reflective of victims' willingness to report incidents and/or advocates' ability to conduct outreach. Overall, the decline we witnessed in 2006 was marginal and while **NCAVP and its members were hopeful that the decline was the beginning of a shift away from the unprecedented rise in anti-LGBTQ violence from 2003-2005, the increases we have witnessed in 2007 indicate hate violence against LGBTQ people may again be on the rise.**

PERSONAL NARRATIVES

Stories from Survivors of Hate Violence in 2007

COLORADO

Charles, 30s, male, white, gay, rural

I went out to a bar with some friends and thought it was going to be a fun night. There was a woman who kept hitting on me, really persistently, and so I finally decided to tell her that I'm gay. Everything was fine at first. Then, she called some friends to come and jump us. They thought my friend was a lesbian, so they kept yelling things at us about going to hell and kept calling me a faggot. I didn't fight back when they started punching and kicking me because there were three of them. I got beat up pretty bad and ended up with chipped teeth and eye problems. My friend was hit in the face, too. I had to go to the hospital and then the ER doctor wouldn't sign off that I had serious bodily harm, which I needed him to do for legal reasons. I'm really frustrated because I don't hide who I am, but I don't broadcast it either. And the medical and legal people definitely aren't as responsive as they should be.

Mark, 20s, male, multi-racial (African-American and Native-American), gay, urban

My friend and I went out around St. Patrick's Day to a bar. On the way home, we were invited into a house where there was a party going on. It seemed cool, so we decided to stay for a while. Not too long after going inside, someone who was pretty drunk started yelling gay slurs at me. Then he started attacking me. He broke one of my teeth. Someone called the police and I'm pressing charges.

Adrienne, transwoman, urban

There's a guy in my neighborhood who keeps calling my boyfriend and me faggots. He won't stop, no matter what I say. I really wanted to file a police report after he threatened to beat the shit out of my boyfriend. I told all of this to CAVP when I called the hotline to get some hotel vouchers. I was evicted because I'm a transsexual female. The person on the phone helped me get some information about tenants' rights and also gave me some phone numbers to call about getting a lawyer and transitional housing.

KANSAS CITY

Spencer, 25, male who identifies as gay

One day after leaving work in the early afternoon I stopped by a local gay and lesbian bar for a drink before I headed home. The bar was pretty empty that day except for a man sitting next to me. I went to the bathroom and then returned and chatted with the man while I finished my beer. I then began to feel dizzy so I paid my tab and left the bar. The man followed me outside and hit me and forced me into my car. He made me drive to an ATM to withdraw money but before I could get there I blacked out and crashed my car into a curb in a busy area of town. The man slit my throat and then ran away. Bystanders called for an ambulance. I was taken to the hospital where I received 12 stitches to my throat and the doctors found that I had been drugged. After getting out of the hospital I was scared to go anywhere or tell people at work what happened.

I began having anxiety and flashbacks about the attack and was unable to sleep. I also was extremely worried about how I was going to pay for my medical expenses because I did not have health insurance. A friend of mine told me about KCAVP and said they may be able to help. When I called KCAVP my advocate and I talked about what I can do to feel safer. She also referred me to a therapist that I could talk to about what happened. My advocate also sat down with me and helped me fill out an application for Crime Victim's Compensation to cover my medical expenses. I am now feeling much better and I am less afraid. I also received Crime Victim's Compensation that covered all of my medical bills. I don't know what I would have done if I did not reach out for help.

Sandy, 28, female who identifies as lesbian

I am Sandy and I am the mother of a 7 year old daughter. We had lived in our neighborhood for about two years when some teenage kids began harassing my daughter because her mom is a "dyke". One afternoon one of the kids took off her belt and hit my daughter with it. We also started having our house vandalized and someone shot out our back window. Both my daughter and I were very afraid. A social worker at my daughter's school gave me the number to KCAVP and told me to call for help. I ended up using their emergency housing program and my advocate helped me to find a new place to live so we could feel safer. She also came down to the police station when I went to talk to police officers. Now both my daughter and I are safe and happy. I thank KCAVP for being there when I needed them.

MICHIGAN

In July of 2007, The Black Pride Society

hosts a series of events in Detroit called "Hotter Than July." A well-attended event is the annual barbeque. This year, the event was marked with intolerance and threats of violence. The volunteers set up a large tent with tables and chairs on a basketball court to provide shade to the organizations and businesses signed up for the event. A group of about 20 to 25 men came to the court and began taking down the tables, chairs, and tent. When confronted by volunteers, two became physically aggressive with one threatening to "bash in their head" while wielding a tent stake. Triangle Foundation worked with the Black Pride Society for immediate police response for the protection of Hotter Than July participants.

In March of 2007, a young non-gender conforming man

was assaulted during a date. The assailant stripped the victim naked, burned him with cigarettes, cut him, beat him and stole several items from the victim, including his cell phone. The assailant then proceeded to call the people in the victim's phone, threatening them with physical violence, using anti-LGBT slurs in each phone call. One of the phone calls was placed to the Ruth Ellis Center, a drop-in center for LGBT youth. The police refused to work with the victim on a composite and no charges have been filed.

In April of 2007, the Central Michigan University's Gay Pride Week

was marred by anti-LGBT chalking. Statements like, "Man + Woman = Marriage", "Allah Hates Gays", "Say No to Gay Pride", and "Straight = HIV Free" were found on sidewalks throughout the campus. The university administration, though supportive of the LGBT community, refused to wash the sidewalks to protect the protestors' "right to free speech".

In September of 2007, Angie Potter

took her annual trip to East Tawas, Michigan for a softball tournament. In the past, this has always been a weekend full of friendship and fun. This year, however, was different. While at a hotel bar, a man began yelling anti-gay slurs at Angie. Since she had been sitting with him only a little while before that, Angie asked the man what his problem was. The man lunged at Angie, grabbing her by the throat. He choked her for several minutes, leaving marks across her neck for days after the attack. He continued to yell the slurs throughout the attack. No one from the hotel interceded. Hotel staff didn't even call the police, though

they told Angie they had. When Angie called the police, they were quick to respond. But the fact that she relied on the hotel staff saying they had called the police caused such a delay that the assailant left the scene before the police arrived. The next morning, Angie saw her assailant in the hotel. She asked the hotel management to remove him. They refused. She then asked to check out late because she didn't feel safe. The hotel staff refused to refund her money for that day, making it impossible for Angie to check into another hotel. Triangle Foundation contacted the hotel following the attack, asking for an apology for Angie as well as her money back, but the hotel did not respond to phone calls or letters. Triangle Foundation held a protest outside of the hotel that resulted in several guests deciding to stay at a different hotel or checking out early.

Following the public story of Senator Larry Craig

being arrested in a police sting, Michigan has seen a dramatic increase in undercover police stings at public restrooms and parks. In almost all of the cases, cars were seized, resulting in fines ranging from \$500.00 to \$950.00. Additional fees are added each day the car is in police possession. The fee must be paid for return of the car, regardless of whether the person is charged or is found guilty. Michigan has one of the worst economies in the nation and it appears that these law enforcement agencies are attempting to build revenue by targeting a vulnerable population of men who will pay their fines without question. In many situations, cars were seized but the accused were not arrested or issued a ticket. Most found out much later that there were warrants out for their arrest. One defendant in particular declined an officer's offer to perform sexual acts in a public park and the defendant was arrested leaving the park. This man is now facing termination from his employment, despite the fact that the charges were dismissed. At least one city police department has employed tactics that are being challenged on constitutional grounds.

NEW YORK

Tracy Bumpus, July, 2006

In July 2006, Tracy Bumpus, a transgender woman, was discriminated against by a New York City transit employee because of her gender identity. Ms. Bumpus' metrocard failed to work at a Brooklyn subway stop so she sought help from a transit worker. Instead of providing assistance to Ms. Bumpus, the female transit worker harassed her with anti-transgender slurs and epithets, called her a "dyke" and ridiculed her. Some straphangers overheard this and joined in harassing Ms.

Bumpus. Ms. Bumpus filed suit against the NYC Transit Authority for discriminating against her. The NYC TA argued that as an independent legal entity it was immune from the city's Human Rights Law, but soon after, Justice Robert Miller issued a ruling to the contrary, giving Ms. Bumpus a green light to move forward with her lawsuit. He stated, "The Human Rights Law affords protection to transgender people in New York City. By riding the subway, a transgender person doesn't become less of a person and lose the protection of the Human Rights Law."

Khadijah Farmer, 28, June 24, 2007

Khadijah Farmer filed suit against Caliente Cab Company, a West Village restaurant on Seventh Ave. in Manhattan, NYC, for being thrown out of a women's room by a bouncer who mistook her for a male. Ms. Farmer was at the Caliente Cab Company restaurant with her companion and a friend after the gay pride parade on June 24 when she left the table to go to the women's room. Shortly after a male bouncer burst into the restroom and began pounding on the stall door. He was yelling that someone complained about a man being in a women's bathroom and ordered Ms. Farmer to leave the restroom and the restaurant. She attempted to show him her ID but he refused to see it and made a statement to the effect that he did not care. Ms. Farmer and her party were told to pay for the food they had ordered and then were forced to leave the restaurant. In May of 2008, Farmer and her attorneys from Transgender Legal Defense Fund successfully settled with the company, resulting in several gender-inclusive policy changes and compensation to Ms. Farmer.

SAN FRANCISCO

Marisela, a transgender Latina woman,

brought a civil court case against the California Department of Corrections for failing to protect her after she reported harassment and feeling unsafe with her cell mates. The lack of action on the part of the Department of Corrections contributed to Marisela then being raped and beaten by her cellmates. CUAV provided court watch during her court trial and was a media and community advocate.

Erika, a transgender Latina woman,

is a survivor of multiple threats and hate violence at a previous place of employment. Erika was a reliable, well respected, long term employee at a San Francisco hotel. One of her co-workers found out that Erika is transgender and began harassing her. This co-worker called her transphobic and homophobic names, made threats on her life, and made repeated prank calls on Erika's

home phone. Erika came to CUAV and received peer counseling, legal and police advocacy. With the assistance of a CUAV advocate, Erika attained a police report. Unfortunately, Erika lost her case against the hotel for lost wages and failure to protect her as an employee.

Leo and Jill, a mixed race couple,

were harassed and threatened by one of Jill's acquaintances. For over a month they received anti-HIV, homophobic and transphobic notes on their apartment door as well as their car windshield. They began sleeping in their living room for fear of being attacked through their bedroom window which is easily accessible. Eventually the harassment stopped after repeated efforts with the police, the landlord, and switching to another apartment in the building.

Eric, a white gay man,

was the victim of a hate crime while he was coming home from San Francisco's Pride celebration. He was attacked by a stranger and knocked unconscious. As a result of the attack Eric sustained long term serious injuries requiring him to go on long term disability. Eric made two police reports and received peer counseling with CUAV. CUAV helped him file police reports, receive assistance through Victim Witness, and provided emotional support. Eric did receive compensation for various aspects of his case.

Aiden, a white gay youth,

was a victim of a hate crime and pick-up violence. Aiden had connected with another male youth on "My Space" and they agreed to meet and hang-out socially. When Aiden arrived at the meeting destination there were two men that started to gay bash him with a bat. Aiden was hit in the head and fled for his life while anti-gay epithets were being yelled. Currently, one of the assailants has been arrested. The other attacker was not found. CUAV connected Aiden with Victim Witness assistance for court advocacy as well as compensation for hospital bills and surgery.

Joshua, a white gay male elder, living with AIDS

recently moved into an apartment building and had a disagreement with his upstairs neighbors when they parked in his parking space. The neighbors responded with ongoing anti-gay threats to harm him. Joshua made attempts to document these incidents with the local police department. Much of CUAV's work was ensuring that the SFPD was documenting and following up on the bias/ anti-gay language in the case.

Hate-Motivated Murders in 2007

These narratives represent the most recorded anti-LGBT related deaths of any year so far in the 21st century. Over half of all LGBT people murdered in 2007 were people of color.

CHICAGO

Aaron Hall, 35, of Crothersville Indiana

was repeatedly beaten and died on April 12, 2007. Coleman King, 18 and 19-year-old Garrett Gray, claim Hall made a sexual advance toward King in Gray's home. Hall, Gray, King and another acquaintance, James Hendricks, 20, were all drinking beer and whiskey when Hall allegedly made the sexual advance. Witness accounts claim King punched Hall, and then jumped on him, punching him several more times. Gray joined King and between the two, beat Hall four more times with fists and their boots, before dragging Hall down a wooden staircase by his feet and then loading him into the bed of Gray's truck. Hendricks, then assisted by allegedly driving Gray's truck, while Gray and King continued to beat Hall in the bed of the truck before dumping his body in a ditch. The men returned a few days later to pick up Hall's body wrap it in a tarp and hide it in Gray's detached garage. Police found the body 10 days later.

As of early 2008, Garrett Gray admitted to voluntary manslaughter in an Indiana Circuit Court, under a plea bargain deal that would give Gray a 30-year prison term. Sentencing is set for January 30. Gray's co-defendant, Coleman King, pleaded guilty to the same charge and on January 15, 2008 the plea for voluntary manslaughter was accepted, sentencing King to 30 years in prison for his part in the killing of Aaron Hall.

On November 17, 2007, 24-year-old Larry Bland

was shot to death in his Englewood home. Bland was shot more than once after struggling with a man who had entered the house through an unlocked basement door. Family members have been quoted in the media suggesting that Bland could have met his assailant on a popular gay men's website, and that many gay men don't "come out" in their neighborhood, for fear of their safety. As of this report, police are still investigating.

Donald Young, 47, of South Shore

died on December 23, 2007, due to multiple gunshot wounds, and his death was ruled a homicide. Young's roommate discovered his body in their South Shore apartment. Police are still investigating.

MICHIGAN

Andrew Anthos

On February 13, 2007, Andrew Anthos, an elderly man living in Detroit, was riding a Detroit bus on the way back to his apartment. A man approached him on the bus, demanding to know if Andrew was gay. This same man followed him off of the bus at Andrew's stop where Andrew was helping a friend in a wheelchair get through the slush and snow. As Andrew helped his friend, the man from the bus called him a "fag" and struck him in the back of the head. Andrew's friend heard both the blow and then Andrew hitting the ground. Andrew was never to walk again - his degenerative spinal condition was spiraled into paralysis by the blow to the back of his head. He died ten days later from the injuries.

The medical examiner on this case ruled that Andrew's death was the result of natural causes. The medical examiner stated that Andrew "was admitted after collapsing on the street." The medical examiner also states that there was no abnormality noted on Andrew's head "except for a 2" diameter resolving parieto-occipital scalp hematoma." This statement fails to acknowledge that the hematoma is 10 days old. The medical examiner attributes Andrew's death to his degenerative arthritis that eventually caused respiratory failure and pneumonia. The homicide case was, therefore, closed.

Triangle Foundation immediately tried to get a meeting with Ella Bully-Cummings, the Detroit Police Chief, following the incredulous closing of this homicide. Three letters and five months later, we met with Commander Tolbert of the Major Crimes Division. Commander Tolbert stated that officers spent 40+ hours on the case. But in the less than 40 hours Triangle staff and volunteers spent canvassing the resident's of Andrew's apartment complex, we spoke with several individuals who were with Andrew right after the attack - to whom none of which the Detroit Police Department spoke. Further, the implication that Andrew simply fell was disregarded by all to whom we spoke, with one person stating that she had never seen him lose his balance in all of the years she had known him. Triangle Foundation continues to advocate for the re-opening of this case as a homicide.

Charles Darr

The body of sixty-nine year-old Charles Darr was found in his burning home on August 7, 2007. The cause of death is strangulation by a belt or a cloth. There was also evidence of blunt force trauma to his head, most likely caused by a baseball bat. The date of death is August 5, 2007. Police believe that

Michael Kerr, age thirty-five, set fire to Mr. Darr's home after neighbors complained of an odor coming from the second floor of the house. Kerr has been in custody since shortly after the body was discovered, but no trial date has been set pursuant to pre-trial motions. The few statements made by Kerr indicate that this was a pick-up crime.

The Suicide of a Transgender Teen

A transgender youth began outwardly transitioning from female to male. He had the love of his family who publically declared their support of their child by founding TransYouth Family Advocates. He was scheduled to legally change his name in a few short days. But, in October of 2007, he took his own life. Despite the support at home, he could no longer bear the day-to-day bullying he experienced from classmates. The drastic actions of this youth demonstrates the undeniable impact the constant torture of bullying has on the life of a child.

NEW YORK

Roberto Duncanson, 20 yrs old, Latino. May 12, 2007

Roberto Duncanson's life was cut short on May 12, 2007 when he was stabbed to death by a teenager who became enraged because he thought Duncanson was flirting with him. Omar Willock and a female friend were standing on the corner of St. Marks Ave. in Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, when Mr. Duncanson passed by. Willock became upset because he thought Duncanson was flirting with him and barraged Duncanson with homophobic slurs and yelled: "Stop looking at me faggot!" as Duncanson passed by. Duncanson was on his way to meet a friend and walked away. On his way back he encountered Willock again. Willock continued to yell anti-gay slurs and threats at Duncanson and a verbal argument ensued. Willock then chased Duncanson down the street, caught up to him and started a fist fight. Sometime during the fight, Willock pulled out a knife and stabbed Duncanson four times. Duncanson died in a hospital an hour later. Five days later, Willock, a 17-year-old male, was arrested for the stabbing death of Mr. Duncanson and was indicted on the charge of murder in the 2nd degree as a hate crime. He faces 25 years to life in prison if convicted.

Dean Johnson, 45, September 20, 2007

Dean Johnson was found dead in Washington, DC after traveling to meet an acquaintance he had exchanged e-mail messages with. On September 20, 2007, a day after he arrived in Washington, officers responding to a phone call went to a building on 2400 16th Street Northwest and found Mr. Johnson uncon

scious. He was taken to a hospital where he was pronounced dead. According to police sources, four days earlier, another man, Jeremy Conklin, 26, was found dead at the same scene. The men, who did not know each other, traveled separately in September from New York City to stay with Steven Saleh, who lives at the upscale Envoy Towers. As per *The Washington Blade*, the deaths of two gay men whose bodies were found four days apart died of "acute intoxication" from drugs or alcohol, but it could not be determined whether the deaths were accidental or due to suicide or murder, according to a report by the D.C. Medical Examiner's office. Many remain puzzled by the undetermined deaths of two men, who appeared healthy at the time of their departure from New York, and turned up dead in the same apartment and in the same week due to unknown causes.

Dashon Harvey, 20, August 4, 2007

On August 4, 2007 around midnight Saturday, Dashon Harvey and three of his friends, Terrance Aerial (Age 18), Iofemi Hightower (Age 20) and Natasha Aerial (Age 19) were listening to music in a well-lit playground behind Mount Vernon Elementary School in Newark, NJ, when they were brutally murdered execution-style by being shot in the head. Only Natasha Aerial survived. Harvey and his friends, all college students, were forced to kneel against the wall and shot at close range. According to some media reports, two of the victims may have been sexually assaulted before they were killed. As per reports from people in the community who knew the victims, it is believed that at least one of the victims was gay. To date, six suspects were arrested in connection with this heinous crime and charged with three counts of first-degree murder. Authorities contended that robbery appeared to be the motive discounting concerns that the murders may have been anti-gay hate crime despite LGBT groups urging the city to investigate the bias angle.

Raul Jose Prieto, 70, May 16, 2007

Raul Jose Prieto was found dead in his bedroom on May 16, 2007 in his home at 145 East 35th Street. Prieto's brother became concerned after he had not heard from him in a while and went to the building and met Prieto's friend who had a key to the apartment. They found Prieto lying face down on his bed with a head wound and wounds on his throat. Medical examiner's office ruled that the cause of death was blunt trauma to the head and compression of the neck. No arrest has been made and the case remains unsolved. Police said the murder may have been a robbery gone bad, but they did not discount a possibility this was a pick-up crime.

**Francis De La Hoz, 28
September 25th, 2007**



**Mr Francis De La Hoz of
Brooklyn, NY**

On September 25th, 2007 at about 12PM Francis De La Hoz, a SoHo hairstylist and beloved community member, was found stabbed to death in his apartment at 114 Smith Street in Brooklyn, NYC. When Mr. De La Hoz did not appear at work, his colleagues became concerned and went to his apartment and the landlady called the police. There was no signs of forced entry to his apartment. To date, the case remains unsolved. Police are still searching for a man he had been dating whom he met online.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sotcha Bosio, a 45 year old Caucasian transgender woman, was found dead in her rental car. There were large amounts of blood and signs of sexual activity and struggle in the vehicle. The nature of the death is very suspicious but no conclusive signs of murder or bias have yet to be discovered in the case by investigators.

Brian Webster, a 26 year old openly gay man, was found dead on the street in front of the Hilton Hotel in the Financial District/ Powell area. Brian, who lived in San Diego, was visiting with a group of friends. They had gone to a night club Ruby Skye where "Fresh," a gay tea dance, is held. His friends reported that he was not drinking alcohol or using

drugs while at the club. After leaving the club Brian separated from his friends and was not seen or heard from again until his body was found. Brian's death was first seen as a shooting murder. Now it is being considered a suicide. Friends and family are shocked and confused by the situation and the lack of information surrounding the case. It remains unclear if the incident was a murder, a suicide or an accident.

Ruby Ordeñana, a transgender Latina woman,

was found beaten, strangled and naked on March 16, 2007 in the Mission District. Her body was found with signs of over kill, often linked with bias murders. Ruby, originally from Nicaragua, was a loved and integral part of the Mission based Transgender community. She participated in many groups and services during her time in San Francisco. Her death led to many community events and vigils and much Transgender awareness building and activism. Transphobia against Ruby continued after her death as CUAV and other community based organizations organized to hold the Nicaraguan consulate and funeral home accountable for changing Ruby's clothes from a dress to a suit during her funeral viewing. Ruby's case has also received backlash from various media outlets in the United States Nicaragua. Ruby's body was taken to Nicaragua and CUAV has been working to support her family's desire to participate in community events to bring awareness around Ruby's tragic death. Ms. Ordeñana's case is still under investigation.



Ms. Ruby Ordeñana of the Mission in San Francisco

Joe Konopka, a white 65 year old,

long time anti-drug activist was murdered in his Upper Haight-Ashbury home on July 11, 2007. He was well known for his activism and bravery in the Upper Haight neighborhood because of his leadership in Residents Against Druggies (RAD).

RAD was a neighborhood group that patrolled the streets to decrease drug use and dealing in the neighborhood. Joe was murdered during an S&M situation and was found with his hands tied in restraints with a hood/ plastic bag over his head. Terry D. Frazier was arrested on suspicion of murder, robbery, burglary and false imprisonment. While Mr. Konopka was suffocating Frazier stole from the victim. Frazier was also being held on an unrelated drug charge.

Rosa Avina, a 27 year old Latina Lesbian

was murdered in Ballico, California (Merced County) on October 25, 2007. The murder began when the suspects invaded her home and kidnapped her. Once abducted the attackers bound her hands and feet and placed a bag over her head. She was placed in an abandoned boat located near a burn pile and set on fire. Rosa broke free from her restraints and walked half a mile with second and third degree burns over 95 percent of her body. She then collapsed at a farm where she was discovered by workers. Her burns were so severe, that deputies could not tell what gender she was. She died two days later from her injuries. Police were not citing the murder as a hate crime despite the fact that her sexual orientation was known to the offenders. Investigators believe the men conspired to kill Avina after she failed to pay them for about \$750 worth of drugs. The extreme violence and over kill would be consistent with anti-LGBT bias.

Satender Singh, a 26 year old recent Fijian male immigrant

was murdered while hanging out with a group of South Asian friends at Lake Natoma (Sacramento County). On July 1, 2007 a group of Slavic men began calling Singh and his friends "7-Eleven workers" and "Sodomites." Eventually one of the assailants, Andrei Vusik, sucker-punched Mr. Singh in the head causing him to fall to the ground, unconscious and bleeding. Singh suffered a brain hemorrhage as a result of the attack. On July 5, 2007 when tests confirmed that he was clinically brain dead his family removed him from artificial life support. The attack was a day long series of verbal insults, taunts and harassment that became physically violent. Later in the attack, the attackers called on cell phones to invite more friends to join in the assault.

There were at least 6 men involved in the attacks. The assailants bragged about belonging to a Russian evangelical church and told Singh that he should go to a "good church" like theirs. This church is linked to a growing anti-gay movement in the Sacramento Valley that is centered among Russian and Ukrainian speaking immigrants. Many of these church goers are members of an international extremist anti-gay movement/ group called the Watchmen on the Walls. In Latvia, the Watchmen are popular among Christian fundamentalists and ethnic Russians. They have been

documented leading anti-gay rallies where gays and lesbians are pelted with bags of excrement and suffer other forms of harassment. On the West coast of the United States the Watchmen have a following among Russian-speaking evangelicals from the former Soviet Union. The groups membership is increasingly active in Sacramento, Seattle and Portland, cities that are traditionally gay-friendly.

**Mr. Satender Singh
of San Francisco**
Photo courtesy of
www.lgbthatecrimesproject.org



Robert Hardaman, a 70 year old gay man

from Oakland was killed in December 2007. The suspect in the murder is a 19 year old, queer youth who met Hardaman in public the day before his death. The suspect confessed to beating Robert to unconsciousness in response to an alleged, attempted rape by Hardaman. Robert was found moaning, but alive by his Landlady who is also his downstairs neighbor. He died on December 9 when his family took him off life support.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Sean William Kennedy, 20 years old, May 16, 2007

Sean William Kennedy was walking to his car after leaving a local bar in Greenville, SC when a car pulled up next to him. A man got out, approached Kennedy and then punched him in the face while calling him a faggot. The punch sent Kennedy to the ground and he hit his head on the pavement. Kennedy suffered a fatal head injury and later died in the hospital. Kennedy's attacker, Stephen Andrew Moller, 18, was arrested for the murder, but the grand jury decided to indict him on a lesser charge of involuntary manslaughter. Although Kennedy was targeted and ultimately killed because of his sexual orientation, the case is not being prosecuted as a hate crime because South Carolina does not have any hate crimes legislation. If convicted, Moller faces as little as zero to five years in prison.



Sean William Kennedy of Greenville, SC

Photo courtesy of www.seanslastwish.com



Rally in San Francisco in support of Ruby Ordeñana. Photos by Rick Gerharter courtesy of Community United Against Violence.

REGIONAL DATA & SUMMARIES

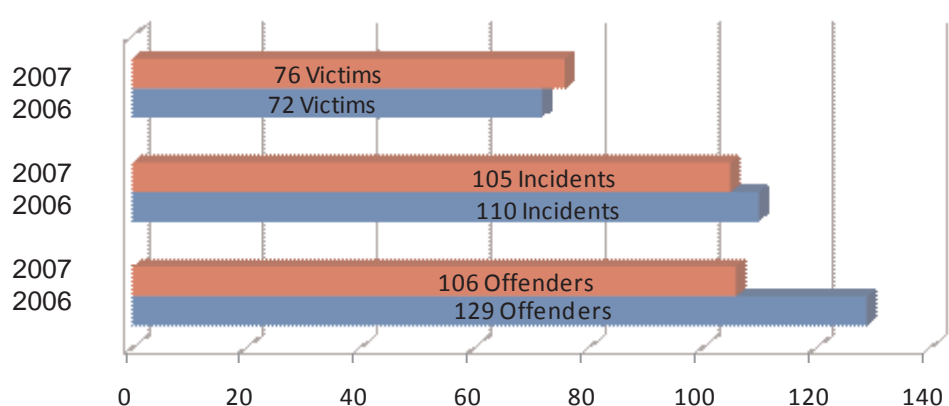
CHICAGO

The Center on Halsted Anti-Violence Project offers a 24-hour crisis hotline, counseling, support groups, legal advocacy, information and referrals and, in addition, provides professional trainings and presentations on violence, discrimination, LGBT and HIV-related sensitivity and workplace issues. Services are available in both English and Spanish.

During 2007, 76 survivors of hate violence accessed services through the Anti-Violence Project. This is a slight increase from the 72 survivors who accessed services in 2006, indicating the number of survivors holds steady after the significant increase in 2005 when 34 survivors reported incidents to the Anti-Violence Project. Females accounted for only 16 of the total reported cases while males accounted for 44 of the total.

There were 6 M-F and 2 F-M transgender reports and 3 organization-identified reports. The remaining 5 reports came from individuals choosing not to disclose their gender. The majority, 52 of the reports came from individuals who identified themselves as gay or lesbian and only 1 individual identified their orientation as questioning. The remaining reports accounted for the 3 organizations and 20 unknown orientation individuals. The extent of those who reported injuries included 8 individuals who sustained minor injuries, while 3 individuals suffered serious injuries. Of those 11 reports, 6 individuals received medical attention. The NCAVP intake form is thorough and enables AVP to record offender information as well. In 2007 Chicago AVP reports 106 offenders; 13 female, 38 male, 6 organizations and a larger report of 49 unknown offenders compared to the 16 unknown offenders in 2006. Of the 72 incidents, 29 were reported to police, which resulted in 7 offender arrests.

Chicago Victims, Incidents, and Offenders



AVP provided critical incident support and outreach through attendance at community town hall meetings, with Windy City LGBT Black Pride, the State's Attorney's Office and Chicago Police Department representatives after a home invasion shooting occurred injuring six people who were thought to be gay. While the investigation was not classified as a hate crime, members of the South Side community where the incident occurred openly voiced opinions about the "Gay Lifestyle" not being welcome in their neighborhood.

As part of a landmark ACLU settlement involving a Chicago shelter that denied occupancy to a lesbian, Center on Halsted Anti-Violence Project, Chicago Lawyers Commission for Civil Rights Under Law, Lambda Legal and Lawyers Committee for Better Housing provided LGBT Discrimination and Anti-Violence training for City of Chicago Homeless Shelter Providers. A separate half-day training was held for the shelter named in the lawsuit.

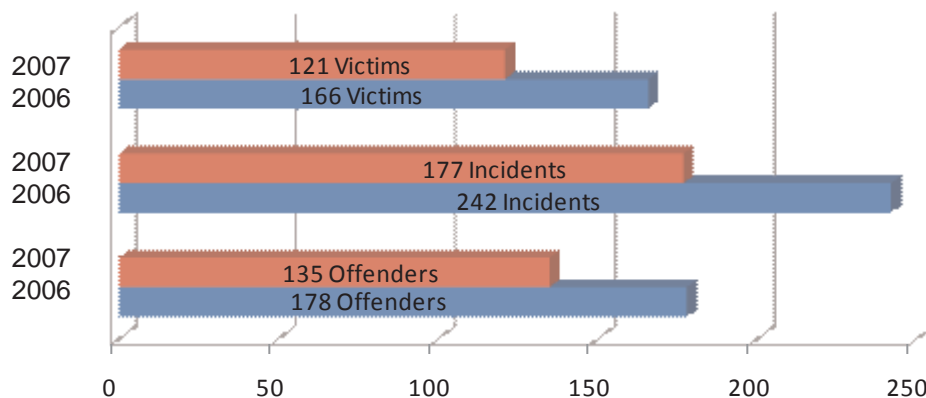
Chicago's Center on Halsted is the Midwest's largest comprehensive community center for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) persons. As a resource and gathering place for youth and adults in a safe, inviting atmosphere, the Center offers support networks and programming to meet the cultural, emotional, social, educational and recreational needs of the LGBT community and friends. The new three-story, 175,000-square foot Center contains a Whole Foods Market with parking; and 65,000-square feet of space for programs, meetings, offices and conferences. The Center's facility, which includes a theater, a multipurpose gymnasium, a rooftop garden, dedicated spaces for youth and senior programming, a cyber center and counseling suites, has provided Chicago's LGBT community greater accessibility to the Center's programs and services, resulting in unprecedented numbers of new clients, program participants and visitors. In addition, the Center on Halsted Anti-Violence Project reached nearly 400 individuals through training provided on Domestic Violence in LGBT relationships, and reached nearly 500 individuals through participating in panel discussions, speaking at classes, and participating in health fairs.

COLORADO

Since 1986, the Colorado Anti-Violence Program has been dedicated to eliminating violence within and against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities in Colorado, and providing the highest quality services to survivors. CAVP provides direct client services including crisis intervention, information, and referrals for LGBT victims of violence 24 hours a day. CAVP also provides technical assistance, training, and education for community organizations, law enforcement, and mainstream service providers on violence issues affecting the LGBT community.

While CAVP works with victims of various types of violence (including domestic violence, sexual assault, HIV-motivated violence, police misconduct and random violence), one of the highest rates we document is classified as bias-motivated violence or hate crimes.

Colorado Victims, Incidents, and Offenders



The statistics we have submitted to this report, on the surface, indicate a decrease in both cases and number of victims from the 2006 report. A closer look shows that the number of victims decreased 27% from 166 to 121, but the number of cases has only decreased 7% from 127 to 118 cases. Based on these numbers, we can see that the number of cases involving multiple victims has decreased at a higher rate than the number of cases that have been reported.

We can attribute the decrease in total cases to a couple of factors. First, CAVP has increased proactive training efforts with the new hire of a Director of Training and Education. The development of new curriculum and more frequent trainings has led to increased internal capacity of mainstream organizations to provide appropriate services to LGBTQ communities. However, based on the calls for technical assistance, we often see that systemic bias contributes to the denial of services to those identifying or perceived as being part of the LGBTQ community. The rate at which we receive calls and repeated questions lead us to believe that there has not been a dramatic decrease in bias-motivated incidents.

Second, with the introduction of updated intake forms and procedures, aimed at capturing more accurate data, some of the reporting processes have shifted. We look

forward to streamlining these processes for future consistency in reporting numbers.

CAVP witnessed an increase in reports of bias-motivated incidents following two cases that received a great deal of local media attention. One occurred in late February and the other in late March. Because of a lack of response from campus administration in one case, and law enforcement in the other, there was an implicit message that hate-motivated actions are acceptable. Not only did CAVP receive calls reporting more incidents during this time, but also from community members wanting to know why there had been an increase in hate crimes. Many community members were under the impression that hate crimes are as infrequent as they are reported by media and staff had to dispel myths to explain that we're documenting these numbers continually.

When cases involve transgender-identified victims, CAVP has found that these victims face additional barriers to services. For example, for someone who may be dealing with transphobic-motivated domestic violence, many DV shelters in Colorado are still denying services. Even for shelters who are transgender-inclusive in policy or intention, many times staff members do not know how to respond to inappropriate comments from other residents. Instead of addressing the inappropriate comments, the transgender person is asked to leave and then often struggles with issues of homelessness.

Overall, CAVP still has much work to do both in prevention and crisis intervention when it comes to hate violence. This will continue to be a priority through our four program areas: direct services, training and education, outreach within LGBTQ communities, and activism and community organizing.

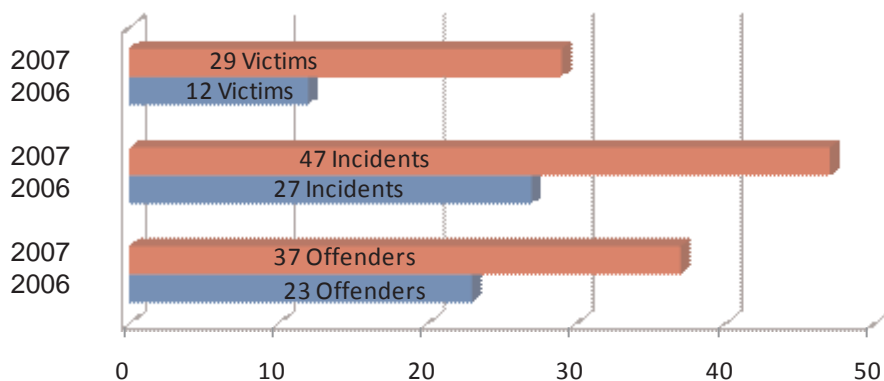
KANSAS CITY

In 2007, the Kansas City Anti-Violence Project (KCAVP) documented 47 incidents of bias-motivated violence, an increase over the 27 incidents in 2006. In 2007, there were no major elections in Missouri or Kansas. Elections tend to cause spikes in reports of violence because campaign messages often include anti-LGBT sentiments. Thus, the increase for 2007 thwarts that pattern and may relate to the updated intake form that NCAVP began using at the beginning of 2007. We are hopeful the increase does not signal a new trend of increasing violence against LGBT people in Missouri.

We also noted that there was a decrease in HIV-related and anti-transgender bias documented from 2006 to 2007. KCAVP continues to educate the LGBT community as well as the community at large. In 2007, KCAVP succeeded in the goal

of beginning work with law enforcement and the judicial system to treat LGBT bias crime victims sensitively and with respect.

Kansas City Victims, Incidents, and Offenders



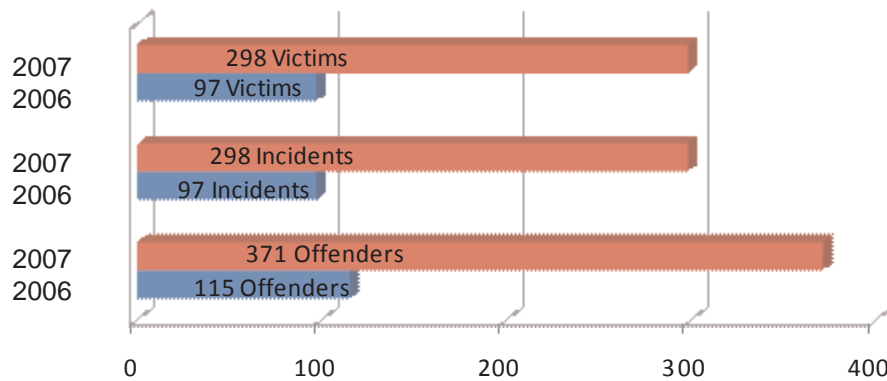
MICHIGAN

Triangle Foundation is the sole reporting agency of anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and HIV-positive bias crimes in the state of Michigan. According to recent estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau, Michigan's population was down 30,500 residents from 2006 to 10,071,822 in 2007.

Despite the decrease in residents, there has been a significant increase in anti-LGBT incidents from 97 reported incidents in 2006 to 298 incidents reported in 2007. There are several considerations in analyzing the significance of this data: increased advertising of the Department of Victim Services; increased staffing in the Department of Victim Services; and the opening of a second office in West Michigan. In addition, 2007 marks the first year that Triangle collected statistics on incidents involving discrimination only. However, even with removing the incidents involving discrimination only, the total number of incidents in 2007 at 226 is still more than double the number of 97 incidents in 2006. This is an increase of 133%.

Of the 226 incidents discussed above, incidents involving intimidation and harassment rose from 44 to 101. Another significant increase was in the area of vandalism with incidents up from ten in 2006 to 21 in 2007. While there were two murders in 2007 that have anti-LGBT elements, readers will note that death is listed in three cases. The reason for this is that a transgender youth committed suicide after years of unending, relentless bullying ranging from emotional to psychological to physical abuse. The suicide of this young person demonstrates the irreversible impact hatred can have.

Michigan Victims, Incidents, and Offenders



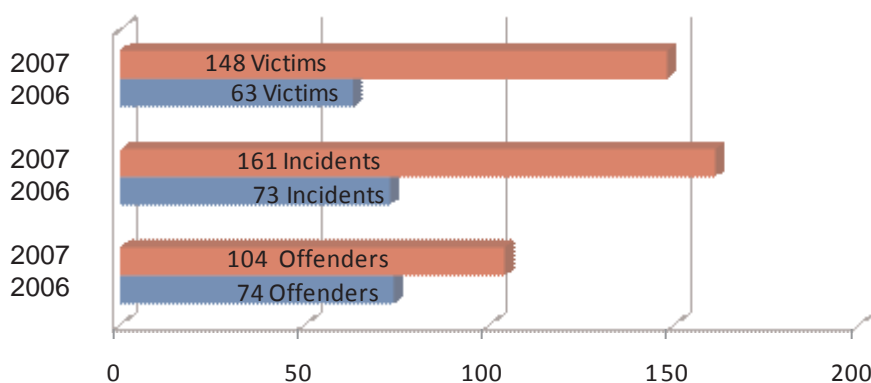
A likely contributing factor for the increase in anti-LGBT incidents in Michigan is the impact of the constitutional amendment passed in 2004 that bans gay marriage. This amendment provides that "the union of one man and one woman in marriage shall be the only agreement recognized as a marriage or similar union for any purpose." The Attorney General attacked domestic partnership benefits immediately after the passage of this amendment. In February of 2007, the Michigan Court of Appeals overturned the trial court's holding that public employers may offer domestic partnership benefits. The result may be the loss of benefits, such as health insurance, for thousands of Michigan men, women and children. Equally important is that this decision has sent a message to all Michigan residents that it is acceptable to discriminate against LGBT persons. While the intention may not have been to facilitate hate against the LGBT community, the constitutional amendment, Attorney General opinion, and Court of Appeals decision have institutionalized prejudice in Michigan.

MINNESOTA

OutFront Minnesota is the state's leading advocacy organization for the GLBT communities throughout Minnesota. One part of the larger organization is the Anti-Violence Program. Currently, our services include a 24 hour crisis line, short-term crisis counseling, support group services for both survivors of violence as well as specialized programming for friends, families and other concerned persons who have survivors of violence in their lives. In addition to

these services, our Anti-Violence Program provides individual advocacy related services including, for example, assistance navigating the sometimes difficult and confusing criminal justice and other systems that often serve as significant barriers to access to safety for GLBT crime victim/survivors. Finally, we offer a variety of trainings, community dialogues and other outreach efforts to both create safe climates in schools, workplaces and other community areas as well as work in collaboration with other organizations toward prevention efforts to develop networks of safe and effective service providers in all areas of the state. Our mission is to improve the climate of safety for all GLBT Minnesotans in every facet of their lives. Social change is not only possible but is required to change hearts and minds throughout Minnesota.

Minnesota Victims, Incidents, and Offenders



2007 was a very interesting year in Minnesota for hate and bias crime victim/survivors. We were able to critically examine data to identify both general and specific violence trends throughout Minnesota. In the political arena, OutFront Minnesota worked tirelessly and often in collaboration with other organizations to successfully stop a proposed constitutional amendment regarding the myriad of issues relating to the "marriage debate for the GLBT communities". With this harsh political spotlight on the GLBT community in the early part of 2007, reported incidents of hate and bias related violence dropped dramatically during the legislative session but immediately began a sharp increase as the legislative session came to a close. We understand that this decrease and then marked increase in reporting is not a phenomenon specific to Minnesota but rather a somewhat common occurrence during similar political circumstances in other states.

In 2007, we saw a significant increase (135%) in the numbers of GLBT hate/bias crime victim/survivors. We recognize that a portion of this increase may be linked to increased outreach and community education efforts. However, even while factoring in this increase in outreach, for the second year in a row there was a significant rise in the range of violence toward the GLBT community.

In terms of violence related experiences, victim/survivors reported a 250% increase in the need for out-patient services and a 200% increase of victim survivors requiring hospitalization or other extended care services. We believe that, once again continuing a trend from past years, our reports indicate an increased use of weapons, felony level assaults (327% increase) and threats of physical harm. Of particular note, an alarming increase in the use of sexual violence (750 %) shows that there is often a social willingness to not only threaten harm but to humiliate victim/survivors in the most personal and degrading ways. While many law enforcement agencies and other criminal justice personnel have performed admirably in their response to this violence, we believe that these numbers speak to a more widespread willingness to commit anti-LGBT hate incidents and in larger groups (a 125% increase in incidents with 2 or more perpetrators) than ever before.

In terms of actual numbers of incidents of violence, we have seen a 121% increase in the numbers of non-duplicated singular events. The increase in offenders (41%) grouped with an already mentioned increased use of weapons (most often knives, guns and vehicular assault) has resulted in a climate of fear and the very real possibility of negative experiences for GLBT Minnesotans throughout the state.

On a more positive note, we have seen a decrease in long-term harassment and assaults by 50% fewer reported incidents. In addition, with much collaborative effort with local homeless shelters, treatment centers and transitional housing services, incidents of all types have significantly decreased and, in fact, dropped by almost 100%. We believe that this trend is one to be very proud of especially in light of the fact that many of these shelter services are used by homeless GLBT youth who are homeless specifically for coming out to their families (25-30% of homeless youth are on the streets in Minnesota because of their sexual orientation). While we have much work still to do, this is a good foundation from which to move forward.

In the area of police reporting, we have seen an almost 50% increase of clients who have reported their victimization to law enforcement personnel. We have approached this issue from a variety of angles including training metropolitan area officers on effective victim support strategies as well as targeted efforts within the GLBT community to understand victim/survivor rights and legal protections.

In conclusion, while we certainly have a long way to go toward safety and a life free of violence for GLBT Minnesotans, we believe that strong foundations are being laid and that through the continued development of collaborative relationships in all sectors, our vision for social change is not only possible but also an attainable goal.

NEW YORK

In 2007, The New York City Anti-Violence Project documented 403 incidents of hate violence in New York City. These numbers serve as a bleak reminder to us all that the threat of homophobic and transphobic violence remains one we cannot ignore. Of the 403 anti-LGBTQ bias incidents, 40% involved assault (162), 14% involved use of weapon (57), and 24% involved injuries to the victims (96).

Although we registered a slight drop in the number of reported incidents, 7% less than the previous year (down from 432 in 2006), LGBTQ people are still frequently the victims of hate crime, be it gay-bashings in public places or abuse in their homes by relatives or neighbors. In fact, 143 bias-motivated incidents in 2007 took place in public places (i.e. street, public transportation or accommodation) and almost an equal number of incidents, 141, occurred in private homes, an increase of 6% from 2006. We have also seen more anti-LGBTQ bias incidents in or around LGBT bars & clubs (12 or an increase of 71%) or institutions (11 or an increase of 38%). Even in openly gay areas, such as Chelsea or the East Village in New York City, bias attacks are common. Sometimes, the perpetrators go to these areas with intent to seek out victims. Bias-motivated incidents can occur anytime and any place.

The 403 bias incidents recorded by NYC AVP involved 496 victims of anti-LGBTQ hate violence, and 1,139 separate crimes and offenses. Various forms of harassment (420), intimidation (339), assault (162) and discrimination (160) were the most frequent expressions of prejudice against LGBTQ people. While bias-motivated robbery was down 75% from 20 occurrences in 2006 to 5 documented in 2007, other types of offenses increased: vandalism + 55% (11 incidents in 2006 to 17 incidents in 2007), illegal eviction +167% (from 3 in 2006 to 8 in 2007).

As in previous years, gay men reported the greatest number of bias incidents. In 2007, AVP received reports from 294 men, 112 women, 4 transgender men, and 59 transgender women. Of the 496 total victims, 338 identified as gay or lesbian (68%), 54 identified as heterosexual (11%), and 13 identified as bisexual (2.6%). The remaining 76 victims (15%) either self-identified as questioning or chose not to identify their sexual orientation. Additionally, 15 reports came from LGBTQ organizations. The Race/Ethnicity breakdown category included approximately 26% Caucasian (128), 24% Latino (117), 18% African-American (81), 4% Multi-racial (21) and 2% Asian/Pacific Islander. Less than 1% of all victims identified as Arab/Middle-Eastern and/or Indigenous. Although reports dropped among all age categories, youth and young people

under 23 remain underrepresented in numbers despite the hate violence being a common experience in the lives of LGBTQ youth.

The current research suggests that the anti-LGBTQ bullying in schools is almost a universal experience for queer youth. In 2003, GLSEN conducted a National School Climate Survey that found 4 out of 5 LGBTQ students have experienced verbal, sexual or physical harassment at school. In 2007, 28 young people under 18 reported bias incidents to AVP as opposed to 48 in 2006, a 42% drop. LGBTQ youth may also be less likely to report violence to law enforcement because they are often a target for police action. Young queer people of color, transgender youth, homeless and street involved youth are more vulnerable to police violence and are likely to have past negative experiences with the police making it less likely for them to seek help and protection from authorities.

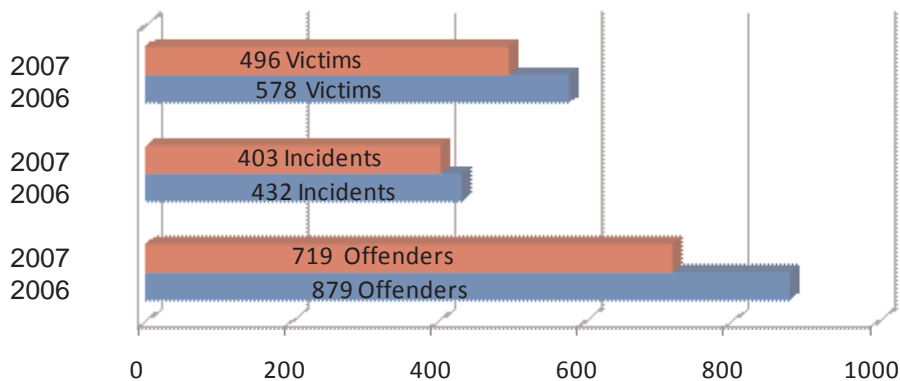
Despite a slight decline in number of reports from transgender people, transphobic violence is extremely pervasive and permeates at high levels every layer of our society. From subtle forms such as intimidation and discrimination, to more obvious forms like assault, rape or even murder, violence against transgender and gender nonconforming people is very common. Last year, we documented 63 reports of hate-motivated violence against transgender individuals (4 transgender men and 59 transgender women). Incidents where the sole motive was anti-transgender bias rose by 55% from 11 in 2006 to 17 in 2007. AVP's data analysis also reveals that transgender individuals are at a greater risk of experiencing police violence and misconduct than non trans people.

Since the early days of HIV/AIDS epidemic of the 1980s, we have seen a rapid advancement of detection, management and treatment of HIV infection. Eliminating discrimination and stigma associated with HIV and AIDS has been a difficult and slow process, and one that is still ongoing. To some it may come as a surprise that in 2007, we recorded a 22% upsurge of HIV-related violence (32 incidents in 2006 to 39 in 2007). This is particularly startling given the overall decrease in reports this year. Thirty-three cases involved both HIV-related and heterosexist bias. Anti-LGBTQ bias incidents that involve multiple biases are not uncommon. Sometimes a single hate-motivated incident can involve two, three or more forms of bias such as racism, sexism, anti-immigrant, transphobic or HIV/AIDS-related bias.

In most cases, hate crime perpetrators outnumber the victims. In 2007, there were 496 victims of anti-LGBTQ violence and 718 offenders. Although most offenders were males (508), a significant number of perpetrators were females (112). Two of the perpetrators were identified as transgender, and 67 are unknown. There was a 28% increase of offenders under 18 (up from 101 in

2006 to 129 in 2007) and a 29% rise in offenders between the age of 45-64 (up from 41 to 53). In terms of ethnic/racial categories, 162 of offenders were Latino/a, up by 20% from previous the year, 133 were of African-Descent, up by 23%, and 114 were Caucasian, down by 12%. It is important to note here that, in most cases, the race and ethnicity of the offenders is subjective to victims' perception.

New York City Victims, Incidents, and Offenders



Under-reporting continues to pose a serious problem to tackling anti-LGBTQ hate violence. More needs to be done to eliminate the barriers for the LGBTQ communities to report bias crimes, which are immensely under-reported. Even attacks which are reported to the police are notoriously misclassified and it is often arduous to obtain bias classification, even in cases with overwhelming evidence of bias.

Of the 403 incidents that were reported to AVP, merely 133 were also reported to the police. Overall, police accepted 109 complaints and refused 24. In 34 cases police officers appropriately classified the offense as bias; however in 15 cases, bias classification was refused. Increasing numbers of LGBTQ victims chose not to report a bias incident to the police. In 2006, 178 incidents went unreported versus 193 in 2007, an 8% rise. Although the number of law enforcement officers who were primary perpetrators of anti-LGBTQ violence was down by 63% (from 82 in 2006 to 30 in 2007), in at least eleven instances the officer(s) were verbally and/or physically abusive towards victims reporting anti-LGBTQ bias crime, causing secondary victimization to the victim. Thirty-two victims reported the attitude of the police officer was courteous, and 31 stated the officer was indifferent.

