

NCAVP LGBTQ INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN 2016 ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

2017 Release Edition

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INTRODUCTION

For twenty years, the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) has released reports on the pervasive and sometimes deadly intimate partner violence perpetrated against and within LGBTQ and HIV affected communities, in an effort to better identify our communities' needs. Year after year, these reports demonstrate that IPV affects the LGBTQ community in unique and far-reaching ways. Though many advancements have been made in the last twenty years, all too often LGBTQ people are still left out of conversations about intimate partner violence. This is especially true for LGBTQ people of color, LGBTQ people who are undocumented, and LGBTQ people with disabilities, whose stories are rarely heard.

NCAVP defines intimate partner violence as: "a pattern of behavior where one intimate partner coerces, dominates, or isolates another intimate partner to maintain power and control over the partner and the relationship." IPV may be perpetrated in many different ways, including psychological/emotional abuse, economic abuse, physical abuse, verbal abuse, sexual abuse, cultural abuse, isolation, and intimidation.

We know that LGBTQ people experience higher rates of bias and discrimination in their homes, schools, and workplaces, which means that our community is more vulnerable to experiencing intimate partner violence. When people lack access to resources, community, and healthy role models for relationships, they become more susceptible to violence in their intimate relationships.

In the Toolkit for this report, we intend for LGBTQ people to know that they have a right to services that are culturally specific and safe for them. We hope that this information can be used to spark conversations on healthy and unhealthy relationship dynamics and

how LGBTQ communities can help each other negotiate safety.

It's vital that resources dedicated to intimate partner violence focus on building community based support for LGBTQ survivors. We call for domestic violence and intimate partner violence services to continue making their resources affirming to the LGBTQ community and to support LGBTQ organizations and communities in addressing intimate partner violence whenever possible. And we call upon policymakers to not only support affirming resources for LGBTQ survivors, but to increase protections overall for LGBTQ communities.

We see this report as being useful for journalists, community organizers, educators, policy-makers, LGBTQ and mainstream domestic and intimate partner violence service providers, students, and anyone who wants to take a stand against LGBTQ and HIV-affected intimate partner violence. You can use this report in the following ways:

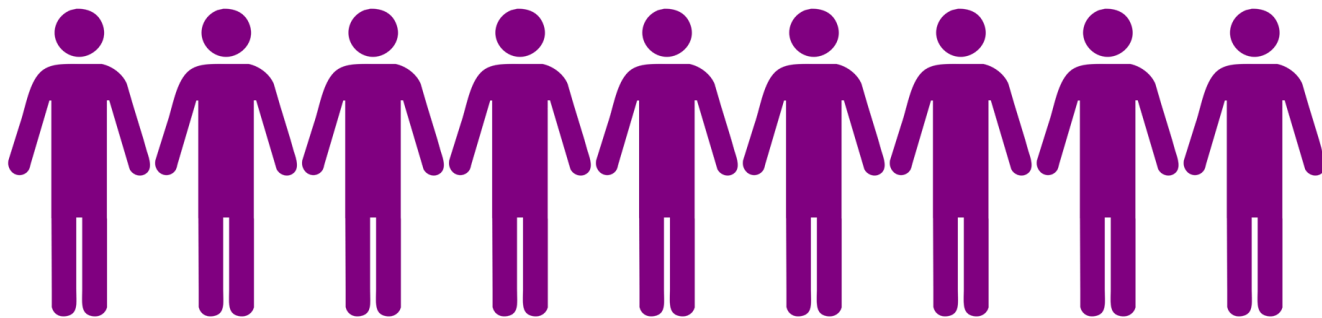
- Images and stats for social sharing
- Research for further reporting
- As a guide for policy strategy and decision making
- As a guide for informing culturally specific service providers
- As a guide for funding decisions
- Messaging for community-building and community organizing

Get involved: Join NCAVP in our efforts to prevent and respond to LGBTQ intimate partner violence. To learn more about our national advocacy visit www.NCAVP.org or contact info@ncavp.org.

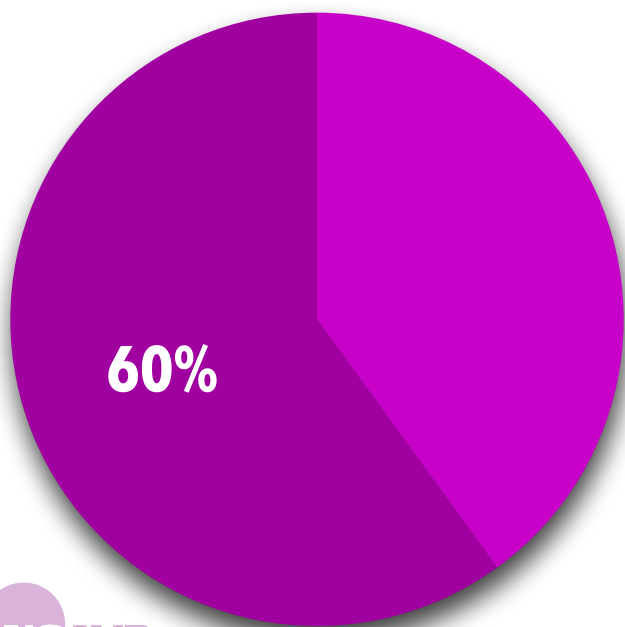
FACT SHEET

LGBTQ Intimate Partner Violence Related Homicides in 2016

In 2016, NCAVP recorded 15 reports of LGBTQ homicides.

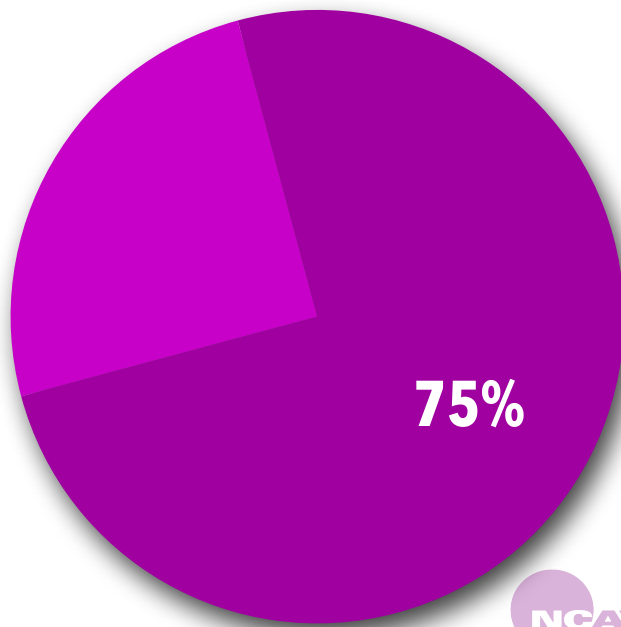


9 WERE *CISGENDER* MEN



NCAVP

**60% OF VICTIMS WERE
PEOPLE OF COLOR**



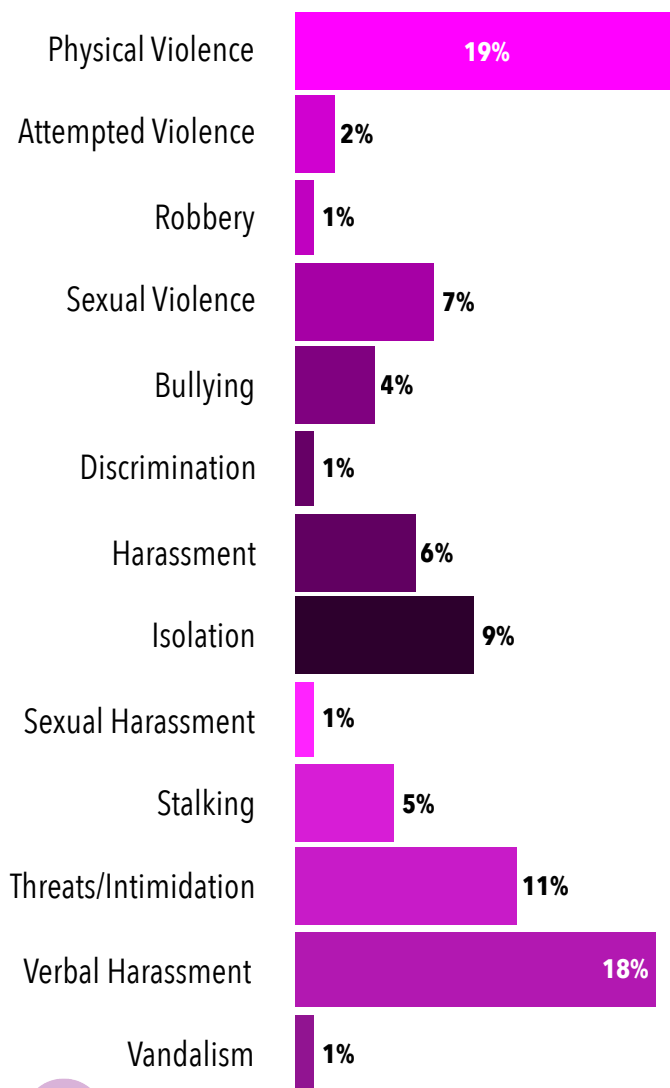
NCAVP

**75% OF VICTIMS WERE
UNDER 25 YEARS OLD**

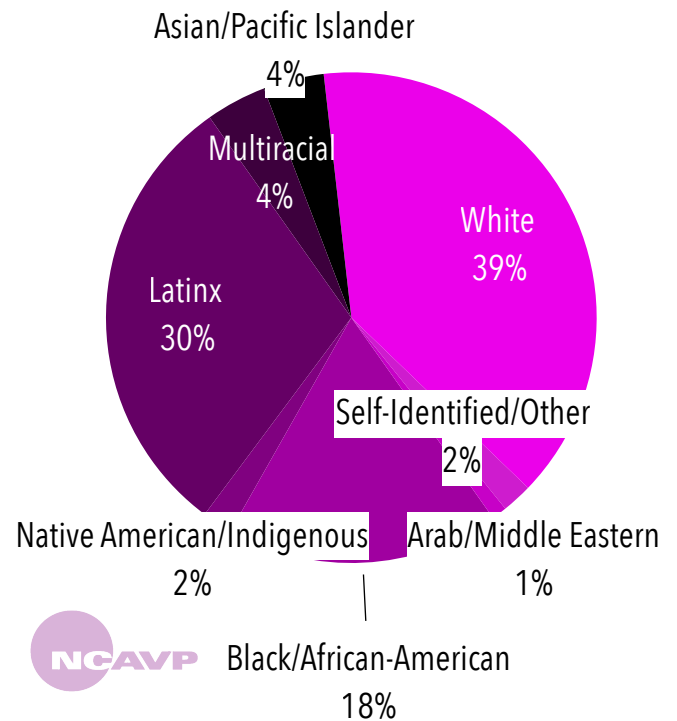
LGBTQ Intimate Partner Violence Statistics in 2016

In 2016, NCAVP received 2,032 reports of LGBTQ and HIV affected Intimate Partner Violence to 14 of our member programs in nine states.

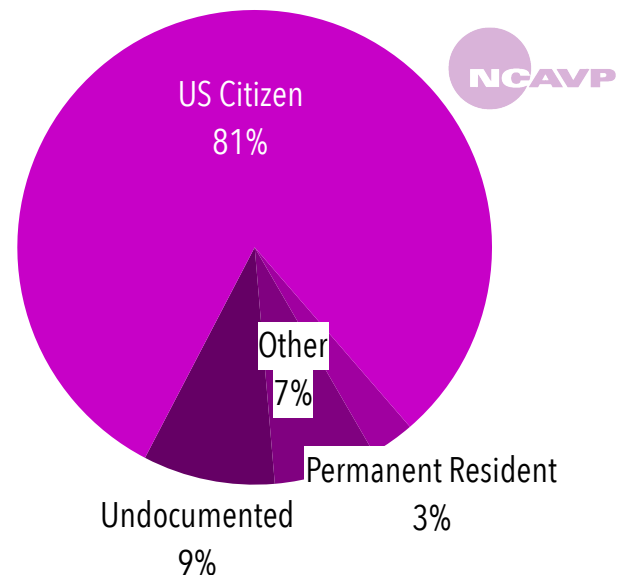
Types of Violence Experienced



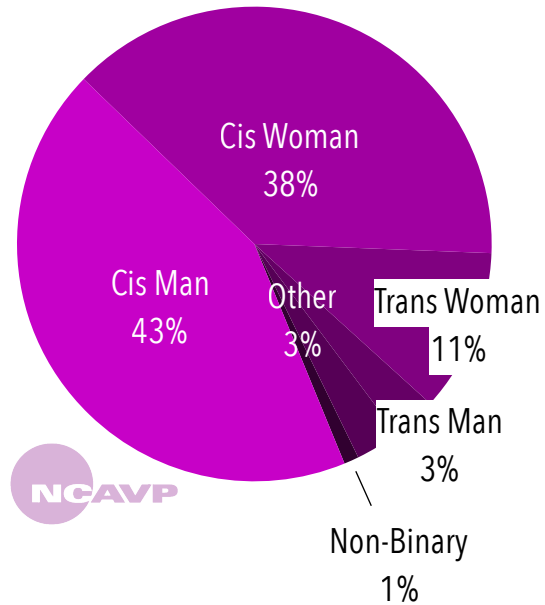
IPV Survivor Race/Ethnicity



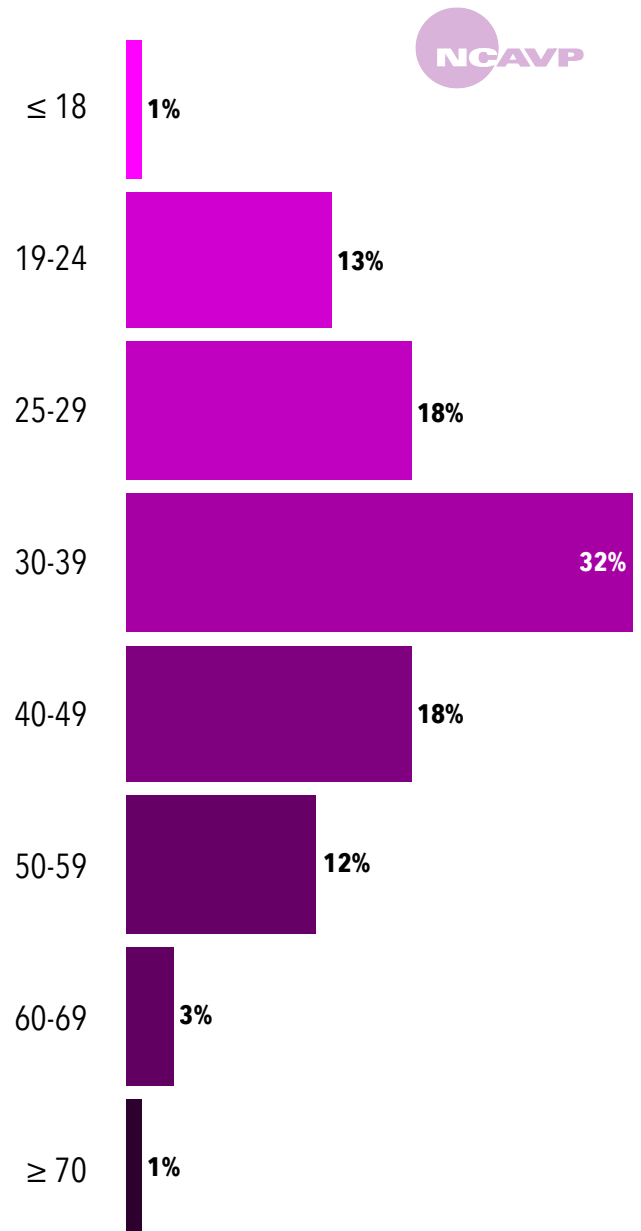
IPV Survivor Immigration Status



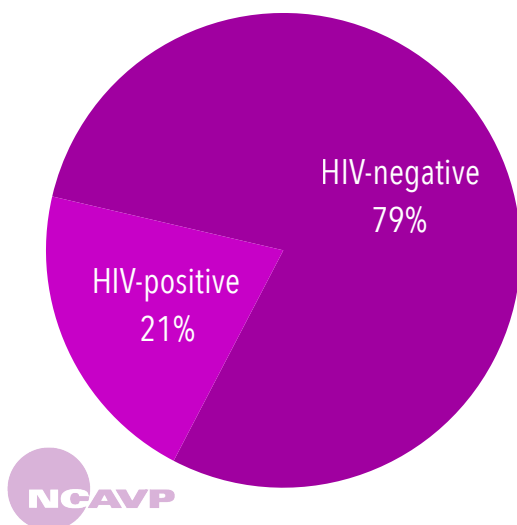
IPV Survivor Gender Identity



IPV Survivor Age



IPV Survivor HIV Status





LATINX SURVIVORS WERE
3x MORE LIKELY
TO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE
FROM AN EX-PARTNER

NCAVP

TRANS WOMEN WERE
2.5x MORE LIKELY
TO EXPERIENCE
FINANCIAL VIOLENCE

NCAVP



TRANS WOMEN WERE
2x MORE LIKELY
TO EXPERIENCE
ONLINE HARASSMENT

NCAVP

TRANS WOMEN WERE
2.5x MORE LIKELY
TO EXPERIENCE
STALKING

NCAVP



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

We experience intimate partner violence at the intersections of our identities.

In 2016, more survivors reported that abusive partners use anti-immigrant biases and anti-HIV related biases to exert power and control within their relationships. Use of these biases against LGBTQ survivors is particularly impactful because it exploits vulnerabilities that they already experience in all areas of their lives.

In order to truly support LGBTQ survivors of IPV, we must address the other ways that bias and discrimination affect their lives and relationships.

Sometimes intimate partner violence isn't physical.

Transgender women survivors were 2.5x more likely to experience financial abuse and stalking. LGBTQ survivors reported that their abusive partners used financial control, verbal harassment, and isolation as ways to exert power in their relationships. And NCAVP has seen a consistent increase in online harassment by abusive partners.

Non-physical forms of violence are just as impactful as physical ones. We need to learn to recognize verbal and online harassment, isolation, and financial control as unhealthy dynamics & address them in our communities. Reach out to your friends and loved ones—it matters.

We need to accept intimate partner violence as a reality in our communities—and address it as a community.

Let's talk about unhealthy relationship dynamics and how they show up in our communities. Talking about unhealthy dynamics allows us to recognize and address them, rather than waiting until a situation has escalated. Shame feeds into a culture of silence, but it doesn't have to be that way. Let's start having conversations about how our friends and family are impacted by unhealthy relationships, and how we can come together to support each other.

Leaving an abusive relationship is hard, and often dangerous.

It's not always possible to leave an abusive relationship, and leaving doesn't always mean the violence stops. Survivors know what's best for them and what keeps them safe. Even if that choice doesn't make sense to you, it's important to remain connected to and supportive of survivors and to let them know that you care about them.

Rollbacks in legal protections for the LGBTQ community make people more vulnerable to intimate partner violence.

LGBTQ people already experience bias and discrimination in their everyday lives. When people lack access to resources, community, and healthy role models for relationships, they become more susceptible to violence in

their intimate relationships. Continuing to remove legal protections puts LGBTQ people at a higher risk of experiencing IPV.

LGBTQ people deserve to be in healthy, loving relationships.

No matter who you are or how you identify, you deserve love that feels good to you. What does healthy love look like to you?

LGBTQ intimate partner violence survivors experience violence and criminalization from the police.

Dealing with the criminal legal system can be inaccessible or even dangerous for LGBTQ survivors who hold multiple marginalized identities. All too often, LGBTQ survivors of IPV are even arrested, which can have serious consequences. We must seek and create alternatives to the criminal legal system to address IPV.

Intimate partner violence shouldn't be addressed as a violent crime: it's a public health and community issue that deserves a community based response.

Racial justice, housing justice, economic justice, immigration justice, and other equality movements are LGBTQ and intimate partner violence issues.

Community based resources are crucial to addressing IPV in LGBTQ communities.

NCAVP found that the most common services sought by LGBTQ survivors were legal, housing and mental health advocacy as well as safety planning and emergency funds, all options that do not necessitate interaction with law enforcement and can increase a survivor's access to resources, choices, and social support. Continuing to devote resources to community-based support systems is vital.

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) provides protections for LGBTQ survivors of intimate partner violence.

LGBTQ people deserve and have the right to identity affirming resources around intimate partner violence. If you are experiencing violence in your relationship, reach out for help and support. NCAVP is here to help you find local resources and to help you if you experience barriers to accessing support. Visit [NCAVP.org](https://www.ncavp.org) to learn more.

Learn how to make sure your agency is offering affirming support services for LGBTQ survivors.

It's vital that you provide identity-affirming services and intentionally reach out to all LGBTQ survivors, including survivors of color, survivors with disabilities, undocumented survivors, and HIV-affected survivors. Make sure your advocacy is for everyone!

NCAVP provides training and technical assistance on working with LGBTQ survivors. Find out more here: [avp.org/NCAVPTTA](https://www.ncavp.org/NCAVPTTA)

TWEETS

Intimate partner violence affects us all – as individuals and as members of LGBTQ communities. The NCAVP LGBTQ Intimate Partner Violence in 2015 report highlights some of the complex, nuanced, and intersectional ways our communities experience intimate partner violence. We must look out for one another, talk about our relationships, and seek community solutions to end this violence.

NCAVP is using the hashtag #Not1Story to share the findings of this report and inspire an ongoing discussion online. We hope you will use #Not1Story to be in dialogue with us about the report's findings, and to share your stories and experiences with us as well.

The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs has released the 2016 Intimate Partner Violence report
[#Not1Story avp.org/LGBTQIPV](http://avp.org/LGBTQIPV)

- 🗣️ How does IPV affect the LGBTQ & HIV+ communities? NCAVP has released their 2016 report **#Not1Story**: avp.org/LGBTQIPV
- 🗣️ IPV affects us all – as individuals and as members of #LGBTQ communities. Read NCAVP's 2016 report **#Not1Story**: avp.org/LGBTQIPV
- 🗣️ We experience intimate partner violence at the intersections of our identities. **#Not1Story**
- 🗣️ IPV isn't always physical: 44% of LGBTQ survivors exp'd verbal harassment, threats/intimidation, isolation & online harassment. **#Not1Story**
- 🗣️ We need to accept intimate partner violence as a reality in our communities—and address it as a community. **#Not1Story**
- 🗣️ LGBTQ people deserve to be in healthy relationships. Talking about what love looks like builds better relationship models. **#Not1Story**
- 🗣️ What does love look like to you? Let's talk about relationships in the LGBTQ community. **#Not1Story**
- 🗣️ Let's take care of our chosen family and loved ones. Reach out to folks in your life and talk about IPV frankly and honestly. **#Not1Story**
- 🗣️ Leaving an abusive relationship is hard & often dangerous. When working w survivors, remember they know what keeps them safe. **#Not1Story**
- 🗣️ It's not always possible to leave an abusive relationship. Support survivors in their self-determination, even if they stay. **#Not1Story**
- 🗣️ Intimate partner violence is serious—and can be fatal. #NCAVP recorded 15 reports of IPV homicides of LGBTQ people in 2016. **#Not1Story**
- 🗣️ In 2016 NCAVP recorded 15 LGBTQ IPV homicides. Nine were cisgender men. 60% were people of color. 73% were younger than 25. **#Not1Story**

- 🎧 Gay cis men experience IPV, too. Nine of 2016's 15 LGBTQ lives lost to intimate partner violence were cisgender men. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 59% of LGBTQ survivors of IPV identified as people of color. We must take an intersectional approach to addressing IPV **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 9% of LGBTQ survivors of IPV were undocumented; 3% permanent residents & 7% had another status like refugee or asylum seeker. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 We must support our immigrant LGBTQ community around IPV, especially during this political climate. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 Racial justice, housing justice, economic justice, immigration justice & other equality movements are LGBTQ and IPV issues. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 IPV isn't always physical: 44% of LGBTQ survivors reported experiencing verbal & online harassment, threats & intimidation, or isolation **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 Trans women survivors were 2.5x more likely to be stalked & exp financial violence, 2x more likely to exp online harassment. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 Transgender & gender non-conforming survivors & Latinx survivors were 3x more likely to experience violence by an ex-partner. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 Only 33% of survivors sought a protective order, but many sought services like mental health support & emergency funds. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 Many LGBTQ survivors of IPV seek advocacy around mental health, legal issues, and housing—not just the criminal legal system. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 LGBTQ IPV survivors experience violence & criminalization from the police. Community-based resources are a vital alternative. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 Rollbacks in legal protections for the LGBTQ community make people more vulnerable to intimate partner violence. **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 The Violence Against Women Act provides protections for LGBTQ survivors of IPV. You have the right to affirming support **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 Learn how to make sure your agency is offering affirming support services for LGBTQ survivors. Visit avp.org/NCAVPTTA
- 🎧 NCAVP provides training and technical assistance on working with LGBTQ IPV survivors: avp.org/NCAVPTTA **#Not1Story**
- 🎧 Want to get trained to work with LGBTQ survivors of IPV? Call NCAVP! avp.org/NCAVPTTA **#Not1Story**

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Following NCAVP's 2016 Intimate Partner Violence Report release on November 15, 2017, we held a Twitter Town Hall where we shared the findings above, and facilitated a conversation using the questions below.

These questions are intended to guide ongoing discussion around the report's findings, and to facilitate discussion on the intersecting ways intimate partner violence impacts our communities as we work together to seek solutions to end this violence.

Q1: What are some of the ways LGBTQ & HIV-affected people experience intimate partner violence that are rarely talked about? #Not1Story

Q2: What can policy makers do to address intimate partner violence in LGBTQ communities? What can domestic violence agencies do? #Not1Story

Q3: What does survivor-centered and identity affirming resources for LGBTQ survivors mean to you? #Not1Story

Q4: This stressful political climate impacts our relationships. How can we show up for community & support loving relationships? #Not1Story

GRAPHICS

The following shareable graphics can also be accessed at avp.org/IPV2016Toolkit.

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More info: <http://url.net>

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