

**(SEXUAL) MINORITY REPORT 2.0: A
REPLICATION OF MEDINA'S (2005)
ANALYSIS OF STUDENT ATTITUDES
REGARDING LGBTQ ISSUES**

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BACKGROUND

- Research questions:
 - How have student attitudes regarding LGBTQ issues changed over the past ten years (2005-2015)?
 - How are college students' attitudes about LGBTQ issues influenced by the nature of their school (i.e. religious affiliation, resources available, etc.)
 - Thesis statement
 - Differences emerge among the perceptions of Saint Mary's College students regarding sexual minority issues over the past 10 years. The differences are likely a result of changes in governmental laws which are increasing the rights and protection of the LGBTQ community nationwide.
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THEORIES

- Attribution Theory (Weiner, 1986)
- Social Learning Theory (Bandura, 1977)

LITERATURE REVIEW

- Background

- Baunach (2011)
- Pew Research Center (2015)
- Religiosity

- Religiosity

- Hamilton (2007)
- Whitley (2009)
- Longerbeam et al. (2007)
- Finlay & Walther (2003)
- Jones & Cox (2011)

- Student attitudes

- Hinrichs & Rosenberg (2002)
 - Whitley & Kite (1995)
 - Morrison & Morrison (2011)
 - LaMar & Kite (1998)
 - Jenkins et al. (2009)
 - Lambert et al. (2006)
 - Stotzer (2009)
 - Medina (2005)
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METHODOLOGY

- Survey consisted of Medina's original questions that examining students' comfort level and opinions about different situational and social aspects about LGBTQ topics
 - Minor changes/additions made to survey
 - Total population of 1570 Saint Mary's College students
 - Cluster random sample of 400 students
 - An email containing the survey was sent on October 5th, 2015
 - Participants who completed survey: N=107
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METHODOLOGY (PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS)

- Sexual Identity
 - 93.4% Heterosexual
 - 3.7% Bisexual
 - 1.9% Asexual
 - 0.9% Pansexual
- Race
 - 93.5% White
 - 4.5% Hispanic
 - 2.8% Asian/Pacific Islander
 - 1.9% Black
 - 0.9% Native American
- Religion
 - 79.4% Roman Catholic
 - 8.4% Unaffiliated
 - 3.7% Agnostic
 - 2.8% Protestant
 - 1.9% Other Christian
 - 1.9% Atheist
 - 0.9% Buddhist
 - 0.9% Other

FINDINGS

- The data shows increases in comfort levels over 10 years, while no significant change was found in the perception of campus resources and classroom topics of LGBTQ issues.
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COMFORT LEVEL REGARDING SEXUAL MINORITIES SCALE QUESTIONS

Percent answering "Yes, I would feel comfortable ..."	Year		Percent Change
	2005	2015	
If there was a strong gay/lesbian presence on campus	47.1%	67.3%	+20.2%
If your best friend "came out"	70.6%	88.7%	+18.1%
A close family member "came out"	69.1%	86.8%	+17.7%
If your roommate "came out"	55.9%	72.9%	+17.0%
To speak with someone who identifies as a sexual minority	89.7%	99.1%	+9.4%
To speak of issues about sexual minorities in class	85.3%	94.4%	+9.1%
A close family member was dating/married to a sexual minority	77.9%	86.0%	+8.1%
Living on the same floor as a sexual minority	88.2%	94.4%	+6.2%

SEXUAL MINORITIES COMFORT SCALE

Table 1
Sexual Minorities Comfort Scale (SMCS) in 2005 and 2015

Comfort Score	2005	2015	Change
0—Least Comfortable	1.5%	0%	-1.5%
1	4.4%	0%	-4.4%
2	1.5%	0%	-1.5%
3	8.8%	3.9%	-4.9%
4	10.3%	4.9%	-5.4%
5	10.3%	9.7%	-0.6%
6	5.9%	9.7%	+3.8%
7	23.5%	20.4%	-3.1%
8—Most Comfortable	30.9%	51.5%	+20.6%
Total	100%	100%	-
Mean Score	5.91	6.92	+1.01

PERCEPTIONS OF SEXUAL MINORITY ISSUES IN THE CLASSROOM

Table 3
Perceptions of Sexual Minority Issues in the Classroom Scale (PSMICS)

Class Perceptions Score	2005	2015	Change
3-negative perceptions	1.5%	2.8%	1.3%
4	0%	0.9%	+0.9%
5	4.4%	6.5%	+2.1%
6	8.8%	14.0%	+5.2%
7	8.8%	9.3%	+0.5%
8	16.2%	9.3%	-6.9%
9	4.4%	15.0%	+10.6%
10	11.8%	6.5%	-5.3%
11	10.3%	3.7%	-6.6%
12	14.7%	17.8%	+3.1%
13	5.9%	1.9%	-4.0%
14	5.9%	6.5%	+0.6%
15-positive perceptions	7.4%	5.6%	-1.8%
Total	100%	100%	-
Mean	9.81	9.23	-0.58

PERCEPTIONS OF RESOURCES ON CAMPUS

Table 4

Perceptions of Resources on Campus for Sexual Minorities (PRCSMS)

Resources Perceptions Score	2005 Percent	2015	Change
3-little knowledge	0%	1.9%	+1.9%
4	0%	0.9%	+0.9%
5	0%	0%	0%
6	7.4%	3.7%	-3.7%
7	1.5%	7.5%	+6.0%
8	10.3%	10.3%	0%
9	10.3%	15.0%	4.7%
10	16.2%	9.3%	-6.9%
11	16.2%	10.3%	-5.9%
12	10.3%	17.8%	+7.5%
13	14.7%	14.0%	-0.7%
14	7.4%	2.8%	-4.6%
15-much knowledge	5.9%	6.5%	+0.6%
Mean	10.75	10.4	-0.35

PERCEPTIONS OF LEGAL ISSUES

Table 5 Perceptions of Legal Issues Scale (PLIS)	
Legal Perceptions Score	Frequency/%
8-least supportive	1 (1.0%)
9	2 (1.9%)
10	0 (0%)
11	2 (1.9%)
12	5 (4.8%)
13	3 (2.9 %)
14	3 (2.9%)
15	7 (6.7%)
16	11 (10.6%)
17	8 (7.7%)
18	5 (4.8%)
19	11 (10.6%)
20-most supportive	46 (44.2%)
Mean	17.54

DISCUSSION

- Discrepancies found between overall comfort with LGBT issues and the lack of change over 10 years in perceptions of campus resources
 - Influences outside of campus community may be impacting individual perceptions
 - Macro-level institutions, such as the government, make changes that ultimately create changes in interpersonal interactions
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