

# Black Youth Project

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## FACTSHEET: GENDER ROLES and DISCRIMINATION

Black Youth Project researchers surveyed 1,590 Black, White and Hispanic young people between the ages of 15 and 25 about their attitudes regarding gender roles and discrimination based on gender, sex, and sexual orientation. Responses were broken down by race/ethnicity, sex, and age.

Key findings include:

- While Black youth were much more likely to believe that it is better if the man is the primary financial provider for a household
  - a majority of all youth say a single mother can raise a child as well as a married couple, and
  - the overwhelming majority of all youth believe that men and women should share equally in childcare and housework.
- Black young people are more likely to believe that women face a lot of discrimination in the country and in their community.
- The overwhelming majority of all young people believe that lesbians and gays face a lot of discrimination in the country and in their own racial and ethnic communities

### Gender Roles

- There was nearly uniform agreement among all young people that “men and women should share equally in childcare and housework.” The percentage of youth who agree with that statement are:
  - 95% of White youth
  - 94% of Black youth
  - 92% of Hispanic youth
- Black males registered the highest percentage of males who strongly agreed with equality of housework and childcare. Perhaps not surprisingly, young women and girls of all racial and ethnic groups were more likely than their male counterparts to strongly agree with the statement that “men and women should share equally in childcare and housework.” The percentage of youth who agree with that statement are:
  - 48% of Black females
  - 48% of White females
  - 40% of Hispanic females
  - 38% of Black males
  - 32% of White males
  - 25% of Hispanics males

- Yet, both male and female Black youth across age groups were much more likely to believe that “it is better if a man is the main financial supporter of his family.” The percentage agreeing with that statement are:
  - 50% of Black youth
  - 36% of Hispanic youth
  - 33% of White youth
- While the majority of all youth agree that “a single mother can bring up her child *as well* as a married couple,” Black and Hispanic youth were more likely to agree with that statement. Black females most intensely agreed, while White males were most likely to disagree. The percentage who agree with that statement are:
  - 73% of Black youth
  - 73% of Hispanic youth
  - 60% of White youth
  - 38% of Black females strongly agreed
  - 43% of White males disagreed

### **Discrimination Against Women**

- Black youth, both males and females, are much more likely than White males and females to believe there is a lot of discrimination against women in this country. The percentage of youth who believe this are:
 

○ 36% of Black females	○ 32% of Black males
○ 21% of Hispanic females	○ 25% of Hispanic males
○ 15% of White females	○ 17% of White males
- Black and Hispanic youth are more likely to believe that women in their community face a lot of discrimination. The percentage of youth who believe this about women in their community are:
 

○ 41% of Black females	○ 36% of Black males
○ 34% of Hispanic females	○ 37% of Hispanic males
○ 9% of White females	○ 7% of White males

## Discrimination Against Lesbians and Gay Men

- The overwhelming majority of all young people believe that there is a lot of discrimination against lesbians and gay men in this country. The percentage of youth who believe this are:
  - 83% of Black youth
  - 79% of Hispanic youth
  - 76% of White youth
- A strong majority of all young people believe that in their racial or ethnic community, lesbians and gay men face a lot of discrimination. The percentage of youth who believe this are:
  - 68% of White youth
  - 63% of Hispanic youth
  - 61% of Black youth
- The overwhelming majority of all young people state that they know someone personally who is lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. The percentage of youth who know someone personally who is lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender are:
  - 83% of White youth
  - 82% of Hispanic youth
  - 79% of Black youth
- Women (87%) are more likely than men (77%) to report knowing someone who is gay, lesbian, transgender or bisexual.