

THE BLACK QUEER COLLEGE EXPERIENCE: WHAT IS YOURS?

Center for MSIs

STUDENTS SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH QUEER IDENTITY AT THEIR HBCU

DO YOU FEEL YOUR HBCU IS/WAS SUPPORTIVE OF BLACK QUEER STUDENTS?

“THERE ARE MANY SPACES FOR BLACK QUEER STUDENTS TO CONGREGATE AND BUILD CONNECTIONS... BUT THERE IS A LOT MORE THAT CAN BE DONE TO SUPPORT THEM AND THEIR GROWTH.”

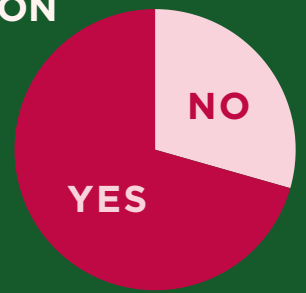
“SUPPORTIVE OF INDIVIDUALS AS PEOPLE BUT IN THEIR QUEERNESS? I COULDN'T SAY YES BACK THEN.”

“IT WAS ONLY SUPPORTED UNDER THE CONDITION THAT YOU WERE CONVENTIONALLY QUEER & ADHERED TO THE BINARY SPECTRUM... QUEERNESS WAS MAINLY JUST TOLERATED IF YOU WERE CONNECTED TO SOMEONE WITH INFLUENCE THAT SUPPORTED YOU.”

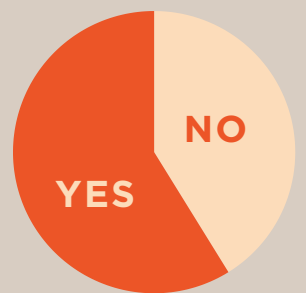
“YES... EVENTS, DEPARTMENTS, AND ORGANIZATIONS CATERED TO AND INTERESTED IN THE WELLBEING AND HEALTH OF OUR QUEER STUDENTS/ALUMNI.”

“I WOULD SAY TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, AS A BLACK QUEER MALE I BELIEVE THERE ARE CERTAIN LIMITS WE LEARN VERY EARLY ON THAT WE SHOULD NOT CROSS... TO LGBTQ+ STUDENTS THAT WE SHOULD BE PROUD AND CONTENT WITH THE WAY WE ARE SOMETIMES EXCLUDED.”

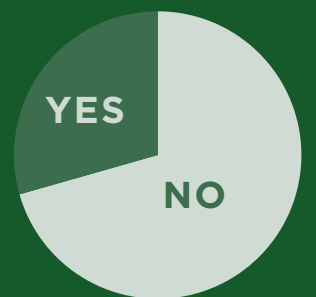
HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUALITY ON CAMPUS?



DID IT HAVE AN IMPACT ON YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?



DO YOU FEEL SAFE EXPRESSING YOUR IDENTITY OPENLY AT YOUR UNIVERSITY?



WHAT COPING MECHANISMS DO YOU USE TO HANDLE STRESS RELATED TO YOUR IDENTITY?

TALK TO SOMEONE

Peers/Community

41%

Therapy

24%

Mentors

6%

HOBBIES/PASSIONS

Exercise

24%

Writing

12%

ARE THERE SPECIFIC RESOURCES OR ACTIVITIES AT YOUR HBCU THAT HELP YOU MANAGE YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

- DEI Offices
- Alumni Networks
- Multicultural Resource Centers
- Peers/Community
- Dance Team
- Drama Club
- Professors/Mentors

WHAT CHANGES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AT YOUR HBCU TO BETTER SUPPORT BLACK QUEER STUDENTS?

MORE ACCEPTANCE, LESS JUDGMENT ESPECIALLY FROM PEOPLE IN POWERFUL POSITIONS.

MORE WAYS TO EXPRESS OURSELVES THROUGH ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

OPEN DISCUSSIONS & MORE INCLUSIVE ORGANIZATIONS FOR BLACK QUEER STUDENTS.

A CAMPUS CENTER, A REVIEW OF LIBRARY RESOURCES, & THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GENDER AND SEXUALITY PROGRAM.

PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE QUEER STUDENTS WOULD HELP...IT FEELS AS IF WE ARE PUSHED TO THE BACK.

LESS EMPHASIS ON THE IDENTITY SEPARATION. WE ARE ONE BODY

TRAINING AND EDUCATION IN CLASSROOMS

TRAINING COUNSELORS & TRANSITIONING PSYCH & SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS INTO ROLES WITH THE INSTITUTION

PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS ON SEX, GENDER, SEXUALITY & SEXUAL HEALTH

SPECIFIED MARKETING ENCOURAGING & EXPRESSING THAT THE SPACE IS SAFE AND WELCOME TO LGBTQ+ IDENTIFYING INDIVIDUALS.

MORE DIVERSE LEADERSHIP & CULTURAL COMPETENCY

GREATER ATTENTION TO CAMPUS PROGRAMMING & STUDENT ENGAGEMENT FOR GENDER & SEXUAL MINORITIZED GROUPS THROUGH RECRUITMENT EFFORTS, COLLEGE TRANSITION & ACCESS PROGRAMS

MORE INCLUSIVITY WITHIN THE ORGANIZATIONS WITHOUT PUSHING FOR A TRADITIONAL OUTLOOK

SHOW QUEER STUDENTS THAT THEY HAVE SOMEONE IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES THAT STAND WITH IN THEIR CORNER.