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## Transgender and Non-Binary Experiences During the Pandemic

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## OVERVIEW

Our research question looks into how online support networks have affected people who were figuring out their gender identity during the pandemic.

We hypothesize that online support and representation, coupled with the social isolation of the pandemic, played a key role in the development of an individuals' gender identity.



## SURVEY AND RECRUITMENT

- We launched a recruitment survey through Qualtrics that over 1,000 LGBTQ+ people took.
- Our team advertised this survey through social media platforms and our own online communities.
- We also created a recruitment flyer and a Linktree to advertise our survey.
- Those that fit our eligibility criteria were then invited to be interviewed.

## INTERVIEWS

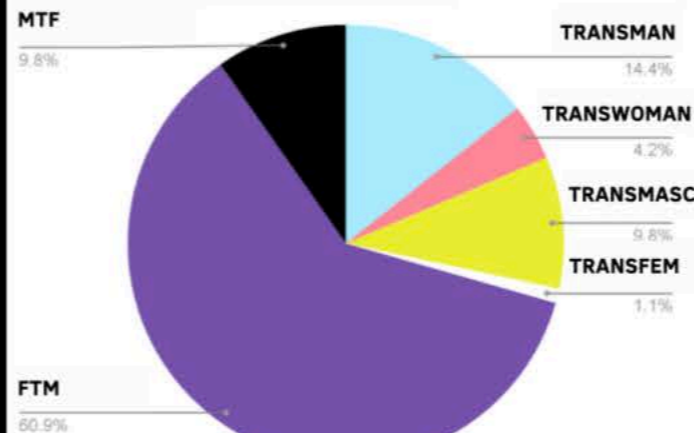
- We conducted qualitative video interviews with transgender and non-binary people aged 18-40
- We started these interviews asking for a participants' pronouns and pseudonym and reading them our consent sheet before recording.
- We recorded at least 14 interviews about topics like: life before the pandemic, their process of realizing their gender identity, social media and information gathering, and changes in their lives since the pandemic.

## LITERATURE

- We found relevant articles and recent publications regarding the LGBTQIA+ community
- We attended Zotero Training with Librarian Grant Hardaway
- These sources inspired our search for individual research and projects.
- We compiled an annotated bibliography, working collaboratively to create over 30 annotations.



## HASHTAG VIEWS



## INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH QUESTIONS

### YOUTUBE

Which popular transgender Youtube creators were the most compelling for individuals seeking information about gender identity during the shelter-in-place?



### REDDIT

How have gender-diverse Reddit communities offered support to trans and nonbinary people during the COVID-19 pandemic?



### TIKTOK

TikTok hashtags as tools for information seeking: what is the difference in view count between popular hashtags utilized on TikTok?



### TWITCH

What role have Twitch and Twitch communities played in transgender viewers' identities?



## CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This research is significant because little is known about the ways that dramatic, sudden changes in the physical and virtual world influence identity development and expression. Our findings will illuminate the pivotal role online information and support play for transgender and non-binary communities in times of crisis.

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