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# We Are Here

Trans/Gender Nonconforming Community

Carmarion D. Anderson (she, her, hers)

Alabama State Director

[carmarion.anderson@hrc.org](mailto:carmarion.anderson@hrc.org)

# Focus Areas

- Understanding Transphobia
- Transgender Livelihood
- How can you assist?



# What is Transphobia?

## Transphobia

- Transphobia is the fear, hatred, disbelief, or mistrust of people who are transgender, thought to be transgender, or whose gender expression does not conform to traditional gender roles.
  - Transphobia can prevent transgender and gender nonconforming people from living full lives and free from harm.

### Transphobia has various expressions:

- **A strong dislike and prejudice** against transgender and gender nonconforming people.
- **The negative attitudes and beliefs** towards transgender and gender nonconforming people.
- **Unreasonable fear and misunderstanding** of transgender and gender nonconforming people.
- **Bullying, abuse, and even violence** against transgender and gender nonconforming people.



# Transphobia continues...

- **Transphobia** can create both subtle and obvious forms of discrimination.
  - *For example, people who are transgender (or even just thought to be transgender) may be denied jobs, housing, or health care, just because they're transgender.*
- People may hold transphobic beliefs if they **were taught** them by other people, including parents and families who encourage negative ideas about Trans/GNC people and who hold strict beliefs about traditional gender roles.
- Some people are transphobic because they have **misinformation or have no information** at all about trans identities. They may not be aware of transgender people or trans issues or personally know anyone who is trans.



# Transphobia Harm

**The stress of transphobia on transgender and gender nonconforming people can produce harm and can cause:**

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Fear
- Isolation
- Feeling of hopelessness
- Feeling of loneliness
- Suicide



# The Effect on the Trans/GNC Community

While the visibility of transgender and gender nonconforming people is increasing in popular culture and daily life, we still face severe discrimination, stigma and systemic inequality.

- **Poverty rate:** Transgender adults (29%) in the U.S. tower over those of other groups.
  - Black (40%) and Latinx (45%) transgender adults are more likely to live in poverty than transgender people of any other race.
- **Employment:** *The Center for American Progress* reported 27% of transgender workers reported having been fired, not hired or denied a promotion due to their transgender identity.
  - Discrimination like this leads to an increased risk for poverty and economic struggle among the most vulnerable in the LGBTQ community.



# The Effect on the Trans/GNC Community

- **Healthcare:** 22% of transgender adults, and 32% of transgender adults of color have no form of health coverage.
  - Transgender women (29%) are most likely to have avoided going to the doctor because of costs.
  - This can lead to avoidance of medical care even when medically necessary, and to severe economic hardship when medical care is ultimately accessed.
- **Chronic illness risks:** *According to the Centers for Disease Control* one in two Black transgender women and one in four Latinx transgender women have HIV.
- **Lack of Data Collection:** Municipalities, states and the federal government can and should promote policies that require their respective data collection activities to be fully inclusive of the transgender and non-binary community.



*Analyses of primary data used by two sources: The 2018 National Opinion Research Center's General Social Survey (GSS) dataset, and data from 29 states in the core section of the 2018 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). While BRFSS data analysis results are generally limited to these 29 states, they are a representative set of states in that states not included are similar to some states that are included.*

# Help STOP Transphobia

## **Being Trans/Gender Nonconforming is not a choice. Prejudice is.**

No one has the right to discriminate against Trans/Gender Nonconforming or another person, or to hurt them emotionally or physically.

Things you can do to help stop transphobia:

- Let Trans/Gender Nonconforming people in your life and let them know you're a friend and ally.
- Educate yourself on transgender issues.
- Don't believe stereotypes about Trans/GNC people.
- Don't make assumptions about any community.
- If you don't know a person's pronouns or name, ask them.
- Respect trans people's chosen pronouns and names and use them.
- Use gender neutral language, such as "they" and "them" or "folks" and "people" instead of "he/she" or "girls and boys."
- If you feel safe doing so, speak up when other people are being transphobic, like making transphobic jokes, using slurs, or bullying or harassing someone because of their gender identity.

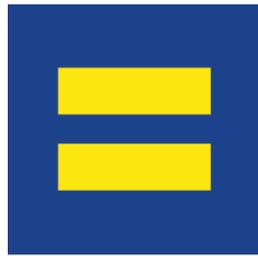


# Help STOP Transphobia

“I am proud to be  
**Black and  
trans** because I  
was created in  
**God’s  
likeness** and  
for my  
**designed  
purpose.”**

Rev. Carmarion D. Anderson  
Senior Minister, Living Faith Covenant Church





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# THANK YOU

Carmarion D. Anderson (she, her, hers)  
Alabama State Director  
[carmarion.anderson@hrc.org](mailto:carmarion.anderson@hrc.org)

TransSaints of TFAM  
National Co-Facilitator &  
South Regional Coordinator



[www.trans saints.org](http://www.trans saints.org)