

## APPENDIX

Measures Related to  
Identity and Community*Gay/bisexual self-esteem*<sup>a</sup> (adapted from Rosenberg, 1965) (Cronbach's  $\alpha = .87$ )

1. As a gay/bisexual man, I feel that I am a person of worth, at least on an equal basis with others.
2. As a gay/bisexual man, I take a positive attitude toward myself.
3. On the whole I am satisfied with myself as a gay/bisexual man.
4. As a gay/bisexual man, I sometimes feel useless. (Reversed)
5. When I think of myself as a gay/bisexual man, I'm inclined to think that I'm a failure. (Reversed)
6. When I think of myself as a gay/bisexual man, I sometimes feel I am no good at all. (Reversed)
7. As a gay/bisexual man, I feel that I have many good qualities.

*Ego-dystonic homosexuality*<sup>a</sup> (adapted from Martin & Dean, 1988) ( $\alpha = .85$ )

1. I often feel it best to avoid personal or social involvement with other gay/bisexual men.
2. I have tried to stop being attracted to men in general.
3. If someone offered me the chance to be completely heterosexual, I would accept the chance.
4. I wish I weren't gay/bisexual.

5. I feel alienated from myself because of being gay/bisexual.
6. I wish that I could develop more erotic feelings about women.
7. I feel that being gay/bisexual is a personal shortcoming for me.
8. I would like to get professional help in order to change my sexual orientation from gay/bisexual to straight.
9. I have tried to become more sexually attracted to women.

*Importance of gay/bisexual community activities*<sup>b</sup> (adapted from Martin & Dean, 1988)

Respondents rate how important each of the following activities is to them.

- A. Importance of political/community involvement ( $\alpha = .89$ )
  1. Being politically active in the gay/bisexual community
  2. Doing volunteer work in the gay/bisexual community
  3. Knowing what is going on in the local gay/bisexual community
  4. Giving money to gay/bisexual organizations
  5. Reading community newspapers and magazines for news about the gay/bisexual community
  6. Being openly gay/bisexual when you're around heterosexual people
- B. Importance of socializing ( $\alpha = .88$ )
  1. Having gay/bisexual friends
  2. Partying with gay/bisexual men
  3. Going to bars with gay/bisexual friends
  4. Going dancing in gay/bisexual clubs
  5. Going out with gay/bisexual friends
- C. Importance of sexual cruising ( $\alpha = .71$ )
  1. Having sex with new partners
  2. Going to the baths
  3. Cruising for sex
- D. Importance of anal sex ( $\alpha = .70$ )
  1. Receiving anal sex (getting fucked)
  2. Performing anal sex (fucking)

*Personal choice ideology*<sup>a</sup> ( $\alpha = .65$ )

1. I feel that I've always been homosexual. (Reversed)
2. Being gay or bisexual is a part of me over which I have no choice. (Reversed)
3. I freely chose my gay/bisexual orientation.
4. There was a time in my life when I could have decided to be a heterosexual.

*Community consciousness*<sup>a</sup> ( $\alpha = .76$ )

1. If we work together, gay/bisexual people can solve the problems facing us.
2. I feel that it is important to keep informed about gay and bisexual issues.
3. I actively support national gay/bisexual causes.
4. I feel a bond with other men who are gay or bisexual.
5. I think that most gay/bisexual men share a common sense of purpose in the need to work toward equal rights.
6. I think that all gay/bisexual men should join together to end homophobia.

*Collective self-esteem*<sup>a</sup> (adapted from Luhtanen & Crocker, 1991) ( $\alpha = .86$ )

1. I'm glad I belong to the gay/bisexual community.
2. I regret belonging to the gay/bisexual community. (Reversed)
3. My membership in the gay/bisexual community is an important reflection of who I am.
4. I feel good about belonging to the gay/bisexual community.
5. I make a positive contribution to the gay/bisexual community.
6. Belonging to the gay/bisexual community is an important part of my self-image.
7. I feel I don't have much to offer to the gay/bisexual community. (Reversed)
8. I feel that belonging to the gay/bisexual community is *not* a good thing for me. (Reversed)
9. My membership in the gay/bisexual community has very little to do with how I feel about myself. (Reversed)

*Local community perceptions*<sup>a</sup> ( $\alpha = .85$ )

1. I feel that I am a member of the Sacramento area gay community.
2. I plan to stay in the Sacramento area for a long time.
3. I have many gay/bisexual male friends in the Sacramento area.
4. I have many lesbian/bisexual women friends in the Sacramento area.
5. I wish that I could live someplace with a stronger gay/bisexual community than the Sacramento area. (Reversed)
6. I regularly attend gay events and meetings in the Sacramento area.
7. The Sacramento area is a bad place for me to live as a gay/bisexual man. (Reversed)
8. I feel at home in the Sacramento area gay/bisexual community.
9. As a gay/bisexual man, I enjoy living in the Sacramento area.

*Shared symbols*<sup>b</sup> ( $\alpha = .91$ )

Respondents rate how important each symbol, event, or organization is to their own sense of what it means to be gay/bisexual.

1. Rainbow flag
2. AIDS Quilt
3. Lesbian/Gay Pride Parade
4. Lambda Freedom Fair
5. Pink triangle
6. Lambda symbol

*Perceptions of local stigma*<sup>a</sup> ( $\alpha = .88$ )

1. Most people in the Sacramento area believe that a gay/bisexual man is just as trustworthy as the average heterosexual citizen. (Reversed)
2. Most employers in the Sacramento area will hire a gay/bisexual man if he is qualified for the job. (Reversed)
3. Most people in the Sacramento area feel that homosexuality is a sign of personal failure.
4. Most people in the Sacramento area would *not* hire a gay/bisexual man to take care of their children.
5. Most people in the Sacramento area think less of a person who is gay/bisexual.
6. Most people in the Sacramento area would treat a gay/bisexual man just as they would treat anyone. (Reversed)
7. Most people in the Sacramento area will willingly accept a gay/bisexual man as a close friend. (Reversed)

*Attributions of personal setbacks to prejudice*<sup>a</sup> ( $\alpha = .90$ )

1. In general, my own failures and setbacks have happened because I'm gay/bisexual in a homophobic world.
2. Most of the bad things in my life happen because of homophobia.
3. Most of the bad things that have happened to me were because I'm gay/bisexual.
4. Most of my own setbacks in life have happened because of homophobia.

a. These items were accompanied by a 5-point Likert-type response scale ranging from *strongly disagree* to *strongly agree*.

b. These items were accompanied by a 4-point Likert-type response scale ranging from *not at all important to you* to *very important to you*.

# AIDS, Identity, and Community

The HIV Epidemic  
and Lesbians  
and Gay Men



*editors*

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Identity and Community Among Gay  
and Bisexual Men in the AIDS Era  
*Preliminary Findings From  
the Sacramento Men's Health Study*

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