

Future Health Professionals' Perceptions of Nonbinary Individuals

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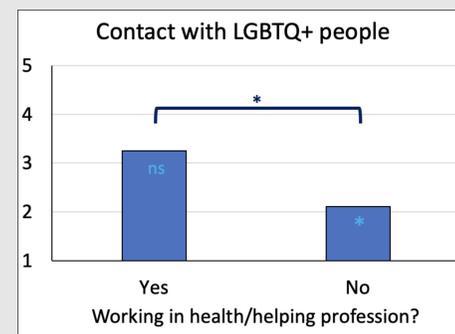
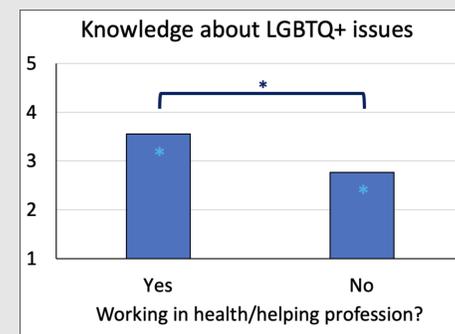
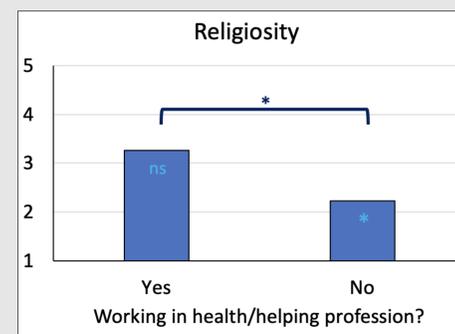
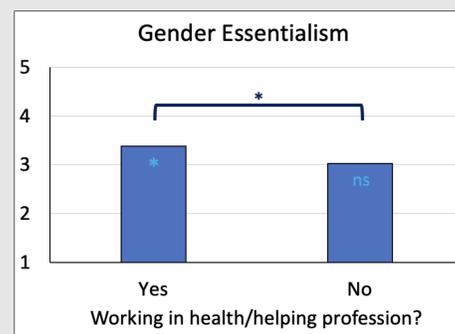
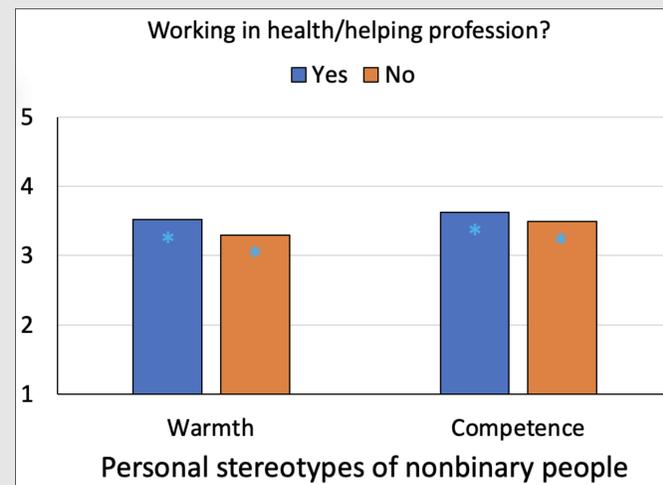
Introduction

- There is limited research examining the stereotypes of nonbinary individuals; past research has mostly focused on gay, lesbian, or transgender individuals
- Approximately 19% of gender non-conforming people report being refused medical care based on their gender identity (Grant et al., 2008)
- The purpose of this study was to identify the stereotypes of nonbinary individuals held by those in the health/helping profession

Method

- 200 participated in an online survey through Amazon's Mechanical Turk
 - 148 White/European American, 25 Black/African American, 4 Hispanic/Latinx/Spanish Origin, 16 Asian/Asian American, 5 Multicultural and 2 preferred not to disclose
 - 81 cisgender women, 109 cisgender men, 3 transgender women, 2 transgender men, 5 nonbinary, 2 genderqueer, 5 other, 1 preferred not to disclose
- Participants completed a survey measuring their attitudes and impressions of nonbinary individuals, including:
 - Warmth & Competence (Cuddy et al., 2007)
 - Gender Essentialism (Skewes et al., 2018)
 - Transphobia (Nagoshi et al., 2008)
 - Religiosity (Acker et al., 2017)
 - Knowledge of LGBTQ+ issues (Acker et al., 2017)
 - Contact with LGBTQ+ people (Acker et al., 2017)

Results



Note. For all charts, an asterisk indicates statistical significance ($p < .05$), and ns indicates non-significance ($p > 0.5$)

Conclusions

- Healthcare workers and non-healthcare workers have somewhat positive stereotypes of nonbinary individuals
- At the same time, healthcare workers have more gender essentialist beliefs and are more religious than non-healthcare workers

Implications

- Overall, the data suggest that greater gender essentialism should predict more negative stereotypes of nonbinary people (i.e., lower perceived warmth, $r(200) = -.50$, and lower perceived competence, $r(200) = -.47$)
- Healthcare workers might be buffered by the amount of knowledge and contact they have with LGBTQ+ individuals, compared to non-healthcare workers
- This might indicate that coursework on gender identity is necessary for healthcare professionals
- One limitation of the current research is that the responses may have been affected by social desirability

References

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