

**Research Brief Series II: Harassment & Abuse of LGBTQQ Individuals in AZ**

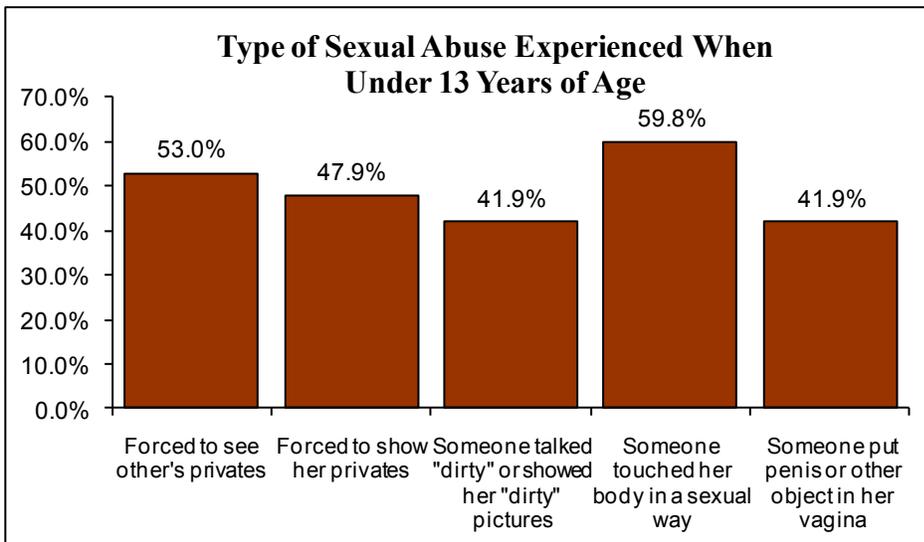
**Brief B: LGBTQQ Adult Women in the COPASA for Women Project**

The [University of AZ-Southwest Institute for Research on Women's \(UA-SIROW\) COPASA for Women Project](#) was an HIV prevention project for women engaging in risky sexual practices or drug use. It addressed substance use, HIV and STD prevention, sexuality, and contextual issues (e.g., legal, economic, and social support). There were **117** adult women enrolled in the [COPASA Project](#) who self-identified as LGBTQQ.

Sexually Abused	
Under age 13	65.8%
Since age 13	68.4%

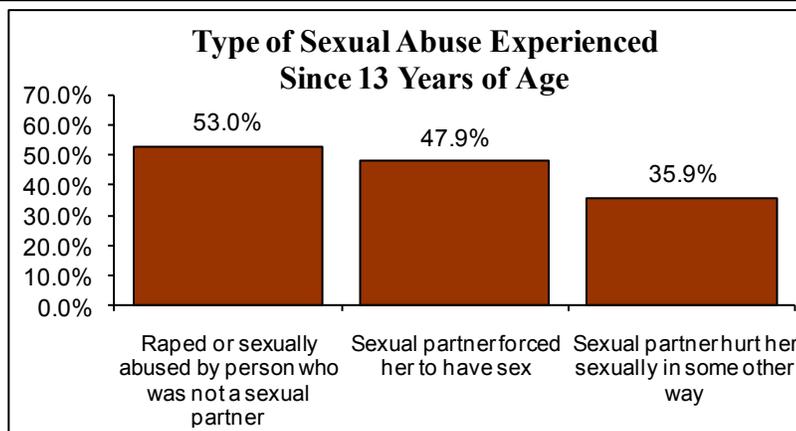


- The majority of these women had been sexually abused during childhood and since.
- All five types of childhood sexual abuse were common with sexual touch being the most common (59.8%).
- Percentages reporting sexual abuse by sexual partners and by non-partners were similar.
- Percentage reporting recent sexual abuse was low.



Sexual Abuse Experienced in Past 6 Months	
Type of Sexual Abuse	Percent of Participants
Raped or sexually abused by non-partner	4.3%
Sexual partner forced her to have sex	7.7%
Sexual partner hurt her sexually in some other way	4.3%

- Many of these women had been threatened (50.4%) or physically abused (57.3%) by a sexual partner since childhood.
- Percentages reporting threat and physical abuse since childhood were similar to those reporting sexual abuse since childhood (~50.0%).
- Percentages reporting recent threat and physical abuse were similar to those reporting recent sexual abuse (<10.0%).



Physical Abuse Experienced Since 13 Years of Age		Physical Abuse Experienced in Past 6 Months	
Type of Physical Abuse	Percent of Participants	Type of Physical Abuse	Percent of Participants
Sexual partner threatened physical harm	50.4%	Sexual partner threatened physical harm	8.5%
Sexual partner physically harmed her	57.3%	Sexual partner physically harmed her	8.5%

Korchmaros, J. D., & Stevens, S. (2010, September). Harassment & abuse of LGBTQQ individuals in AZ: LGBTQQ adult women in the COPASA for Women Project (Research Brief No. II.B). Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona, [Southwest Institute for Research on Women](#).  
Data from this project is not representative of all LGBTQQ adult women in AZ.

For more information about the [COPASA for Women Project \(Women-Centered HIV Risk Reduction Research Study\)](#), please see <http://sirow.arizona.edu/work/projects/view?id=11> or contact Sally Stevens, PhD at [sstevens@email.arizona.edu](mailto:sstevens@email.arizona.edu). The [COPASA for Women Project](#) was supported by grant RO1 DA10651 from the National Institutes of Health - National Institute on Drug Abuse (1997-2004).