



**Research Brief Series III:
Social Support of
LGBTQQ Individuals in AZ**



**Brief E: LGBTQQ Adolescents &
Young Adults in the iTEAM Project**

The [University of Arizona-Southwest Institute for Research on Women's \(UA-SIROW\) iTEAM Project](#) (My Treatment Empowerment for Adolescents on the Move) was a systems approach to drug/alcohol and mental health treatment for homeless LGBTQQ young individuals and their straight allies. There were 99 adolescents and young adults enrolled in the iTEAM Project who self-identified as LGBTQQ and who reported information regarding social support.

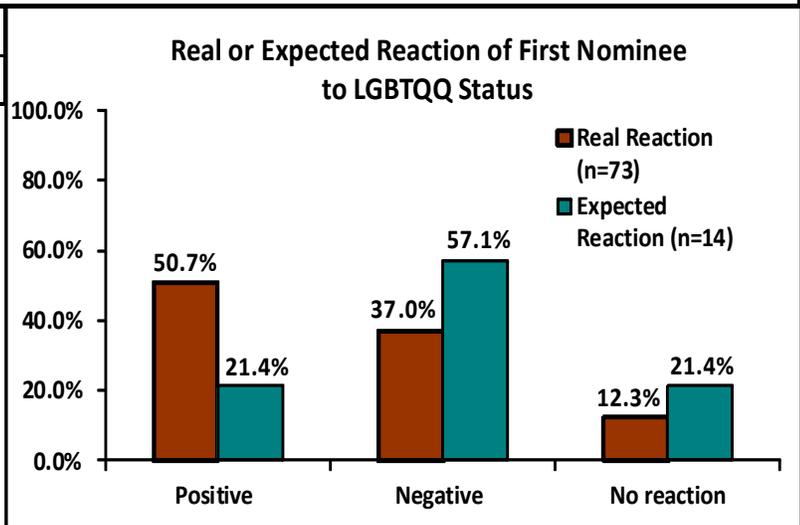
Participants were asked to nominate up to two adult family members closest to them who raised them. They were then asked a series of questions about these nominees.

Number of Nominees		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost one in ten (9.1%) of these young people did not nominate any adult family members who raised them with whom they were close. An additional 19.2% nominated only one adult family member. • Seven in ten (71.7%) nominated two adult family members who raised them with whom they were close. 	
0	9.1%		
1	19.2%		
2	71.7%		

Types of Family Members Nominated			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four of five (79.8%) of these young people nominated their mother as one of the adult family members who raised them with whom they were close, usually as the first nominee (77.8%). • In contrast, less than half (47.5%) nominated their fathers as one of these close adult family members, and few nominated their fathers as the first nominee (8.9%). • About equal percentages nominated grandparents (14.1%) and siblings (13.1%) as one of these close adult family members. However, grandparents were first nominees (7.8%) more often than siblings were (2.2%).
Type of Family Member	Either First or Second Nominee	First Nominee	
Mother	79.8%	77.8%	
Father	47.5%	8.9%	
Grandparent	14.1%	7.8%	
Sibling	13.1%	2.2%	
Aunt or Uncle	4%	2.2%	

First Nominee Knows Individual is LGBTQQ	Yes	83.3%
	No	16.7%

- Eight in ten (83.3%) of these young people reported that the close adult family member they nominated first knows that they are LGBTQQ.
- Of these young people who are out to their first nominee, only half (50.7%) reported a *positive* reaction from the nominee when she or he learned of their LGBTQQ status.
- Of these young people who are *not* out to their first nominee, more than half (57.1%) expected a *negative* reaction from the nominee if she or he were to find out about their LGBTQQ status.



Korchmaros, J. D., & Stevens, S. (2015, March). Social Support of LGBTQQ individuals in AZ: LGBTQQ adolescents & young adults in the iTEAM Project (Research Brief No. III.E). Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona, [Southwest Institute for Research on Women](#).
Data from this project is not representative of all LGBTQQ adolescents and young adults in AZ.

For more information about the [iTEAM Project \(iTEAM: My Treatment Empowerment for Adolescents on the Move\)](#), please see <http://sirow.arizona.edu/substanceabuse> or contact Sally Stevens, PhD at sstevens@email.arizona.edu. The [iTEAM Project](#) was supported by grant H79 T1012367 from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration–CSAT (2009-2015).