

LGBTQ+ Issues in Economics

Kitt Carpenter (he/him)

Vanderbilt University

christopher.s.carpenter@vanderbilt.edu



All views are my own.



Roadmap

- Brief intro about me
- Terminology (LGBTQ+), Basic Facts

Roadmap

- Brief intro about me
- Terminology (LGBTQ+), Basic Facts
- 1. **What we know** about the economic lives of LGBTQ+ people

Roadmap

- Brief intro about me
- Terminology (LGBTQ+), Basic Facts
- 1. **What we know** about the economic lives of LGBTQ+ people
- 2. **Why you should care**

Roadmap

- Brief intro about me
- Terminology (LGBTQ+), Basic Facts
- 1. **What we know** about the economic lives of LGBTQ+ people
- 2. **Why you should care**
- 3. **What you can do**

Roadmap

- Brief intro about me
- Terminology (LGBTQ+), Basic Facts
- 1. **What we know** about the economic lives of LGBTQ+ people
- 2. **Why you should care**
- 3. **What you can do**

Roadmap

- Brief intro about me
- Terminology (LGBTQ+), Basic Facts
- 1. **What we know** about the economic lives of LGBTQ+ people
- 2. **Why you should care**
- 3. **What you can do**
- Please feel free to ask questions!

About me

- Health & labor economist interested in public policies and LGBTQ+ people

About me

- Health & labor economist interested in public policies and LGBTQ+ people
- Past life: business school professor

About me

- Health & labor economist interested in public policies and LGBTQ+ people
- Past life: business school professor
- Now: I direct a multidisciplinary center

About me

- Health & labor economist interested in public policies and LGBTQ+ people
- Past life: business school professor
- Now: I direct a multidisciplinary center



Supreme Court Ruling Makes Same-Sex Marriage a Right Nationwide



Supreme Court Ruling Makes Same-Sex Marriage a Right Nationwide

In Narrow Decision, Supreme Court Sides With Baker Who Turned Away Gay Couple



Jack Phillips, the owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop, leaving the Supreme Court in December. The court said on Monday that a Colorado panel's decision against him had been infected by religious animus. Zach Gibson for The New York Times

By Adam Liptak

June 4, 2018

Supreme Court Ruling Makes Sex Marriage a Right Nationwide



In Narrow Decision, Sides With Baker With Gay Couple

f [social icons] 34



Jack Phillips, the owner of Masterpiece Cakes December. The court said on Monday that a C been infected by religious animus. Zach Gibson

By Adam Liptak
June 4, 2018

Civil Rights Law Protects Gay and Transgender Workers, Supreme Court Rules

The court said the language of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits sex discrimination, applies to discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

f [social icons] 1944



Tiffany Munroe on Sunday in Brooklyn during a rally to call attention to violence against transgender people of color. Demetrius Freeman for The New York Times



By Adam Liptak

Published June 15, 2020 Updated Oct. 14, 2021

Supreme Court Ruling Making Sex Marriage a Right Nationwide



In Narrow Decision, Court Sides With Baker With Gay Couple

f 📷 🐦 ✉️ 🎁 ↻ 📌 34



Jack Phillips, the owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop, sued the city of Denver in December. The court said on Monday that a city law that bans discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity has been infected by religious animus. Zach Gibson

By Adam Liptak
June 4, 2018

Civil Rights Law Protects Gay and Transgender Workers, Supreme Court Rules

The court said the language of the law prohibits sex discrimination, applying to sexual orientation and gender identity.

f 📷 🐦 ✉️ 🎁 ↻ 📌



Tiffany Munroe on Sunday in Brooklyn during a rally against transgender people of color. Demetri

By Adam Liptak

Published June 15, 2020 Updated Oct. 14, 2021

Supreme Court Backs Catholic Agency in Case on Gay Rights and Foster Care

The unanimous ruling was further evidence that claims of religious liberty almost always prevail in the current court.

f 📷 🐦 ✉️ 🎁 ↻ 📌 1224



A Catholic church in Philadelphia. The city had stopped placements with an agency, Catholic Social Services, after a 2018 article in The Philadelphia Inquirer described its policy against placing children with same-sex couples. Julio Cortez/Associated Press

By Adam Liptak

June 17, 2021

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled unanimously on Thursday that a Catholic social services agency in Philadelphia

Some terminology

Some terminology

- Sexual orientation: One's innate sense of attraction to men, women, both, neither
 - Encompasses attraction, behavior, identity
 - E.g., heterosexual or straight; homosexual or gay/lesbian; bisexual

Some terminology

- Sexual orientation: One's innate sense of attraction to men, women, both, neither
 - Encompasses attraction, behavior, identity
 - E.g., heterosexual or straight; homosexual or gay/lesbian; bisexual
- Gender identity: One's innate sense of feeling male, female, both, or neither
 - E.g.: cisgender, transgender, non-binary, NB

More terms & abbreviations

- LGBTQIA+
 - Lesbian
 - Gay
 - Bisexual
 - Transgender
 - Queer/Questioning
 - Intersex
 - Asexual/Aromantic or Ally
 - +: 2-spirit, same-gender loving, etc.

How do we know what we know
about LGBTQ+ People?

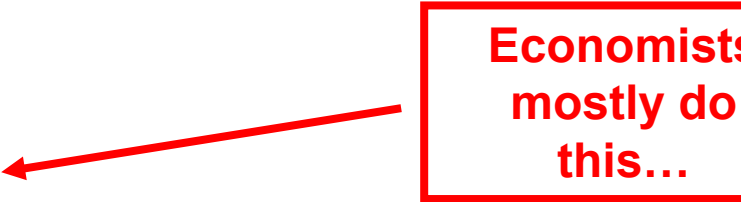
How do we know what we know about LGBTQ+ People?

- Qualitative interviews
 - Talk with people at Pride festivals, LGBTQ+ community organizations, gay bars, etc.

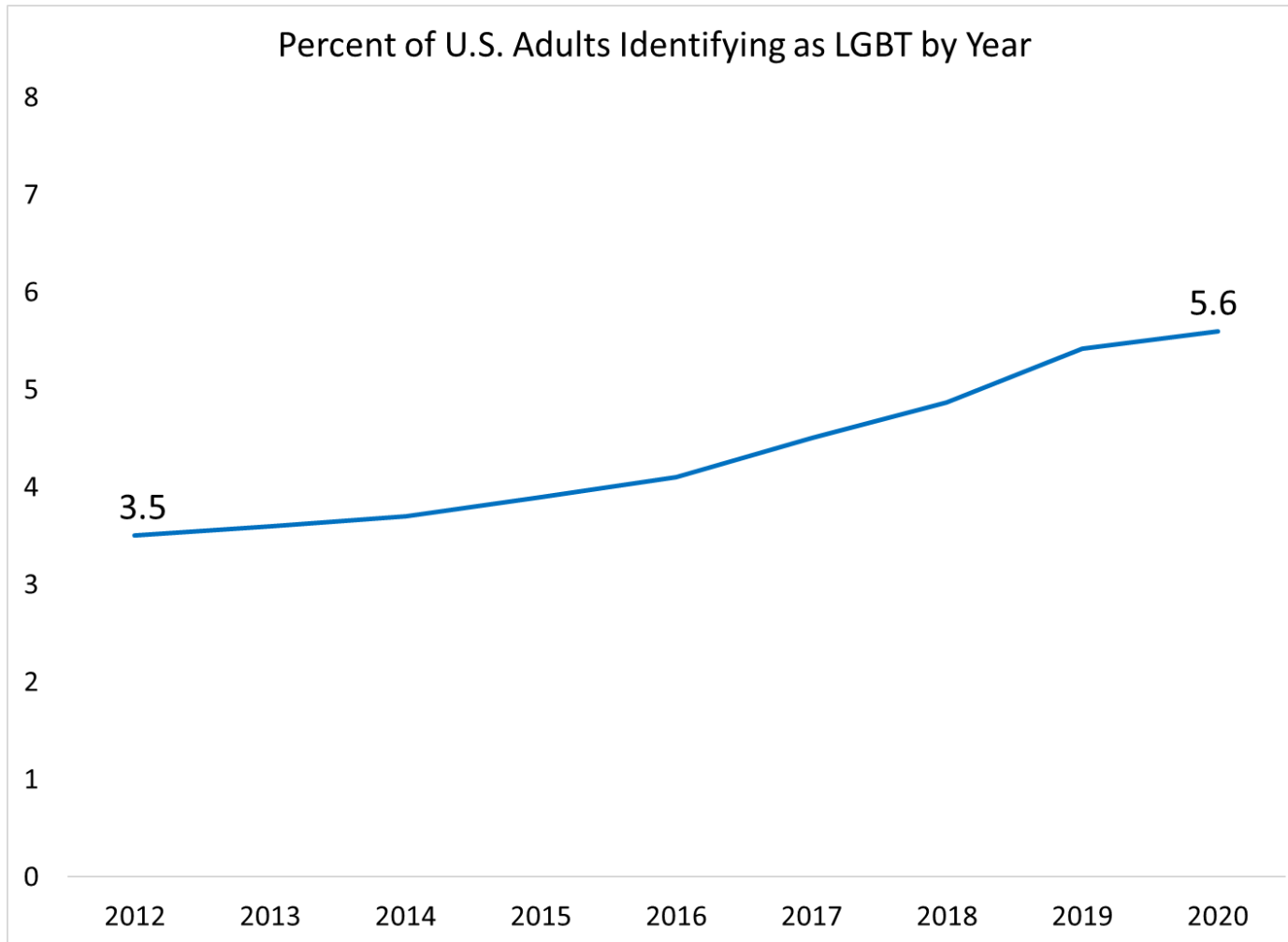
How do we know what we know about LGBTQ+ People?

- Qualitative interviews
 - Talk with people at Pride festivals, LGBTQ+ community organizations, gay bars, etc.
- Quantitative Surveys
 - Ask people directly about LGBTQ+ status
 - Infer LGB status via household relationships

How do we know what we know about LGBTQ+ People?

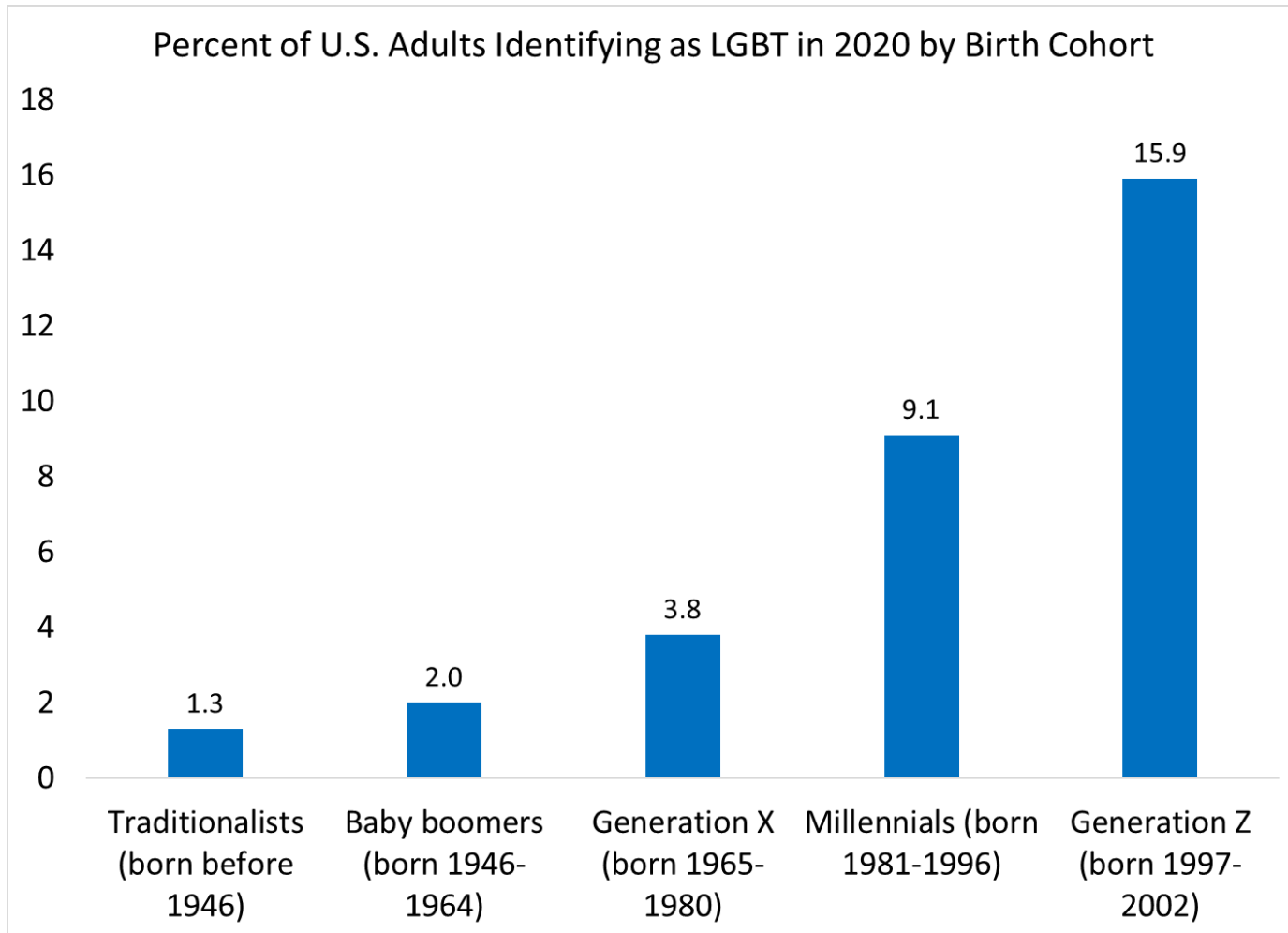
- Qualitative interviews
 - Talk with people at Pride festivals, LGBTQ+ community organizations, gay bars, etc.
- Quantitative Surveys 
 - Ask people directly about LGBTQ+ status
 - Infer LGB status via household relationships

Increasing population



Source: Gallup

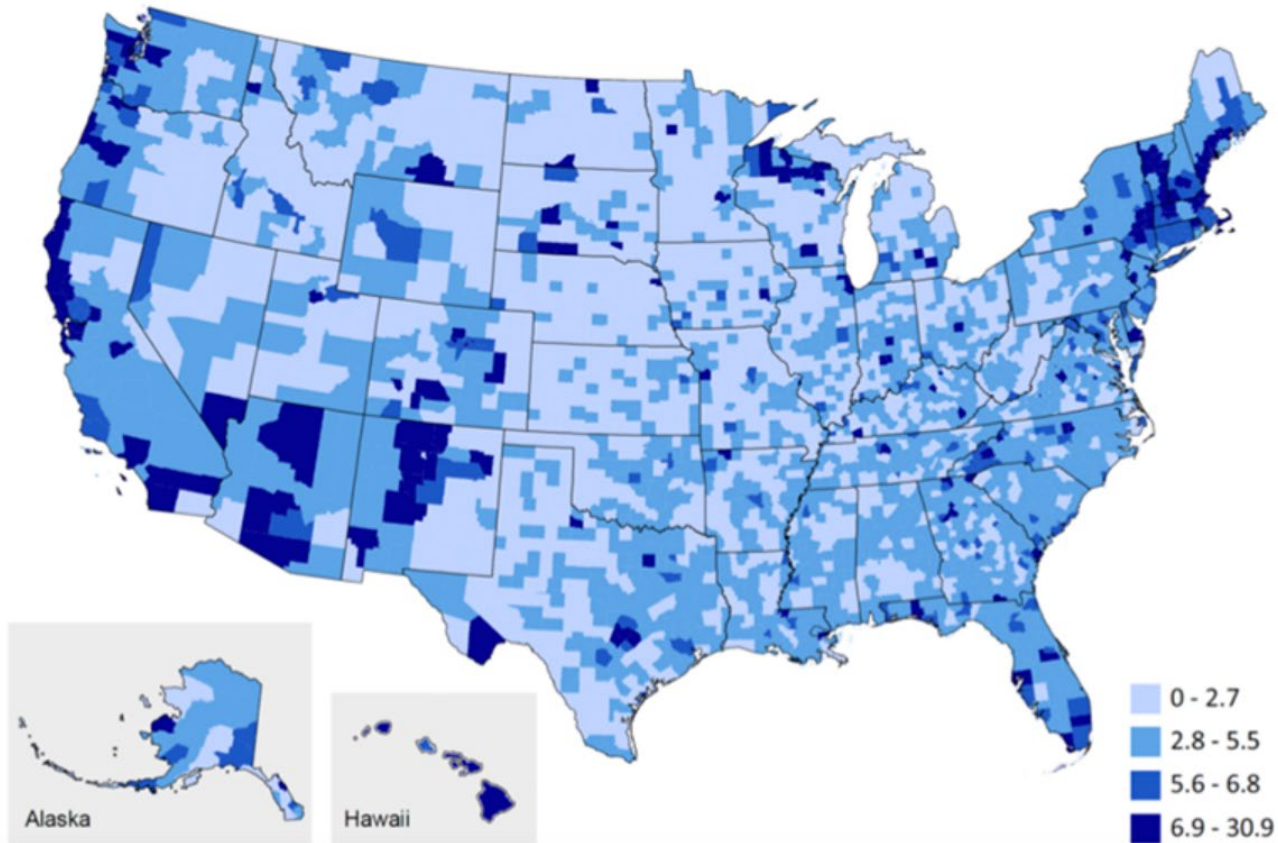
Particularly among youths



Source: Gallup

Geographic distribution

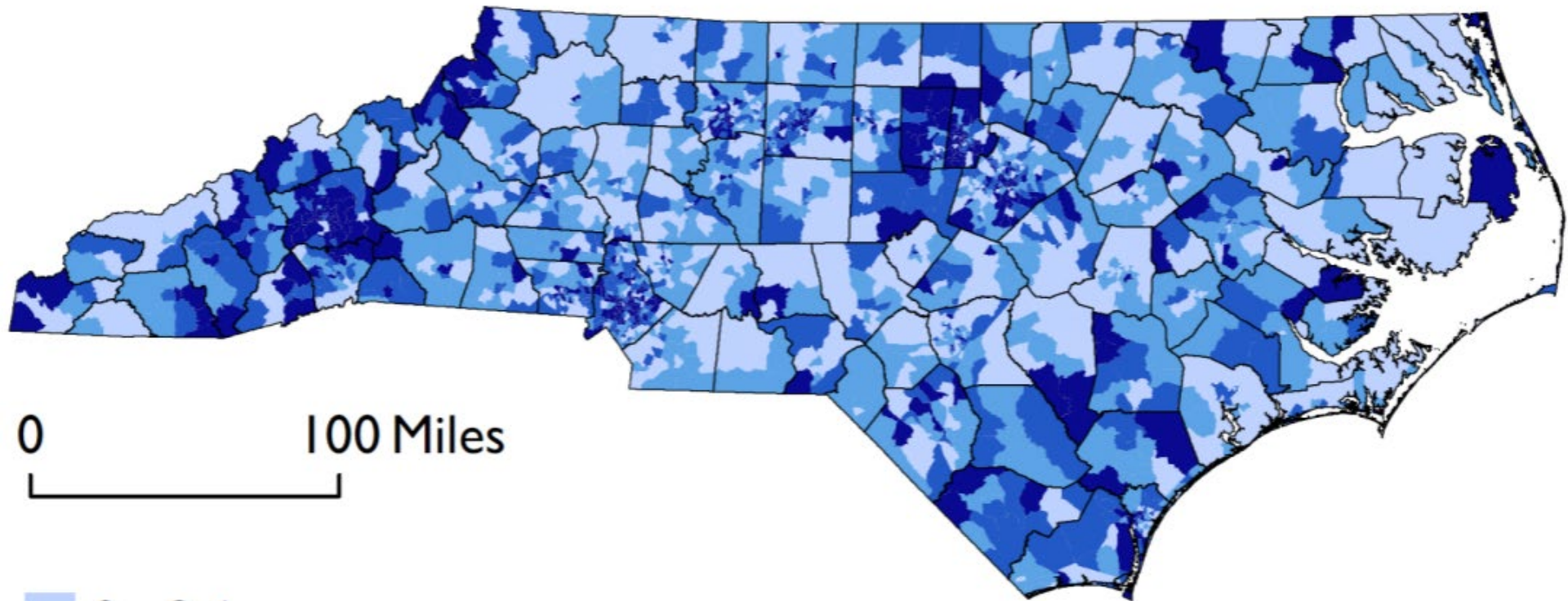
Same-sex couples per 1,000 households by county (adjusted)*



United States Census Snapshot: 2010 (November 2009)

THE WILLIAMS INSTITUTE

Same-sex couples per 1,000 households by Census tract (adjusted)



0 100 Miles

- 0 - 2.6
- 2.7 - 4.9
- 5.0 - 7.1
- 7.2 - 40.0

1. **What we know** about the economic lives of LGBTQ+ people

1. **What we know** about the economic lives of LGBTQ+ people

- Gay men earn less than similar straight men
- Lesbian women do not earn less than straight women
- Bisexual people earn less than straight people

1. **What we know** about the economic lives of LGBTQ+ people

- Gay men earn less than similar straight men
- Lesbian women do not earn less than straight women
- Bisexual people earn less than straight people
- Transgender people have lower employment, higher poverty than similar cisgender people
 - especially trans women and Black trans people

1. **What we know** about the economic lives of LGBTQ+ people

- Gay men earn less than similar straight men
- Lesbian women do not earn less than straight women
- Bisexual people earn less than straight people
- Transgender people have lower employment, higher poverty than similar cisgender people
 - especially trans women and Black trans people
- This is found in surveys ***and*** experiments.

2. Why you should care

2. Why you should care

- Social justice/equality arguments

2. Why you should care

- Social justice/equality arguments
- **LGBTQ+ people consume**

2. Why you should care

- Social justice/equality arguments
- LGBTQ+ people consume
- Increasing shares identify as LGBTQ+

2. Why you should care

- Social justice/equality arguments
- LGBTQ+ people consume
- Increasing shares identify as LGBTQ+
- *Bostock vs. Clayton County 2020*

2. Why you should care

- Social justice/equality arguments
- LGBTQ+ people consume
- Increasing shares identify as LGBTQ+
- *Bostock vs. Clayton County 2020*
- **Productivity costs of concealment**

2. Why you should care

- Social justice/equality arguments
- LGBTQ+ people consume
- Increasing shares identify as LGBTQ+
- *Bostock vs. Clayton County 2020*
- Productivity costs of concealment
- **LGBTQ+ get more human capital**

2. Why you should care

- Social justice/equality arguments
- LGBTQ+ people consume
- Increasing shares identify as LGBTQ+
- *Bostock vs. Clayton County 2020*
- Productivity costs of concealment
- LGBTQ+ get more human capital
- **Diverse teams do better**

2. Why you should care

- Social justice/equality arguments
- LGBTQ+ people consume
- Increasing shares identify as LGBTQ+
- *Bostock vs. Clayton County 2020*
- Productivity costs of concealment
- LGBTQ+ get more human capital
- Diverse teams do better
- **Punchline: discrimination is costly!**

3. What you can do

3. What you can do

- Be respectful of people's identities, esp. those that may not be visible to you.

3. What you can do

- Be respectful of people's identities, esp. those that may not be visible to you.
- Read our accessible review [paper](#) in *JEP*

3. What you can do

- Be respectful of people's identities, esp. those that may not be visible to you.
- Read our accessible review [paper](#) in *JEP*
- Visit the [Office of Intercultural Engagement](#)

3. What you can do

- Be respectful of people's identities, esp. those that may not be visible to you.
- Read our accessible review [paper](#) in *JEP*
- Visit the [Office of Intercultural Engagement](#)
- Attend tmro 10am Bryan 416
 - Same-sex marriage and employer choices about domestic partner benefits

3. What you can do

- Be respectful of people's identities, esp. those that may not be visible to you.
- Read our accessible review [paper](#) in *JEP*
- Visit the [Office of Intercultural Engagement](#)
- Attend tmro 10am Bryan 416
 - Same-sex marriage and employer choices about domestic partner benefits
- **Attend virtual LGBTQ+ seminar series**
 - Tuesdays 12-1pm Eastern, sign up [here](#)

3. What you can do

- Be respectful of people's identities, esp. those that may not be visible to you.
- Read our accessible review [paper](#) in *JEP*
- Visit the [Office of Intercultural Engagement](#)
- Attend tmro 10am Bryan 416
 - Same-sex marriage and employer choices about domestic partner benefits
- Attend virtual LGBTQ+ seminar series
 - Tuesdays 12-1pm Eastern, sign up [here](#)
- Attend today 5pm Elliott Center Elm Room

Thank you!

- christopher.s.carpenter@vanderbilt.edu

