

ABSTRACT

Expanding Intersectionality Praxis: Informing Culturally-Responsive
Programming for Black & Latino Gay & Bisexual Young Men

by

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Black/Latino gay/bisexual young men face a multitude of health disparities caused by various determinants of health. However, despite the awareness of the gaps, health intervention research rarely explores the impact of current health intervention strategies on Black/Latino gay/bisexual young men's overall health and well-being. Traditional health interventions are deficit-based, health condition-specific, and often limited in their cultural-specificity. As health-related fields move toward holistic, evidence-based practices, new primary prevention approaches need to emerge. Using qualitative investigation strategies, this study included primary analysis of participatory workshop artifacts, and secondary analysis of survey and focus group data. This study identified critical factors necessary for the development of asset-based, culturally-responsive, social justice-oriented interventions that could serve as new, alternative prevention strategies for Black/Latino gay/bisexual young men. By applying intersectionality praxis to critical factor assessment, the study findings indicate that Black/Latino gay/bisexual young men conceptualize a cohesive, integrated, positive identity, but struggle through oppressive experiences along the way. However, by traversing through trepidation unique asset-enhancement strategies emerge. These young men at the intersection express deep commitment to self-acceptance, self-preservation, empowerment, and community advocacy, which may

serve as intersectionality-based intervention and policy creation leverage points. These findings inform not only the formation of culturally-responsive interventions, but also societal infrastructure development, and systems-level change that could lead to new cultural norms and values.

Keywords: intersectionality, asset-based, health intervention, GLBT, POC, emerging adulthood