

June 16, 2020

Mr. Victor Madrigal-Borloz
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations Office at Geneva
CH 1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Submitted via registry@ohchr.org

Dear Mr. Madrigal-Borloz:

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide input to inform the Independent Expert's forthcoming report on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and gender diverse (LGBT) persons, communities and/or populations.

The Williams Institute is a research center dedicated to conducting rigorous and independent academic research on sexual orientation and gender identity, including on the lived experience and well-being of LGBT people both inside the United States and globally, as well as rights and legal protections related to sexual orientation and gender identity.

Below we include citations and links to the full text of research published by the Williams Institute that specifically addresses the vulnerabilities of LGBT people to COVID-19. We aim to add to the Independent Expert's record of research and shed light on the question of "information available to the State as to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the general situation of LGBT persons and their access to education, housing, health and employment and on their living conditions." Given the paucity of data on sexual orientation and gender identity that is collected globally, there is little research as to the precise impact of the pandemic on LGBT people. Williams Institute scholars have analyzed data sets within the United States to generate insights into the particular risks facing LGBT people that likely increase their vulnerability to COVID-19.

Mallory, C. (2020, March). *Impact of the CARES Act on LGBT People*. Los Angeles, CA: The Williams Institute. Retrieved from: <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Econ-Impact-CARES-Mar-2020.pdf>

Meyer, I. H. & Choi, S. K. (2020, April). *Vulnerabilities to COVID-19 Among Older LGBT Adults in California*. Los Angeles, CA: The Williams Institute. Retrieved from: <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Older-LGB-COVID-CA-Apr-2020.pdf>

Herman, J. L. & O'Neill, K. (2020, April). *Vulnerabilities to COVID-19 Among Transgender Adults in the U.S.* Los Angeles, CA: The Williams Institute. Retrieved from: <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Trans-COVID19-Apr-2020.pdf>

Wilson, B. D. M. & Conron, K. J. (2020, April). *National Estimates of Food Insecurity: LGBT People and COVID-19*. Los Angeles, CA: The Williams Institute. Retrieved from: <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Food-Insecurity-COVID19-Apr-2020.pdf>

O'Neill, K. O. (2020, May). *Economic Vulnerabilities to COVID-19 Among LGBT Adults in California*. Los Angeles, CA: The Williams Institute. Retrieved from: <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/LGBT-COVID-CA-Economics-May-2020.pdf>

O'Neill, K. O. (2020, May). *Health Vulnerabilities to COVID-19 Among LGBT Adults in California*. Los Angeles, CA: The Williams Institute. Retrieved from: <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/LGBT-COVID-CA-Health-May-2020.pdf>

Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, The Center for HIV Law and Policy, The Williams Institute, & UCLA School of Law's Criminal Justice Program. (2020, May). *Proposed Public Health and Public Safety Pathways for Criminal Justice System Responses to COVID-19*. Los Angeles, CA: The Williams Institute. Retrieved from: <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/CJS-Pub-Health-Pathways-May-2020.pdf>

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ari Shaw, PhD, Director of International Programs at shaw@law.ucla.edu.

Respectfully submitted,

Ari Shaw, PhD
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The Williams Institute