



GRRIPP
Gender Responsive
Resilience & Intersectionality In
Policy & Practice

Gender and Sexual Minorities in Disaster Risk Reduction

A Reference Guide



GRRIPP Reference Guide

Bibliography and Reference Guide – Gender and Sexual Minorities in Disaster Risk Reduction: A Reference Guide. 1st Edition.

A special thanks to the extensive GRRIPP network and the Gender and Disaster Network for suggesting and sharing resources, and Lucy Peers for designing this guide.

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Introduction

Disasters are often portrayed as equal opportunity offenders, affecting everyone in the impacted area. Whilst the process of a hazard becoming a disaster will have a degree of impact on every individual or community, these impacts will not be uniform across society.

In fact, numerous aspects of a person's life will affect their experience of a disaster and contribute to its varying degrees of impact. A person's age, ethnicity, religion, physical and cognitive abilities, location, social status, and education are all likely to influence the risk of being killed, injured, or economically affected by the disaster. In a similar way, a person's sexual orientation or gender identity plays a significant role in determining the level of risk and exposure they face before, during and after a disaster or crisis situation. This is not an inevitable fact nor an inherent trait of these social differences, but the result of unequal and discriminatory social norms and structures. This discrimination increases exposure or vulnerability of certain social groups and their intersecting identities, placing them at greater risk of harm.

These co-constitutive factors producing a person's individual risk or a community's disaster risk have been the focus of study for a number of years. Often siloed in their approach, these research programmes and activities have largely been focused on a number of key areas including gender (albeit cis/binary gender), physical abilities and a person's economic/social status (in terms of migrants etc). This work has been hugely important in helping to develop a more inclusive disaster risk reduction policy space and the pioneering work carried out in these areas deserves to be better recognised.

More specific to the work carried out by the team developing this reference guide, recognition that gender influences an individual's ability to respond to and recover from a disaster has been established for decades, enjoying a relative influx of funding and interest in the area. However, within the disaster risk reduction and management communities, the concept of gender has not been fully expanded. Within the field "gender" has often been synonymous with cisgender women and girls, whilst men, boys and gender minorities have been largely overlooked. Similarly, the specific needs and capacities of sexual minorities has all but been ignored in broader disaster research and discussions.

This lack of acknowledgement, evidence and the reluctance to engage meaningfully on this topic has had real world impacts. Absence of policy at national and international levels means practitioners around the world have limited resources and tools to ensure an inclusive approach to disaster management and risk reduction. This is often amplified by the nature of the vulnerabilities impacting gender and sexual minorities in disaster or emergency situations and the lack of understanding or knowledge by those managing disaster response.

Some specific issues within this area might include:

- the mis-gendering of trans, non-binary or gender fluid people in emergency shelter situations which has been shown to lead to increased risk of discrimination, sexual violence etc.;
- not recognising non-traditional family structures, which can mean same sex families (with or without children) are split up; or
- failing to plan for the unique medical and health considerations of these communities (including but not limited to gender-affirming hormone therapy, antiviral medication for people diagnosed with HIV or the failure to recognise same sex partnerships in end-of-life care and decisions).

In Addition To, Not Instead Of

This reference guide does not aim to undo or replace the efforts of scholars, researchers and practitioners on cisgender activities in disasters. On the contrary, decades of research has demonstrated the benefits of engaging with and learning from cisgender women and girls to enhance disaster response and recovery efforts. The authors of the papers featured in this reference guide, as well as those working on the reference guide themselves, see these lessons as crucial to building more gender-inclusive disaster risk reduction (DRR). Working to a wider definition of gender, beyond a binary approach, is beneficial to all genders in as much as it brings further attention and (hopefully) resources to an area that can too easily become a tick-box exercise. We offer this guide as an addition to, and not a replacement or cancellation of, dominant gender and disaster discourse.

Ultimately, a focus on one narrow aspect of the gender spectrum and dominant heteronormative social and cultural norms have resulted in the vast majority of disaster research, policy and guidance excluding (unintentionally or otherwise) the role played by gender and sexual minorities in this work.

Why this Reference Guide

By examining the available literature, this guide aims to disseminate and promote the significance of the knowledge learnt from incorporating gender and sexual minority studies into disaster risk reduction. This objective facilitates a more truly inclusive and less binary understanding of the impact of gender and sexual identities on disaster risk, exposure and vulnerability.

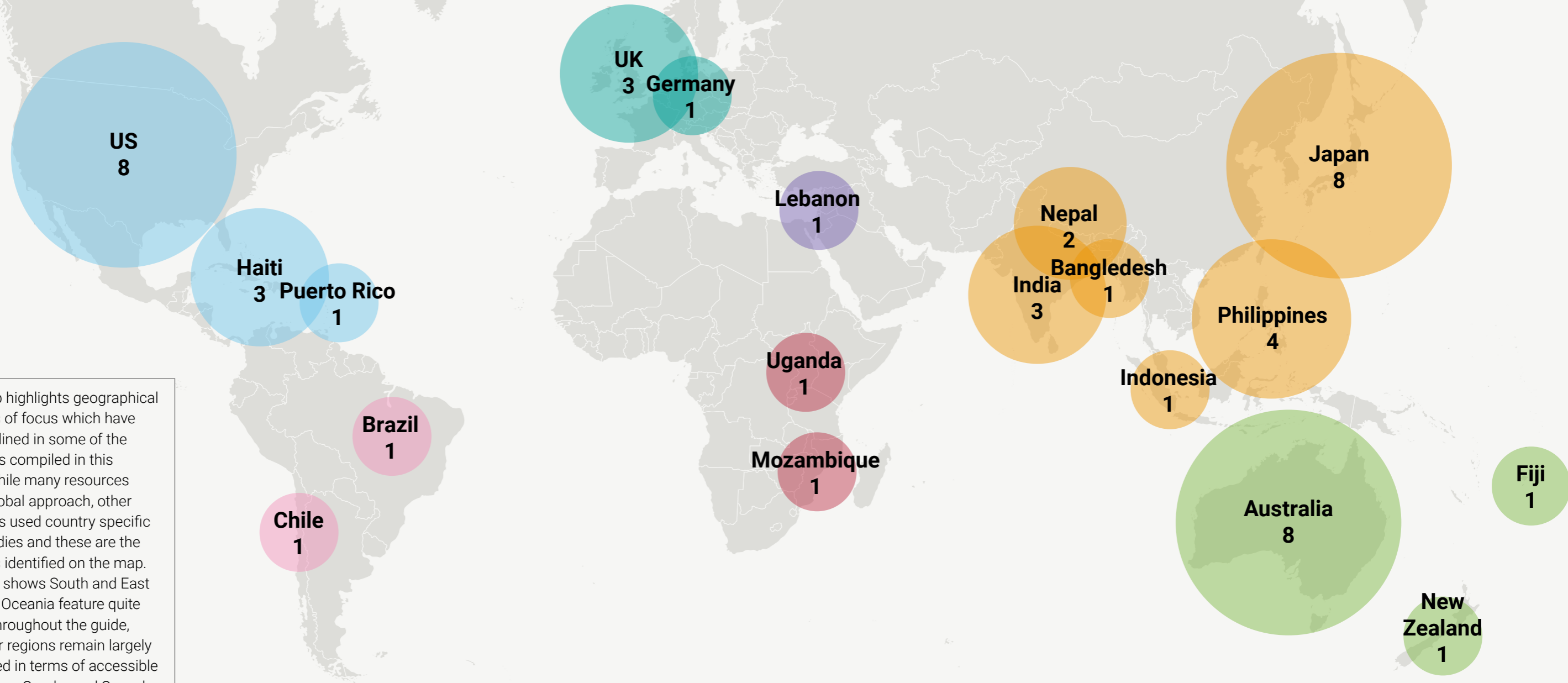
This Reference Guide is a component of an ongoing project by both the [IRDR Centre for Gender and Disaster](#) and the [Gender and Disaster Network \(GDN\)](#), which seeks to compile existing literature on gender and disaster to be shared within diverse fields and sectors. It represents the fourth volume in our series of annotated bibliographies, offering cutting-edge perspectives and recent case studies to enhance comprehension of gender and intersectional aspects of disaster risk reduction.

Whenever possible, we have included references that are beneficial to practitioners, which bridge the gap between theory, conceptualizations, and the practical implementation of gender-responsive approaches, showcasing examples from various contexts.

Countries of identified focus

● Number of references (colour-coded by continent)

This map highlights geographical locations of focus which have been outlined in some of the resources compiled in this guide. While many resources took a global approach, other resources used country specific case studies and these are the locations identified on the map. The map shows South and East Asia and Oceania feature quite heavily throughout the guide, and other regions remain largely untouched in terms of accessible research on Gender and Sexual Minorities in DRR.



References on Gender and Sexual Minorities in Disaster Risk Reduction



31% of the references have a **global focus**



Languages featured: English, Japanese and Spanish



96% of the references are in **English**

How to Use





Welcome to our reference guide on gender and sexual minorities in the field of disaster science research! We've designed this guide to be easily accessible for all those interested in the topic including early career researchers, those working in academia and research, practitioners or policy makers. It is not exhaustive in its content but is a solid foundation across several key areas within a broad definition of gender and disaster.

Each section in the guide has an introductory text that summarises the research included. References are then sorted alphabetically by the first author's name. You will find a wealth of resources here, each with a full citation in Harvard style, along with a brief summary of the content and its contribution to the field.

Please note, some references appear in multiple sections, reflecting their relevance to different themes.

For your convenience, we provide web-links to the resources. These links may lead you to the full text, or to a library or publisher website, where you might need institutional login details to access the complete article. While we've made efforts to include as many open-access articles as possible, some references unfortunately remain behind paywalls. However, if you need access to a reference that is not openly available, feel free to reach out to the Centre, and we'll do our best to assist you. You can contact us at irdr_cgd@ucl.ac.uk.

Under each resource you will find the following information:

-  **language(s)** the resource is available in
-  whether the resource is behind an **institutional wall** or a **paywall**
-  **country** or **region** the resource focuses on
-  other **thematic areas** covered.

Our series is continually evolving and being updated. You can always find the latest version of the guide on the websites of the Centre for Gender and Disaster and the Gender and Disaster Network. As we grow our database, we greatly value feedback and suggestions for new materials to be added. If you come across relevant resources or have ideas to contribute, please don't hesitate to email them to us.

We hope this reference guide proves to be a valuable tool for your research and academic endeavours. Happy exploring!

Methodology

Created for academics, practitioners, policy makers, and researchers, this guide delves into the challenges faced by gender and sexual minorities during disasters. Its purpose is to shed light on the specific vulnerabilities of these communities, encouraging more research in this underrepresented field.

The reference guide was developed through several stages:

Terminology

Establishing the correct terminology for the initial research was crucial. With a plethora of terms, acronyms, and cultural norms associated with gender and sexual minorities, choosing the right words was pivotal. These terms not only reflect diverse identities and histories, but also evolve as societal understanding of gender and sexuality matures. Recognising this, the research team strived for a balanced mix of terms from the Global North and indigenous cultures were chosen for the literature review.

While there are many terms that represent the diversity of gender and sexual minority communities worldwide, this guide does not encompass all.

Literature Review

Using the agreed-upon terms, an exhaustive literature review was conducted. This review, which initially found 103 publications, scoured academic publications, research reports, donor literature, and other disaster-focused materials.

Due to the niche nature of this research area, the strategy was to cast a broad net first and then distill the findings to identify prominent patterns and themes.

Refining the Results

Of the initial 103 publications, those that were most relevant to the study's aims were retained. The criteria included a strong focus on disaster risk reduction, emphasis on gender and sexual minorities in disaster scenarios, and perspectives on fostering inclusivity.

Consequently, articles with only a general humanitarian lens or minimal focus on our primary concern were set aside, leaving a total of 70 papers to include in the final work.

Thematic Focus

The final set of papers were grouped into thematic categories such as Core Readings, Infrastructure, Sense of Place, Capacities and Agency, and many others. Summaries of approximately 100 words were then drafted for each article, providing readers with a quick insight into the research.

Guide Usage Tools

To help readers navigate, the research team highlighted connections between papers based on themes, regions, and focus areas. This feature allows users to find related works and expand their understanding of interconnected topics.

Limitations

- **Resources:** Due to constraints in time and resources, certain articles might have been overlooked.
- **Terminology:** With limited resources, the breadth of terminology used for searching was constrained. This could mean some terms or focal points might not have been explored.
- **Knowledge Base:** Despite identifying more papers than anticipated, the overall research pool is small. This signifies that certain essential areas might have been overlooked both in this guide and in the broader field of disaster research.

Glossary

Major acronyms

LGBTQIA+ – a commonly used acronym within the Global North meaning Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, with the + covering other non heterosexual or non cis-gender people

SOGIESC – an acronym for Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics. This is an umbrella term for all people whose sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions and/or sex characteristics place them outside culturally mainstream categories.

DRR – a commonly used acronym in the disaster sector meaning Disaster Risk Reduction. It is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening

Sexuality

Lesbian – women who are sexually or romantically attracted exclusively to other women, or to sexual attraction or activity between women.

Gay – a person who is sexually or romantically attracted to people of one's own sex (used typically for men)

Bisexual – a person who is sexually or romantically attracted to both men and women, or to more than one sex or gender.

Queer – denoting or relating to a sexual identity that does not correspond to established ideas of sexuality, especially heterosexual norms.

Intersex – a term used to describe a person who may have the biological attributes of both sexes or whose biological attributes do not fit with societal assumptions about what constitutes male or female.

Asexual – a person who does not experience sexual attraction.

Aromantic – a person who does not experience romantic attraction

Ally – a (typically) heterosexual and/or cis person who supports members of the LGBT community.

Homosexual – Someone who has a romantic and/or sexual orientation towards someone of the same gender.

Heterosexual/straight – a man who has a romantic and/or sexual orientation towards women or to a woman who has a romantic and/or sexual orientation towards men.

Pan – a person whose romantic and/or sexual attraction towards others is not limited by sex or gender.

Orientation – an umbrella term describing a person's attraction to other people. This attraction may be sexual (sexual orientation) and/or romantic (romantic orientation). These terms refer to a person's sense of identity based on their attractions, or lack thereof.

Homophobia – the fear or dislike of someone, based on prejudice or negative attitudes, beliefs or views about lesbian, gay or bi people.

Gender diversity

Gender – the male sex or the female sex, especially when considered with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological ones, or one of a range of other identities that do not correspond to established ideas of male and female.

Cisgender or Cis – someone whose gender identity is the same as the sex they were assigned at birth. Non-trans is also used by some people.

Gender binary – a system of gender classification in which all people are categorised as being either male or female.

Transgender – people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth. Note: Trans people may describe themselves using one or more of a wide variety of terms, including (but not limited to) transgender, transsexual, gender-queer (GQ), gender-fluid, non-binary, gender-variant, crossdresser, genderless, agender, non-gender, third gender, bi-gender, trans man, trans woman, trans masculine, trans feminine and neutrois.

Transgender woman – a term used to describe someone who is assigned male at birth but identifies and lives as a woman. This may be shortened to trans woman, or MTF, an abbreviation for male-to-female.

Transgender man – a term used to describe someone who is assigned female at birth but identifies and lives as a man. This may be shortened to trans man, or FTM, an abbreviation for female-to-male.

Non-binary – An umbrella term for people whose gender identity doesn't sit comfortably with 'man' or 'woman'. Non-binary identities are varied and can include people who identify with some aspects of binary identities, while others reject them entirely.

Queer – denoting or relating to a gender identity that does not correspond to established ideas of gender, especially a cis-gender binary.

Pronoun – words we use to refer to people's gender in conversation (he/she/they etc)

Transphobia – the fear or dislike of someone based on the fact they are trans, including denying their gender identity or refusing to accept it.

Disaster specific

Capacity – the combination of all the strengths, attributes and resources available within an organisation, community or society to manage and reduce disaster risks and strengthen resilience.

Disaster – a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) – is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the achievement of sustainable development.

Early Warning System (EWS) – an integrated system of hazard monitoring, forecasting and prediction, disaster risk assessment, communication and preparedness activities systems and processes that enables individuals, communities, governments, businesses and others to take timely action to reduce disaster risks in advance of hazardous events.

Exposure – the situation of people, infrastructure, housing, production capacities and other tangible human assets located in hazard-prone areas.

Evacuation – moving people and assets temporarily to safer places before, during or after the occurrence of a hazardous event in order to protect them.

Hazard – a process, phenomenon or human activity that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation.

Recovery – the restoring or improving of livelihoods and health, as well as economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets, systems and activities, of a disaster-affected community or society, aligning with the principles of sustainable development and "build back better", to avoid or reduce future disaster risk.

Response – actions taken directly before, during or immediately after a disaster in order to save lives, reduce health impacts, ensure public safety and meet the basic subsistence needs of the people affected.

Vulnerability – the conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards.

Definitions retrieved from: <https://languages.oup.com/google-dictionary-en/>, <https://www.undrr.org/terminology> and <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/list-lgbtq-terms>

The background of the page is a solid black color, overlaid with numerous thin, wavy lines in various colors including red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and brown. These lines form abstract, organic shapes and patterns, some resembling concentric circles or elongated ovals, creating a dynamic and textured visual effect.

Core Readings

Overview

This compilation of papers provides a number of **core readings** needed to explore the various themes related to gender and sexual minorities and their marginalisation in disaster contexts.

The papers included in this section highlight the significance of understanding and exploring gender and sexuality in disaster risk reduction, emphasising the need for clarity and inclusivity in language and policies and the importance in working towards the empowerment of marginalised communities rather than victimisation of them.


The papers within this section also examine the compounding interactions between queer domesticity, climate change, and inadequate disaster policies, particularly in non-Western contexts. The papers highlight the specific issues faced by the transgender and gender non-confirming communities due to the entrenchment of the male/female binary which is widely entrenched in disaster research.

In summary, these papers collectively emphasise the need for more inclusive and sensitive disaster management policies that address the vulnerabilities of gender and sexual minorities and their communities. They call for understanding and empowering these communities to ensure a more equitable and inclusive approach to disaster preparedness and response.

References with hyperlinked titles





Bhardwaj, V. (2023). [Queering Disasters in Light of the Climate Crisis](#).

Useful for academics and DRR practitioners, this article examines the compounding interactions between queer domesticity, climate change, and inadequate disaster mitigation/response policies and practices in India. The entrenchment of the male/female binary results in the needs of the transgender community being overlooked. The paper identifies several fundamental issues: Documentation requirements in post-disaster rehousing; discrimination and lack of inclusive provisions at emergency shelters; trauma from pre-existing marginalisation; and lack of consideration of intersectionality. LGTBQ+ people of colour are especially vulnerable. The author concludes by proposing numerous changes that would improve inclusivity and decolonise Indian disaster management policy.

 English  India  Culture; Infrastructure




Baumann, L., Sharan, A. and Gaillard, J.C., (2022). **Queering “Gender and Disaster” for Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction.** In Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Natural Hazard Science.

This paper, aimed at practitioners, reviews the experiences of gender nonconformists specifically, identifying the root cause of vulnerability stemming from structural transphobia. The paper has a strong focus on the language surrounding gender which needs more clarity and a better and more inclusive understanding, even amongst scholars. Definitions of key gender terms in the disaster context combined with appropriate training for staff are necessary for inclusive policies. The paper calls for interventions to encourage agency, rather than victimising the marginalised communities for the promotion of all human rights.

 English  Paywall  Australia; Global  Policy; Learning

Deasy, M. (2020). **Reflections on inclusion in the humanitarian and development work of faith based organisations.**

This paper identifies ways in which DRR practitioners can work collaboratively to encourage more inclusive practices in Faith Based Organisations (FBOs). FBOs are usually resistant to positive change when it comes to the rights and inclusions of SOGIESC persons. More inclusive development practices have been implemented, e.g. by the Quakers, but these are considered outliers. The paper concludes that basic, compulsory training has proven to persuade hardlining religious individuals to consider vulnerable groups and suggests multiple points for engagement to realise the potential of allyship in FBOs such as harnessing the fundamental belief of compassion rather than religious doctrine.

 English  Global  Learning

Fletcher, G. (2019). **Faith, sexual orientation, gender identity and the ACFID Code of Conduct: A Learning Paper**

This paper discusses the updated Code of Conduct of the Australian Council for International Development, which now acknowledges marginalisation based on gender identity and sexual orientation. Reporting on an action learning project conducted by the Sexual Rights in Development Community of Practice, the paper explores implications of this update for ACFID members. Both potential and challenges related to international development, faith, sexual orientation, and gender identity are highlighted. The text emphasises that faith can be a source of strength in promoting inclusion and equity, but has also been used to justify discrimination. The paper encourages all audiences to engage with this topic.

 English  Australia  FBOs; Community




Fordham, M., (2012). **Gender, sexuality and disaster**. In The Routledge handbook of hazards and disaster risk reduction (pp. 424-435). Routledge.

This book chapter highlights the high levels of gender-based violence in disasters, with women and girls being disproportionately affected. The terms 'women' and 'gender' are discussed, acknowledging the complexities and limitations of both. The author also includes specific reference to LGBTQIA+ communities, with a dedicated box focused on queer people in the Philippines. The conclusions highlight the need for gender-specific and gender-sensitive research, which acknowledges the capacities and contributions of different genders. Overall, the paper emphasises the importance of addressing gender inequalities and implementing a comprehensive gendered approach in disaster and development contexts.

 English  Paywall  Global  Capacities




Gaillard JC, Sanz K, Balgos BC, Dalisay SNM, Gorman-Murray A, Smith F, Toelupe V (2017) **Beyond men and women: a critical perspective on gender and disaster**. Disasters 41(3):429–447.

This paper challenges the adequacy of dominant Western frameworks for understanding the relationship between gender and disaster, arguing that applying 'LGBTQ+' to non-Western contexts cannot produce a complete and nuanced understanding. It cites bakla (Philippines), waria (Indonesia), and fa'afafine (Samoa) experience to illustrate the importance of attention to local conceptions of gender. The paper finds that the root cause of the vulnerability of gender minorities to disasters are (locally) ingrained societal structure and the adoption of Western approaches to DRR. Moving away from western standards would reinforce local realities and amplify the voices of the marginalised and/or vulnerable.

 English  Philippines; Indonesia; Samoa  Culture; Policy




Parkinson, D., Leonard, W., Duncan, A., and Jeffrey, J. (2018). **Identifying the experiences and needs of LGBTI communities before, during and after emergencies in Victoria: A research report**. Commissioned by the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

This research examines the experiences and needs of LGBTI communities during emergencies in Australia. The study confirms that some LGBTI individuals hesitate to access emergency services due to past discrimination and abuse. The report documents the firsthand experiences of LGBTI individuals during emergencies, their interactions with emergency services, and the knowledge and attitudes of emergency personnel in working with LGBTI communities. Highlighting the historical neglect of LGBTI communities by the emergency management sector, the paper announces a commitment to understanding and addressing their unique needs moving forwards.

 English  Australia  Data; Infrastructure

Rushton, A., Gray, L., Canty, J. and Blanchard, K., (2019). **Beyond binary: (re)defining “gender” for 21st century disaster risk reduction research, policy, and practice**. International journal of environmental research and public health, 16(20), p.3984.

This paper addresses the challenges of data collection, analysis and storage in disaster and humanitarian contexts, specifically focusing on marginalised and hyper-marginalised groups. The authors highlight how traditional data collection processes contribute to the invisibility of these groups, particularly when disaggregated data is not available. They also emphasise that the lived realities of hyper-marginalised groups hinder data collection efforts. The paper makes recommendations to promote inclusive data collection by researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in the disaster and humanitarian field; aiming to contribute to more equitable disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response.

 English  Global  Data; Policy



**Infrastructure:
Social, Physical,
Digital**



Overview

This collection of papers explores the various aspects of **infrastructure** including social, physical, and digital infrastructure in the context of LGBTQ+ communities and disaster risk reduction (DRR). The papers chosen for this section shed light on the unique vulnerabilities faced by sexual and gender minorities (as individuals and within their communities) in issues related to infrastructure and the role of infrastructure before, during and after disasters.

The selected articles provide discussion on the intersections of gender (both binary and minority definitions), ethnicity, socio-economic status, and geographic location in the experiences of gender and sexual minorities within the infrastructural context of disasters.




Digital infrastructure, as well as its impact on social infrastructure is also explored through discussion on health and community.

Overall, the papers collectively contribute to the understanding of infrastructure in its social, physical, and digital aspects concerning gender and sexual minorities and their communities during disasters, emphasising the importance of inclusivity, intersectionality, and social support in disaster risk reduction and response.

References with hyperlinked titles

Dominey-Howes, D., Gorman-Murray, A. and McKinnon, S., (2014). **Queering disasters: On the need to account for LGBTI experiences in natural disaster contexts**. *Gender, Place & Culture*, 21(7), pp.905-918.

This article makes recommendations for disaster research that accounts for the specific vulnerabilities, needs, and resilience capacities of LGBTI populations. A critical review of five disasters and their impacts on LGBTI groups highlights omissions in literature and disaster response. Subsequently, the authors advocate: 1) further empirical research and fieldwork on LGBTI populations across a range of locations; 2) reducing vulnerabilities caused by social problems in DRR work; 3) critically interrogating fluidity of identity vs. policy specificity; 4) recognising LGBTI groups and their vulnerabilities as heterogenous; 5) enhancing existing resilience and adaptive capacities, learning from these to apply beyond LGBTI communities.

 English  Global  Capacities; Policy

Glick, J.L., Lopez, A., Pollock, M. and Theall, K.P., (2019). **"Housing insecurity seems to almost go hand in hand with being trans": Housing stress among transgender and gender non-conforming individuals in New Orleans**. Journal of Urban Health, 96, pp.751-759.

This paper examines the unique vulnerability of transgender and gender non-conforming (T/GNC) people to housing insecurity, focusing on New Orleans, LA. It draws on interviews with the T/GNC community. Multiple and compounding issues, including the post-disaster environment of Hurricane Katrina, serve to exacerbate the vulnerability of T/GNC individuals to housing insecurity and associated health issues. The paper finds that social support is a key form of resilience, though this brings its own issues as these communities often struggle for adequate resources. A systematic, inclusive response is needed where there is limited housing and there is significant gentrification.

 English  US  Health

Gorman-Murray, A., McKinnon, S. and Dominey-Howes, D., (2014). **Queer domicile: LGBT displacement and home loss in natural disaster impact, response, and recovery**. Home Cultures, 11(2), pp.237-261.

This paper discusses how the LGBT experience is differentiated by intersections with gender, race, socioeconomic means, and geographic location. The unmaking and remaking of the home in the LGBT community following a disaster. LGBT households are often invisible from the mainstream. This omission in policy leads to queer domicile, harming LGBT individuals in remaking their home after disaster. Intersectionality is an important consideration as an uneven level of impact is seen within the community, namely that many public spaces are catered to gay males with little access to public spaces for other members of the LGBT community, specifically transgender WOC.

 English  Global  Policy

Leishman, E., (2018). **'One day we won't need to be resilient, we will just be ourselves': an online qualitative exploration of LGBT+ people's perspectives of resilience** (Doctoral dissertation, University of York).

This thesis explores the resilience of LGBTQ+ people and their experiences of health inequalities in the UK, drawing on online interviews and surveys. The paper finds that LGBTQ+ people have a complex conceptual relationship with resilience. Notably, resilience is perceived as required among marginalised identities, with interviewees highlighting health risks. Resilience was also associated with survival, which diverges from contemporary accounts which place emphasis on thriving. This underscores the need for the inclusion of the perspectives of marginalised identities in resilience literature. Without such, resilience continues to be expected and structurally required from those of marginalised identity.

 English  UK  Health

NACCHO (2019) **How to Include the LGBT Community in Disaster Preparedness.**

This article, designed to aid preparedness planners, focuses on the challenges that the LGBT community face in emergency response. The article sends a reminder that disaster shelters are a microcosm of community life; issues that are faced by LGBT individuals in non-disaster community life need to be considered to provide for them in disaster situations. Policy recommendations are given, starting with recruiting LGBT community members to join disaster response volunteer groups. The article concludes that there is a severe lack of conversation on this topic at national level which must be addressed to raise awareness for more inclusive governance.

🗨️ English 📍 US 🏥 Learning; Policy

Ong, J.C., (2017). **Queer cosmopolitanism in the disaster zone: 'My Grindr became the United Nations'**. International Communication Gazette, 79(6-7), pp.656-673.

This paper focuses on the experiences of LGBTQ persons following Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. The hierarchies and normativities are generally suspended in disasters which has provided new opportunities to express gender identity among middle class Filipinos. However, the findings emphasise that there are inequalities between the different classes of LGBTQ individuals (the middle class have the luxury of material resources and time.) The paper identifies that even though the cosmopolitanisation of digital spaces offer alternative images to common stereotypes in the LGBTQ community, queer Filipinos still prefer to survive disasters on their own rather than relying on agency interventions.

🗨️ English 📍 Philippines 🏥 FBOs; Culture

Rogers, B.G., Coats, C.S., Adams, E., Murphy, M., Stewart, C., Arnold, T., Chan, P.A. and Nunn, A., (2020). **Development of telemedicine infrastructure at an LGBTQ+ clinic to support HIV prevention and care in response to COVID-19, Providence, RI.** AIDS and Behavior, 24, pp.2743-2747.

This paper reviews the transition of the LGBTQ+ clinic Open Door Health (ODH) to telemedical HIV care during COVID-19. Telemedicine reduces logistical barriers and improves engagement and monitoring, especially for LGBTQ+ patients, who are less likely to seek in-person care. Despite robust evidence for its efficacy, telemedicine was not widely implemented prior to COVID-19. The paper finds that adopting telemedicine allowed ODH to continue providing care during COVID-19, which was valued by patients during a time of reduced access to medical – especially HIV – services. There are also benefits for providers in reducing obstacles to providing care.

🗨️ English 📍 US 🏥 Health

Seglah, H.A and Blanchard, K. (2023). **Housing, Disasters & LGBTQIA+ people.**

This article addresses the remaking of housing for LGBTQIA+ people. Policy makers and practitioners must recognise the unique needs and capacities of the LGBTQIA+ community. This article highlights the gap in knowledge resulting from poor data and research, which leads to unintentional exclusion in DRR policy. Direct outreach and consultation can help fill in the gaps in knowledge and policy. The article calls for a manifesto for more inclusive housing policy indicating that the role of policy makers is to design comprehensive disaster response plans and addresses the nexus between housing and realising the universal human rights.

🗨️ English 🌐 Global ➕ Policy; Data

Umemoto, K. (2021) **Shelters that do not make progress in taking sexual minorities into account**, Seitaki Shousuusha no Hairyo susumanai Hinannjyo, West Japan Newspaper, Nishinihon Shinbun.

This newspaper article from Japan highlights the lack of consideration for sexual minorities in evacuation centres during disasters, and places a particular focus on shelter. It discusses (from a Japanese perspective) the challenges faced by individuals who identify as LGBTQ+ such as the enforced division of the population into binary men/women categories and the need for specific facilities and operations to accommodate their needs. The text emphasises the importance of inclusive and intersectional responses in terms of both infrastructure and operations to address the concerns of sexual minorities.

🗨️ English; Japanese 🌐 Japan ➕ Culture; Health

Wisner, B., Berger, G. and Gaillard, J.C., (2017). **We've seen the future, and it's very diverse: Beyond gender and disaster in West Hollywood, California.** Gender, Place & Culture, 24(1), pp.27-36.

This paper discusses the changing perception of gender and sexual identity in relation to DRR in West Hollywood, California (USA). It highlights how marginalised groups have transitioned from being seen as victims to stakeholders with agency and valuable contributions to DRR. The viewpoint specifically focuses on the transition of roles for LGBTQ groups. Whilst West Hollywood is acknowledged as having unique cultural and economic conditions, it offers lessons on inclusive planning and participatory approaches to DRR elsewhere. Institutional changes, including gender sensitivity training and community participation in public safety, demonstrate the potential for diverse populations to contribute as community resources.

🗨️ English 🌐 US ➕ Capacities; Community

The background features several abstract, hand-drawn blue lines of varying thicknesses. These lines are wavy and irregular, creating a sense of movement and depth. Some lines are more prominent, while others are fainter, all set against a solid black background. The lines appear to be layered, with some overlapping others, giving the impression of a complex, organic structure.

Sense of Place

Overview

This section explores the overarching theme of “**Sense of Place**” and its significance in understanding the experiences of marginalised communities during disasters and emergency situations, particularly gender and sexual minorities.

Exploring the concepts of precarity, vulnerability, and insecurity through the lenses of feminist and queer geography, the articles examine how societal norms surrounding gender and sexuality shape social experiences and dependencies, with the distribution of precariousness being influenced by factors such as space, place, scale, and the gendered and sexed body.

The articles explored and emphasise the significance of community identification, community and individual visibility, and a place-based sense of belonging.

Papers chosen for this section have been selected to show an understanding of how a sense of place intertwines with infrastructure and disaster response in sexual and gender minority communities, through themes of vulnerability, resilience, community building, and inclusivity.

References with hyperlinked titles




Johnston, L., (2018). **Gender and sexuality III: Precarious places**. Progress in Human Geography, 42(6), pp.928-936.

This report examines how precarity – a key concept to consider in reflecting on the ways existing inequalities impact experience of disaster – and related concepts of vulnerability and insecurity are elaborated in the fields of feminist and queer geography. Stressing the relationality of precarity, Johnston expands on how gender and sexual norms condition social legibility and thus, insofar as our dependencies are vulnerabilities, the differential distribution of precariousness. Precarity is therefore a function of space, place, scale, and the gendered and sexed body. Common experiences of vulnerability and subsequent embodied feelings are a potential site for community and connection.

 English  Paywall  Global  Culture; Community




Parkinson, D., Duncan, A., Leonard, W. and Archer, F., (2021). **Lesbian and bisexual women's experience of emergency management**. Gender issues, pp.1-24.

This article is concerned with the experiences of lesbian and bisexual women in accessing emergency services as recipients and volunteers in Australia. The article aims to provide a better understanding of the needs of these women in the emergency sector, which is characterised by damaging homogenic male cultures, and how practices can become more inclusive. The article highlights the need to challenge discriminatory behaviours especially from those in leadership positions, who have the power to create positive change and foster diversity. Mandatory LGBT training is vital in creating emergency services that genuinely carry out their duty to protect everyone equally.

 English  Australia  FBOs; Culture

Soibelman, D.R., 2020. **Resilience in the (ordinary) city: needs and strategies of a queer community in South Texas** (Doctoral dissertation).

This thesis explores needs and resilience strategies of sexual and gender minority (SGM) community members in San Antonio, Texas, offering insights for residents, organisers, and policymakers. The study addresses a conceptual gap in literature by examining SGM behaviours and needs. The analysis reveals healthcare and spatial needs, structural requirements for local SGM organisations, personal and communal resilience strategies, and place-based mechanisms of resilience. The implications emphasise community identification, visibility, place-based inquiry, and multilevel studies of resilience. The thesis celebrates the resilience and safety found within SGM communities and highlights the importance of resilience in navigating a world affected by queer-phobia.

 English  US  Infrastructure

The background of the entire page is black, decorated with several thick, wavy, teal-colored lines that create a sense of movement and depth. These lines are irregular and organic in shape, resembling topographical contours or fluid patterns. They are distributed across the page, with some lines curving across the top and others forming more complex, nested shapes towards the bottom.

Capacities and Agency

Overview

This section's chosen articles highlight the many examples of gender and sexual minorities **capacities and agency** within disaster response, recovery, mitigation and preparedness. Instead of a community viewed as vulnerable and passive, the work featured in this section shows the significance and contribution sexual and gender minority communities provide during disasters and emergency situations.

Including real world case studies from countries across the globe, this section also explores the cross section of indigenous knowledge and capacity, with discussion focused on the unique insights of such communities in broader DRR activities.



Similarly, the unique challenges of responding to and providing for a diverse group of communities as is found in gender and sexual minority groupings highlights the need for inclusion of that community to build a response that works for and not against them. This is highlighted throughout the papers, with proven experience of trans and gender non-conforming communities as case studies.

Themes of resilience, community building, inclusivity, and the importance of recognising and leveraging indigenous and traditional resources are interwoven to shed light on the challenges and opportunities faced by these communities during emergencies.

References with hyperlinked titles

Balgos, B., Gaillard, J.C. and Sanz, K., (2012). **The *warias* of Indonesia in disaster risk reduction: the case of the 2010 Mt Merapi eruption in Indonesia**. Gender & Development, 20(2), pp.337-348.

This field note demonstrates how and why the particular – often neglected – vulnerabilities and capacities of LGBT groups necessitate consideration in DRR. Using this qualitative study of the effects of the 2010 Mt Merapi eruption and *warias*, an LGBT group in Indonesia, the authors demonstrate that marginalised groups have awareness of their own 'weakness, resources, and strengths'. *Warias* experienced heightened marginalisation during the disaster but drew on endogenous resources to support themselves and harnessed these to help others outside of their community. Utilising this knowledge through dialogue between marginalised groups and DRR actors would heighten inclusivity in DRR policy.

 English  Indonesia  Community




Dwyer, E., Woolf, L. and Edge Effect. (2018). **Down by the River**.

“Down By The River” is a project that explores the experiences of sexual and gender minorities in Fiji before and after Tropical Cyclone Winston. Through community-mapping sessions, participants shared their stories and identified important places where they found solace, support, and escape from the challenges they faced. The project aims to address the gap in sexual and gender minority inclusion in recovery efforts. The report provides recommendations for government and non-government organisations involved in DRR and humanitarian programs in Fiji, as well as advocates and communities in the Pacific and beyond. The report encourages reflection, conversations, and collaborations in this emerging field.

 English  Fiji  FBOs; Culture

Fox, N., (2020). **Becoming experts: Japanese grassroots NGOs and LGBT communities in post-disaster Tohoku** (Doctoral dissertation, University of British Columbia).

This thesis examines the role of NGOs aiding LGBTQ+ communities following the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. It illuminates the solutions developed by LGBTQ+ communities to respond to the disaster, which enabled LGBT-focused NGOs to emerge. The paper exposes how the experiences of marginalised people in disaster form a blind spot in disaster planning, resulting in a failure to meet the needs of diverse people. Several recommendations are made, including incorporating local NGOs into the disaster planning processes to improve disaster outcomes, particularly regarding meeting the multiple, diverse needs of marginalised people.

 English  Japan  Community; Policy




Gorman-Murray, A., McKinnon, S., Dominey-Howes, D., Nash, C.J. and Bolton, R., (2018). **Listening and learning: Giving voice to trans experiences of disasters**. Gender, Place & Culture, 25(2), pp.166-187.

This article explores the experiences of transgender individuals during disasters, focusing on their vulnerabilities and resilience, drawing on survey responses and interview data collected in Australia and New Zealand. The article emphasises the importance of understanding trans geographies and the lived reality of trans people’s everyday experiences. It identifies key themes related to trans-inclusive disaster planning, such as concerns about emergency services, displacement, the trans body, and the role of queer networks. The article offers recommendations for trans-inclusive disaster planning and highlights the potential for other social groups to learn from trans experiences to enhance resilience and capacity-building.

 English  Australia; New Zealand  Infrastructure; Learning




Hodgson, I. (2021). **Improving the agency and equity of marginalised communities in the COVID-19 crisis.**

This report focuses on the humanitarian- development nexus and summarises how to address the barriers that marginalised people face in realising their power and agency. In these countries, sexualities that conform to 'normal' gender expressions are able to avoid stigma, but intersectionality (e.g. LGBT+ and a sex worker) can lead to compounded discrimination. NGOs need to be conscious of the criminalised status of these communities to design effective interventions. The report provides an exhaustive list of recommendations from governance to community in ensuring that the needs for the marginalised people are considered in policy and practice.

 English  Lebanon; Mozambique; Uganda  Policy

Stukes, P.A., (2014). **A caravan of hope-gay Christian service: Exploring social vulnerability and capacity-building of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex identified individuals and organizational advocacy in two post Katrina disaster environments.** Texas Woman's University.

This dissertation uses qualitative methods to investigate the experiences of gender and sexual minorities in New Orleans and Baton Rouge after Hurricane Katrina, particularly focussing on the contribution of the Metropolitan Community Churches (MCCs) in disaster response. Stukes considers the multiply-marginalised among LGBTI populations, attending to race, socio-economic group and individuals' social situations. Analysing specific vulnerabilities and capacities, the research highlights the adeptness of individuals to identify their needs and the enthusiasm of MCCs in being active participants in DRR work. The research reveals omissions as well as untapped avenues for capacity-building, resilience and response in emergency management services.

 English  US  Community; FBOs

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Community

Overview

In this chapter, the articles selected explore the vital theme of “**community**” and its significance in the context of disaster risk reduction (DRR) and gender and sexual minorities.

A strong theme throughout the selected works focuses on the political nature of disasters for gender and sexual minority communities, with references to the disempowerment, discrimination and hostility faced by this group of society by the more dominant gender binary and heteronormative systems they are required to exist in. These hostilities are countered by the resourcefulness of gender and sexual minority communities in responding to disasters, often relying (through necessity if nothing else) on informal community networks when more traditional, formal relief services are insufficient or not willing to engage with a diverse group of people.




Several of the articles within this section advocate for the creation of so-called “safe spaces” to share stories, resources and discussions and be integral stakeholders in DRR policy and management plans.

Finally, there is an exploration of the challenges of inter-community hostility towards different parts of the LGBTQIA+ grouping, with focus given to the hospitality from a small minority within the LGBTQIA+ community towards trans and gender non-confirming people. A participatory approach that empowers gender minorities to define their own needs and solutions, fostering a more inclusive disaster management process is identified as a potential solution.

References with hyperlinked titles





Gaillard JC, Sanz K, Balgos BC, Dalisay SNM, Gorman-Murray A, Smith F, Toelupe V (2017) **Beyond men and women: a critical perspective on gender and disaster**. *Disasters* 41(3):429–447.

This paper challenges the prevailing focus on binary gender (man/woman) in the context of disaster risk reduction (DRR), arguing for the inclusion of diverse gender minorities in non-Western contexts. Examining case studies from the Philippines, Indonesia, and Samoa, the paper highlights the specific vulnerabilities and capacities of gender minorities in these regions. It emphasises the need to address the needs, skills, and resources of these marginalised groups in order to achieve inclusive and gender-sensitive DRR. The paper advocates for participatory approaches that empower gender minorities to define their own needs and solutions, rather than being dictated by external actors.

 English  Philippines; Indonesia; Samoa  Health; Capacities




Goldsmith, L., Raditz, V. and Méndez, M., (2022). **Queer and present danger: understanding the disparate impacts of disasters on LGBTQ+ communities**. *Disasters*, 46(4), pp.946-973.

This article argues that DRR policy is political in nature, and disempowers LGBTQ+ communities by removing legal protection, thus increasing their vulnerability in the United States. Both structural and cultural competence is needed to address the needs of marginalised communities. The article advocates for strong, active collaboration with LGBTQ+ communities when making disaster plans. It also calls for a transition from disaster preparedness to a resilience framework where 'bounce back' can occur simultaneously with 'move forward' for a more inclusive, just future.

 English  Paywall  US  Policy




Larkin, B., (2019). **Pride and prejudice: LGBTIQ community responses to disaster events worldwide**. *Australian Journal of Emergency Management, The*, 34(4), pp.60-66.

This article reviews LGBTIQ community responses to disaster worldwide. Larkin describes their resourcefulness in harnessing support from informal community networks when relief services are insufficient. When communities and safe spaces are interrupted it causes distress and compromises personal safety. Larkin recommends: a shift from gender equality to gender inclusivity to better address the needs and capacities of gender minorities in DRR policy; inclusive service provision and relationship-building between organisations and communities; acknowledging the contribution of LGBTIQ organisations in DRR; engaging communities in the development of plans and policies; and further research, particularly on other axes of marginalisation.

 English  Global  Capacities; Policy

Nijjiro Rainbow NetWork (2016) , **To convey the 'difficulties that preceded it'**, *Sore izen no konnan wo tsutaeru tameni*, TEAM Bosai Japan.

This paper discusses the Iwate Rainbow Network which was established one week after the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2016 after the founders recognised that such an initiative was non-existent and that gender and sexual minorities required immediate support. After recognising the marginalisation and lack of intersectional thinking that went into disaster relief activities, the Iwate Rainbow Network concentrated on providing disaster relief supplies that were tailored to individual needs. The paper also covers difficulties surrounding cultural attitudes and change, the experiences faced by gender and sexual minorities, infrastructure and recognising the capacities and agency of LGBTQI+ communities in disaster contexts.

 Japanese  Japan  Culture; Capacities

UN Women. (2018) **Pride in the Humanitarian System: Promoting Inclusion and Rights for LGBTIQ People in Disaster Preparedness and Response.**

This article depicts the conversation among the UN in Asia Pacific focusing on the humanitarian response to disasters. Many UN member states perpetuate violence towards LGBTIQ communities with the foundation of humanitarian response being based on heteronormative binary assumptions. Important points raised are that humanitarian services need to provide a space for the LGBTIQ community to share their stories and are integral stakeholders in DRR policy and management plans. These participants indicate that diversity within the communities means there is no single solution, but they should be at the heart of decision making.

 English  Asia; Pacific  Policy

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Learning

Overview

In this chapter, we've assembled a number of articles that look at the crucial theme of "**learning**" and its significance in promoting inclusive disaster risk reduction (DRR) for gender and sexual minorities and their communities. The following articles provide valuable insights into ways to foster change, adopt intersectional approaches, and raise awareness among emergency service personnel to ensure the specific needs of gender and sexual minorities are met during disasters.

Covering topics as diverse as the need for transformative change in complex systems to encourage diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression (SOGIESC) inclusion, to presenting a methodology and tools for understanding disaster risk through an intersectional and gender lens, this chapter aims to focus attention on how policy makers, researchers and others can learn from the experiences of gender and sexual minorities to better design, implement and monitor policy and practice.

References with hyperlinked titles




Dwyer, E., (2022). **The only way is up: A tool for evaluating diverse SOGIESC (aka LGBTIQ+) inclusion**. The Australian Journal of Emergency Management, 37(1), pp.33-35.

This report details ways in which change can happen to encourage diverse SOGIESC inclusion. Actors within these complex systems have a rigid way of working with top-down policy and isolated interventions that prevents any real change transforming the system. More effort to diversify the workforce and stronger partnerships with specialist LGBTQIA+ organisations are demonstrated as suggestions for improved inclusivity. The Only Way is Up tool provides a way to benchmark and evaluate SOGIESC inclusion. Organisations can adopt this tool to monitor their progress and make changes with time, demonstrating positive outcomes and wider engagement, accelerating SOGIESC inclusion.

 English  Australia  Policy; Community




GRID-Chile. (2022) **Metodología para el análisis de riesgos de desastres locales desde una perspectiva interseccional.**

Designed for the use of local government authorities and officials, and community organisations, this document presents a methodology which compiles a series of tools for understanding and analysing disaster risk through an intersectional and gender lens. Learning gained from the project "Gender equality and integration of the LGBTIQ+ population in the Management Local Disaster Risk from an intersectional perspective, in the province of Chacabuco, Chile", reinforces the foundation of this tool which argues for the adoption of intersectional risk diagnosis of a community to improve the visibility of differentiated vulnerabilities and to formulate actions for inclusive risk reduction and management.

 Spanish  Chile  Capacities; Infrastructure


Knight, K. and Sollom, R. (2012). **Making disaster risk reduction and relief programmes LGBTI-Inclusive: examples from Nepal.**

This article uses Nepal as a case study for LGBTI-inclusive DRR programs and policies. The authors begin by using examples from different global disasters to evidence the type of discrimination LGBTI people may face. They outline reasons gender and sexuality is often side-lined and review major organisations' lack of protocol. The article highlights several considerations for ensuring inclusion, detailing how these were applied in the context of Nepal, and arguing that Nepal's experience is indicative of how to improve DRR around the world. They stress the need for engagement with local organisations to understand local political landscapes, concerns and terminology.

 English  Nepal  Community; Health




Leonard, W., Parkinson, D., Duncan, A., Archer, F. and Weiss, C.O., (2022). **Under pressure: Developing lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) inclusive emergency services.** The Australian Journal of Emergency Management, 37(1), pp.52-58.

This article highlights that there is a lack of awareness of specific needs for LGBTI people among emergency service personnel in Australia. This is evidenced by their neutral/indifferent attitudes towards them which contributes to the invisibility of the LGBTI community. The article calls for further research into emergency personnel understanding of LGBTI persons needs should be conducted. Recommendations from the article include implementing guidelines to encourage more LGBTI inclusion and changing damaging cultures in the workplace, and a LGBTI-inclusive audit measured against a baseline for better inclusion practices.

 English  Australia  Community

Yamashita, A., and Mori, A. (2019) **LGBT and disaster management: understanding disaster risk, resilience and dignity**, LGBT to Bosai : Saigai risuku norikaito rejiriensu, songen, Chuo University.

This university lecture slides presentation addresses the understanding, resilience and dignity of the LGBT+ community in disaster prevention and DRR efforts. Beginning with a brief timeline of disaster events in Japan, the slides cover important definitions within the disaster sector, an assessment of NGOs who were key actors in previous relief efforts, and an insight into intersecting factors which contribute to the increased vulnerability of marginalised groups during periods of disaster. The lecture concludes by calling all relevant actors to engage with LGBTQI people and organisations at every stage of the humanitarian response and ensure meaningful consultation.

 Japanese  Japan  Culture; Community

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Health, Wellbeing and Welfare

Overview




Perhaps unsurprisingly, this chapter contains a huge number of resources. Health as a standard alone subject is one of key importance for gender and sexual minorities, with a number of considerations on how these communities interact with and receive care before, during and after a disaster. The literature explored within this chapter explores the critical theme of **“Health, Wellbeing, and Welfare”** and its intersection with the experiences of LGBTQ+ communities during the COVID-19 pandemic and other disasters. The following articles provide valuable insights into the unique challenges faced by gender and sexual minorities, emphasising the importance of inclusive policies, supportive interventions, and understanding intersectionality to ensure the well-being and resilience of marginalised individuals.

Throughout this chapter, the overarching theme of “Health, Wellbeing, and Welfare” is woven into the discussions of diverse LGBTQIA+ experiences during times of crisis. The need for inclusive policies, interventions, and understanding intersectionality emerges as a central theme, highlighting the importance of prioritising the health and resilience of marginalised communities in disaster and pandemic responses.

References with hyperlinked titles

Banerjee, D. and Rao, T.S., (2021). **“The graying minority”: lived experiences and psychosocial challenges of older transgender adults during the COVID-19 pandemic in India, a qualitative exploration**. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 11, p.604472.

This article highlights the unique challenges faced by gender minorities, specifically older transgender individuals, during the COVID-19 pandemic in India. It emphasises the increased risk faced, due to the direct effects of the virus, psychosocial consequences, and measures such as lockdowns and distancing. The authors discuss the neglect of transgender populations in disaster preparedness and management planning, as well as the prevalence of harmful “conversion therapies.” It addresses the legal and social ambiguities surrounding transgender identities in India, calling for holistic care and policy reforms that prioritise the health and well-being of gender minorities, particularly in the ageing population.

 English  India  Culture; Capacities

Chatterjee, S., Biswas, P. and Guria, R.T., (2020). **LGBTQ care at the time of COVID-19**. Diabetes & metabolic syndrome, 14(6), p.1757.

This article draws on the heightened risk of LGBTQ individuals during the pandemic. Mental health is worsened for LGBTQ individuals who rely on social interactions which are removed with lockdowns. The absence of a permanent shelter for some community members means non-compliance to Covid preventative measures such as good hygiene and social distancing. Lack of documentation results in a barrier in accessing financial assistance. The article points out that whilst various NGOs do provide help for the LGBTQ persons, governments, specifically policy officials, need to provide socio economic security and impose a zero-tolerance policy to any discrimination to marginalised communities.

🗨️ English 📍 India 🏥 Policy

Hodgson, I. (2021). **Improving the agency and equity of marginalised communities in the COVID-19 crisis**.

This report focuses on the humanitarian- development nexus and summarises how to address the barriers that marginalised people face in realising their power and agency. In these countries, sexualities that conform to 'normal' gender expressions are able to avoid stigma, but intersectionality (e.g. LGBT+ and a sex worker) can lead to compounded discrimination. NGOs need to be conscious of the criminalised status of these communities to design effective interventions. The report provides an exhaustive list of recommendations from governance to community in ensuring that the needs for the marginalised people are considered in policy and practice.

🗨️ English 📍 Lebanon; Mozambique; Uganda 🏥 Culture; Policy



Jones, B.A., Bowe, M., McNamara, N., Guerin, E. and Carter, T., (2021). **Exploring the mental health experiences of young trans and gender diverse people during the Covid-19 pandemic**. International Journal of Transgender Health, pp.1-13.

This study examines the mental health impacts of Covid-19 on gender diverse young people. As a result of government measures to prevent the spread of the pandemic, barriers to access support were introduced. Trans and gender diverse youth were particularly vulnerable. The findings of the study explicitly verifies that these young people experience elevated levels of anxiety and depression, and highlights the need for appropriate interventions to alleviate the poor mental health which were pre-existing outside of the pandemic context. The study emphasises the need for creating safe, private spaces where trans and gender diverse groups can feel supported.

🗨️ English 📍 UK 🏥 Infrastructure; Community




Melin, K., Quiñones, D.S. and Rodríguez-Díaz, C.E., (2021). **Socially distant and out of reach: Unintended consequences of COVID-19 prevention efforts on transgender and gender non-binary populations in Puerto Rico**. Journal of substance abuse treatment, 122, p.108209.

This article is concerned with the effect of Covid 19 on transgender and non-binary persons with substance use disorders. The sexual and gender minority communities are disproportionately affected by substance use disorders, yet there is a lack of well-designed interventions. Treatment for opioid use disorder was disrupted due to the pandemic, where challenges already existed in engaging with these populations. The paper stresses that the healthcare system in Puerto Rico needs to be rebuilt to develop comprehensive policies, suitable training to reduce barriers in access to care and ensure that these interventions are upheld during disasters in the future.

 English  Puerto Rico  Infrastructure





Petchesky, R.P., (2016). **Biopolitics at the crossroads of sexuality and disaster: The case of Haiti**. In The Ashgate Research Companion to the Globalization of Health (pp. 191-212). Routledge.

This article proposes a re-evaluation of public health crises, combining Foucauldian bio-politics with feminist intersectionality. The analysis focuses on Haiti, examining the complexities of transnational public health interventions and the exploitation of sexualised and racialised bodies. It argues that controversies in public health are intertwined with macroeconomic and militarised power dynamics. The text emphasises the gendered and sexualised nature of political economy, highlighting the interconnectedness of sexual, gender, and reproductive health issues with macroeconomic and development-related factors. The chapter concludes with suggesting strategies to avoid oppressive practices while advocating for change.

 English  Haiti  Culture

Sharma, B.B., Pemberton, H., Tonui, B. and Ramos, B., (2022). **Responding to perinatal health and services using an intersectional framework at times of natural disasters: A systematic review**. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, p.102958.

This paper reviews nine studies carried out in the post disaster context. None of the studies conceptualised a culturally sensitive intersectional approach to disaster planning, where women were treated as a single subgroup. All the papers were written from a cis-heteronormative perspective drawing attention to the lack of research amplifying gender diverse individuals' voices. The need for non-binary gendered spaces for better resilience building was identified as a unified theme across all studies. The paper acknowledges the strength in representation of intersections of all genders in the planning, implementation, and advocacy of health strategies in disaster planning.

 English  Paywall  Global  Infrastructure; Capacities

Tamagawa, M., (2022). **The Japanese LGBTQ+ Community in the World: The COVID-19 Pandemic, Challenges, and the Prospects for the Future**. Taylor & Francis.

Ideal for students and scholars of gender studies, LGBTQ studies, sociological and health studies, this book sheds insight on the intersectionality of lived experiences of the Japanese LGBTQ+ community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The author addresses the systematic injustices, stigma and ostracism from family and wider society which disproportionality shaped the lives and experiences of LGBTQ+ individuals and couples, and impeded on their basic human rights. The author argues that gaining insight into the experiences of these individuals and communities is essential in understanding how the pandemic has affected societal responses to already marginalised groups through cross-cultural and cross-sectoral perspectives.

🗨️ English 📍 Japan 🏠 Culture; Community

Trott, B., (2020). **Queer Berlin and the Covid-19 crisis: a politics of contact and ethics of care**. Interface: A journal for and about social movements, 12(1), pp.88-108.

This article explores the impact of COVID-19 on queer and LGBT communities in Berlin, focusing on the loss of queer sociality and the threat to queer infrastructures. The author highlights the significance of queer spaces, such as bars, clubs, and artistic communities, as places of sanctuary and kin-making for marginalised individuals. The article advocates for the protection of these spaces within broader social movements, such as struggles for affordable housing and the right to the city. It argues the need to develop new models of common ownership and stresses that the home alone cannot fulfil the production of queer socialities.

🗨️ English 📍 Germany 🏠 Community; Infrastructure

Yamamura, S. (2023) **'Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on the transnationalization of LGBT* activism in Japan and beyond'**, Global Networks-A Journal Of Transnational Affairs, 23(1), pp. 120–131.

This paper discusses the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the transnationalization of LGBT+ activism in Japan. It highlights the shift from local to virtual spaces for activism and the increased global connectedness facilitated by digital platforms. The study calls for a deeper understanding of the spatial and temporal dynamics of transnational social interactions and the need to move beyond an ethnic or national focus in transnationalism research. It also raises questions about the digital divide and the East-West time divide in transnational collaborations. Overall, the article emphasises the importance of studying transnationalism and global connectedness from a super-diversity perspective.

🗨️ English 📍 Japan 🏠 Infrastructure

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Culture, Decoloniality and Cultural Attitudes

Overview

This chapter delves into the crucial theme of “**Culture**,” encompassing decoloniality (aiming to delink Eurocentric knowledge hierarchies), cultural attitudes, and its significance in the context of disaster risk management and gender and sexual minorities.




Including themes of men and masculinities in disaster strategies in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), the integration of gender equality and human rights in the Caribbean, and the efficacy of LGBTQ+ inclusion initiatives by international institutions, analysed through the lens of human security, this chapter explores the impacts of imperialism and the related stigmatisation, marginalisation, and lack of access to support services.

Throughout this chapter, the overarching theme of “Culture” underscores the complexities and implications of cultural attitudes and decoloniality in disaster risk management.

References with hyperlinked titles

Dunn, L., (2016). **Integrating men and masculinities in Caribbean disaster risk management**. In *Men, masculinities and disaster* (pp. 209-218). Routledge.

This chapter concerns the integration of men and masculinities in disaster risk management strategies and policies to protect human rights and promote sustainable development in Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The cause of vulnerabilities stems from postcolonialism and cultural characteristics and needs to be better understood for more inclusive capacity building. While Caribbean institutions are now improving their gender mainstreaming, climate change adaptation is hindered by Structural Adjustment Programmes, which prevent long term economic development for these countries. It recommends that disaster risk can be reduced by the diverse efforts of men to challenge hierarchies around gender, sexuality and culture.

 English  Caribbean  Learning; Policy

Durban-Albrecht, E., (2017). **Postcolonial disablement and/as transition: Trans* Haitian narratives of breaking open and stitching together**. *Transgender Studies Quarterly*, 4(2), pp.195-207.

Drawing an analogy between fixing the cracks of tectonic shifts and rebuilding lives after the 2010 earthquake reorganised bodies and social relations, the author uses ethnography to examine the resilience capacities of black trans Haitians. The author considers the role of imperialism in the paternalist narrative of Haiti as “underdeveloped” and more vulnerable to risk, which Durban-Albrecht names as deliberate “antiblack postcolonial disablement”. Bringing together theorising from decolonial, transgender and disability studies, Durban-Albrecht analyses the gendered effects of disability from injuries incurred during the earthquake and black trans* life-(re)building strategies – stitching together – that can inform wider resilience practices.

🗨️ English 📍 Haiti 🛠️ Capacities

IFRC, (2023), **Hear me, see me, include me – LGBTIQ+ peoples experiences after a disaster**.

This video provides an incredibly important insight into the specific challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ communities in Nepal and the Philippines, before, during and after a disaster. LGBTQIA+ members and the wider community discuss their exclusion from binary-focused disaster recovery services such as evacuation centres and the dismissal of their basic human rights to sanitation and healthcare. Members of the transgender community discuss their experiences with navigating access to sanitary products and toilet access due to fear of violence and harassment. Interviewees call for the recognition and implementation of the diverse needs of the LGBTQIA+ community in disaster action plans.

🗨️ English 📍 Nepal; Philippines 🛠️ Health; Infrastructure




Lillywhite, B. and Wolbring, G., (2023). **Risk Narrative of Emergency and Disaster Management, Preparedness, and Planning (EDMPP): The Importance of the ‘Social’**. *Sustainability*, 15(1), p.387.

This scoping review examines the engagement with risk in emergency and disaster management, preparedness, and planning (EDMPP) academic literature, with a focus on the social aspects of risk and marginalised groups. The study reveals a lack of coverage on social aspects of risk, risk perception, governance, literacy, communication, education, and narrative, particularly in relation to marginalised populations. The findings highlight the need to address these gaps and emphasise the importance of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in EDMPP research and practices. The paper finds LGBTQIA+ people are rarely served within this process.

🗨️ English 📍 Global 🛠️ Data; Infrastructure


Mekler, A.G., (2018). **LGBTIQ (in)visibility: a human security approach to SOGIESC**. In Routledge handbook of queer development studies (pp. 155-168). Routledge.

This paper examines the efficacy of LGBTQ+ inclusion initiatives by international institutions through the lens of human security. Human security allows a critical examination of the root causes of marginalisation in a way that reflects the fundamental individual needs. It considers three key components: freedom from fear, freedom from want, and freedom to live with dignity. The paper finds that the non-homogenous reality of LGBTQ+ identity, needs, and history means it is possible for one to be included by rights and still experience oppression and violence. As these issues are, at root, intersectional, intersectional solutions are required to address them.

 English  Global  Community




Rushton, A. and Scarlett, J. (2023), "**The blame game: disaster, queerness and prejudice**", Disaster Prevention and Management, Vol. 32.

This article addresses the rhetoric of blaming queer communities for disasters, exploring the negative implications for individuals with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. The authors highlight the harm caused by homophobic and transphobic discourses on physical and mental well-being. They argue that blaming queer individuals for disasters can be seen as a hate crime and an infringement on human rights. They urge the media to exercise caution in reporting such narratives and avoid providing a platform for hate speech. The article calls for further research on the effects of disaster blame rhetoric and advocates for a rejection of anti-queer messages.

 English  Global  FBOs

United Nations Development Programme for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, EnGenDER (2023). **Behaviour Change Communication Guidance Framework Document**.

The EnGenDER Project aims to integrate gender equality and human rights-based approaches into climate change, DRR and environmental management efforts in the Caribbean. The report highlights the challenges of engaging with Caribbean LGBTQIA+ communities, rendering the collection of official statistics on the LGBT community challenging. The report highlights the critical need for a greater understanding and appreciation of the unique challenges the community faces. The report emphasises the need for sustained funding and partnerships, knowledge sharing through Communities of Practice, and capacity building initiatives to overcome resource constraints. Collaboration with universities and international development partners is also recommended to strengthen human resource capacity.

 English  Caribbean  Data; Learning

Voigt, L., (2022). **Queering Security in Haiti: The Security Discourse of Local Advocacy Groups on Sexual and Gender Minorities.**

This article focuses on 'queer security' by examining security strategies from local LGBT advocacy groups and state officials in Haiti. Security is often primarily seen as physical safety with gender and sexual minority individuals facing widespread harassment, sexual violence, and robbery. However, socioeconomic security is often worsened for the queer community in a country where poverty affects 60% of the population. Whilst advocacy groups possess agency and strategies against insecurities, elected officials do not depict security of gender and sexual minorities. The article concludes that cooperation between government and local advocacy groups is needed to strengthen queer security and visibility.

 English  Haiti  Community

Yamashita, A. (2013). **The experiences of sexual minorities in the Great East Japan Earthquake and their connection to the world.** Higashinohon Daishinsai ni okeru seiteki nmainorithi no keikenn to sekai notsunagari, Human rights Osaka.

This article documents in detail the 26th ILGA World Congress which examines the experiences of LGBTQ survivors of the Great East Japan Earthquake in evacuation shelters. It highlights the risks of being visible as an LGBTQ+ person. It identifies four key problems that arise from visibility: the stigmatisation and marginalisation of trans individuals and their inability to access HRT; the structural exclusion of same-sex partners as next of kin; the inability of same-sex partners to access temporary housing; and the non-provision of dedicated support services for LGBTQ+ individuals.

 English; Japanese  Japan  Infrastructure

The background of the image is black, featuring several layers of wavy, concentric lines in a light pink color. These lines vary in thickness and curvature, creating a sense of depth and movement. The lines are most prominent in the top and bottom sections, framing the central text.

Faith-Based Organisations

Overview





This chapter explores the role of “**Faith-Based Organizations**” (FBOs) in disaster response and recovery efforts, particularly in how such organisations have both addressed but also ignored or advocated against the needs of gender and sexual communities across the globe. The articles within this chapter shed light on the attitudes and practices of FBOs towards gender and sexual minorities and advocate for more inclusive approaches that uphold the rights and well-being of marginalised communities.

Throughout this chapter, the common theme of “Faith-Based Organizations” is woven into discussions about disaster response and inclusivity. The articles collectively call for transformative approaches, intersectional considerations, and active collaboration to ensure FBOs play a vital role in providing disaster relief services that are inclusive and sensitive to the needs of gender and sexual minorities.

References with hyperlinked titles




Ben-Asher, N., (2018). [Faith-Based Emergency Powers](#). Harv. Women’s LJ, 41, p.269.

This paper explores “Faith-Based Emergency Powers” as a leading strategy in “Culture Wars”, i.e. a strategy whereby faith-based exceptions to the rights of LGBT individuals and communities are made. The author expands on this concept through the analogy of the “War on Terror” and argues that Culture Wars in the United States “defend” religious liberties through a three-step emergency powers rationale, and calls for systems of power such as the Supreme Court and other law makers to defend the rule of law by rejecting Faith-Based Emergency Powers.

 English  Paywall  US  Infrastructure





Fletcher, G., (2019). [Faith, sexual orientation, gender identity and the ACFID Code of Conduct: a learning paper](#).

This paper provides insight into existing practices of Faith Based Organisations (FBOs), their current attitudes towards gender and sexual minorities, and active research into the strengths and challenges related to faith and gender. The findings show that small changes can be brought about by conversation to bring visibility to marginalised communities often stigmatised by FBOs, and the importance of a bottom-up approach, cross-learning and intersectional considerations. Several examples of inclusive practice from FBOs are listed but there should be an understanding of local contexts before entering dialogue. The article ends with a list of comprehensive, thematic resources for complimentary learning.

 English  Global  Learning; Community




Goldsmith, L., Raditz, V. and Méndez, M., (2022). **Queer and present danger: understanding the disparate impacts of disasters on LGBTQ+ communities**. *Disasters*, 46(4), pp.946-973.

This article argues that DRR policy is political in nature, and disempowers LGBTQ+ communities by removing legal protection, thus increasing their vulnerability in the United States. Both structural and cultural competence is needed to address the needs of marginalised communities. The article advocates for strong, active collaboration with LGBTQ+ communities when making disaster plans. It also calls for a transition from disaster preparedness to a resilience framework where 'bounce back' can occur simultaneously with 'move forward' for a more inclusive, just future.

 English  Paywall  US  Policy


King, D., (2022). **Hearing Minority Voices: Institutional Discrimination Towards LGBTQ in Disaster and Recovery**. *Journal of Extreme Events*, p.2241005.

This paper focuses on the importance of addressing the needs of LGBTQ+ communities in disaster response and recovery efforts. King states that the specific vulnerabilities of LGBTQ individuals are overlooked in DRR, particularly in areas such as evacuation, support, counselling, and rehousing. The role of faith-based organisations (FBO) in providing disaster relief services is critically analysed regarding attitudes and practices towards LGBTQ+ groups. The paper emphasises the need for more research to understand how FBO can operate more inclusively, suggesting participatory action research and calling for LGBTQ researchers within FBO to promote transformation and inclusivity in disaster relief operations.

 English  Global  Data; Community

Paine, C., (2018). **Christian Aid and LGBTI rights: breaking the silence**. *Gender & Development*, 26(1), pp.155-172.

Drawing on their experience gained as the Corporate Gender Champion at Christian Aid, the author offers a critique of Christian Aids journey from navigating through theological and doctrinal debates and hesitancy to engage with issues of LGBTI discrimination, to recognising the harm of a faith-based development agency in remaining silent. While the agency's focus still remains on cis-women and girls, Christian Aid has made small steps in becoming a more affirming space for LGBTI staff and LGBTI communities who are facing violence and discrimination in the countries where the agency operates. The author concludes with lessons learned.

 English  Global  Culture

The background of the slide is a dark blue or black color, overlaid with intricate, flowing purple line art. The lines form various organic shapes, including concentric circles, wavy bands, and irregular, swirling patterns that resemble topographical contour lines or perhaps stylized biological structures. The overall effect is a complex, textured, and somewhat hypnotic visual field.

Policy and Legislation

Overview

This chapter explores **policy and legislation** in two separate but complementary facets. The combination of these approaches provides information both for scholars researching this area and practitioners implementing policy or legislation.

Firstly, a selection of papers examine new and existing policy and legislation, focussing on areas in which there have been successes, as well as areas that need improvement. For example, as gender equality becomes a higher priority for many organisations and governments, a desire for progress has increased. However, discriminatory social norms and ideals can still insidiously permeate these attempts to effectuate change in policy, due to – often unconsciously – held beliefs or the prevailing male-majority demographic of decision-makers. Sources also highlight how legislative problems such as omissions, exemptions and loopholes, or increased lawlessness in disaster contexts, allow for discrimination against gender and sexual minorities to occur with effective impunity.

Secondly, a range of sources make practical recommendations on how to improve policy-making and legislation. Texts advocate for the importance of further research on gender and sexual minorities' experiences of disasters, listening to the stories of affected individuals, and advise how to collect this data without compromising the safety of the data-subjects. Sources recommend alternative legislative models from which to draw ideas and particular emphasis is placed on utilising the knowledge of marginalised groups themselves.

References with hyperlinked titles

Castro, M.T., (2019). **Strengthening Capacities Towards a Resilient Future: The case of Sexual and Gender Minorities in Tacloban City, Philippines after the 2013 Typhoon Haiyan** (Doctoral dissertation, Open Access Te Herenga Waka-Victoria University of Wellington).

Using Typhoon Haiyan, Philippines, as a case study, this thesis delves into the experiences, challenges and roles of gender and sexual minority individuals and communities in disaster risk reduction and management practices. Findings reveal that post-disaster interventions were embedded with heterosexist and heteropatriarchal assumptions which undermined any efforts of inclusive recovery and exacerbated inequalities and vulnerabilities. The author argues that the dismissal of gender and sexual minorities and their capabilities became a “neglected resource” during the recovery process, which limited the promotion of recovery and resilience in hazard-affected communities. Additional work is needed to challenge heteropatriarchy during post-disaster relief contexts.

 English  Philippines  Capacities





Cowan, C. (2022) **LGBTQ+ People & Disasters: A Queer Human Rights-Based Critique of Vulnerability.**

This thesis highlights the shortcomings of mainstream vulnerability analysis in recognising and addressing the vulnerability of LGBTQ+ populations in disaster contexts. It argues that traditional approaches tend to overlook the diverse experiences and systemic discrimination faced by LGBTQ+ individuals, perpetuating marginalisation and denying their basic rights. The use of queer theory is proposed as a means to challenge the gender binary and heteronormative systems that contribute to vulnerability. The text also examines the role of international human rights law in addressing LGBTQ+ vulnerability, finding that it often fails to fully recognise and address their specific needs.

 English  Global  Capacities; Community

Dominey-Howes, D., Gorman-Murray, A. and McKinnon, S., (2016). **Emergency management response and recovery plans in relation to sexual and gender minorities in New South Wales, Australia.** International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, 16, pp.1-11.

Using a 'queer lens', this paper carries out a systematic critical review of emergency management, response and recovery plans in New South Wales, Australia in an attempt to understand if the needs of sexual and gender minorities (LGBTI people) are acknowledged, considered and met. The findings determine that NSW government outsourcing of third-party emergency response organisations such as faith-based Christian institutions has led to a "blindness of difference" to the needs of LGBTI communities, due to anti-discrimination exemptions permitted by law. Authors argue that because of this, the needs of LGBTI people in post-disaster are not adequately addressed.

 English  Paywall  Australia  FBOs


Haworth, B.T., Barros Cassal, L.C. and de Paula Muniz, T., (2022). **"No-one knows how to care for LGBT community like LGBT do": LGBTQIA+ experiences of COVID-19 in the UK and Brazil.** Disasters.

This article focuses on the experience of LGBTQIA+ people in Brazil and the UK during the pandemic. Intersectionality is paramount when discussing the diversity within the LGBTQIA+ populations recognizing characteristics which can multiply their vulnerabilities, especially race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status. Lack of protection for the majority of LGBTQIA+ people often means they support themselves, but the resilience, coping and mutual aid capacities of these groups can be harnessed for the co-production of policies. The article reveals that both the UK and Brazil share similar experiences and redefining cisheteronormative systems will be the first step in reducing pre-existing structural inequalities.

 English  UK; Brazil  Infrastructure; Community

Human Dignity Trust, (2014). **Criminalising Homosexuality and LGBT Rights in Times of Conflict, Violence and Natural Disasters.**

This paper examines how vulnerabilities of LGBTQ+ people are exacerbated by conflict, natural-hazard induced disasters, or widespread violence. In these environments, LGBTQ+ people experience violence and exclusion beyond that of other demographic groups. Two causes are identified: First, increased lawlessness and pressure on scarce resources facilitates the rise of homophobia, which can be enacted with impunity. Second, the vulnerability and needs of LGBTQ+ people constitute a blind spot in International Humanitarian Law (IHL), allowing homophobia to persist and manifest in extreme ways during disaster. This paper recommends that refugee law can be used as a model of incorporating LGBTQ+ experience into IHL.

 English  Global  Culture




Humphrey, G., (2022). **How can LGBTQIA+ people be engaged in Disaster Risk Reduction policy making without compromising safety?**

This dissertation proposes methods for establishing and improving interactions between LGBTQ+ people and DRR practitioners without compromising the safety of LGBTQ+ individuals. The need to collect data on the needs of individuals stands in tension with the need to ensure the safety of individuals, especially where LGBTQ+ identity is criminalised. Several recommendations are proposed to improve DRR policy-making. Among these, the paper recommends further research into the unique capacities of LGBTQ+ people and broader consideration of stakeholders and associated vulnerabilities by policy makers.

 English  Global  Data

McCormack, C., Jennings, S. and Kenni, L., (2020). **Gender and LGBTQI+ Policy and Programming in Vanuatu: Opportunities, challenges, capacity, and tools for change.**

After the introduction of the 2016 National Gender Equality Policy (NCEP) in Vanuatu, this research report aims to capture the experiences, attitudes of individuals, institutions and communities that have been influenced by both phases of the NCEP. The report hones in on the specific interest surrounding the perspectives and inclusion of LGBTQI+ communities within policy, and the importance of institutional capacity and awareness of such attitudes. While the introduction of the NCEP encouraged changes such as the inclusion of gender in Vanuatu's Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2016-2030, the prevalence of patriarchal norms and beliefs continue to dominate.

 English  South Pacific  Capacities




Seglah, H A and Blanchard, K (2021) **LGBTQIA+ People and Disasters**.

This paper highlights the challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ individuals in crisis, such as discrimination, exclusion, and inadequate aid services. The paper emphasises the blind spot in the disaster and humanitarian sectors, created by the overlooking of the vulnerabilities, needs, and strengths of LGBTQIA+ individuals in disaster policy. The authors argue that the existing literature reveals the harassment and marginalisation experienced by LGBTQIA+ individuals, and the neglect and discrimination within official responses. The authors identify the publication as a call to action for a greater level of engagement and consideration when developing policy in the field of disaster risk reduction.

 English  Global  Culture; Infrastructure

Yamashita, A., Gomez, C. and Dombroski, K., (2017). **Segregation, exclusion and LGBT people in disaster impacted areas: experiences from the Higashinihon Dai-Shinsai (Great East-Japan Disaster)**. Gender, Place & Culture, 24(1), pp.64-71.

This article highlights the invisibility and stigmatisation of members of the LGBT community in Japan during a disaster. There is no legal protection for gender and sexual minorities against discrimination. Not only is there a lack of recognition at a national level, there is also a lack of data and storytelling from LGBT people emphasising the profound inequality in Japanese society. The East Japan disaster provided an opportunity to bring attention to specific needs of LGBT people. The paper concludes that appropriate interventions will accelerate progress and mainstreaming of LGBT people's experiences through diverse storytelling will improve disaster preparedness.

 English  Japan  Learning; Culture

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Data Collection, Handling and Sharing

Overview

This final and smaller chapter addresses the issues and challenges of **data collection, handling and sharing** within disaster contexts, particularly with regard to the global lack of gender-disaggregated data. Traditional data collection practices within emergency situations perpetuate the marginalisation of sexual and gender minorities and other hyper-marginalised groups.

Addressing practitioners and policy makers involved with disaster and humanitarian responses, the below articles put forth suggestions and recommendations for more inclusive data collection and handling practices, as well as addressing the ethical procedures behind data collection methods for hyper-marginalised groups.

References with hyperlinked titles




Clements, R., Budimir, M., Brown, S. and Sneddon, A., (2021). [**Gender inclusive disaster risk financing.**](#)

This study concerns the gender aspects of the development and implementation of risk financing. The article highlights the need to develop gender inclusive metrics for evaluating and monitoring pay-outs. The paper presents steps to fully mainstream gender in their disaster risk financing programme. These include developing a set of gender targets for members to work towards, conducting gendered analysis through more comprehensive data collection and adopting a community participatory approach by ensuring a safe space for consultation. However, the use of gender throughout this study has a stronger implication towards women than LGBTQIA+ people.

 English  Bangladesh; Philippines  Learning; Community




Pan American Health Organization (2020) [**Key Considerations for Integrating Gender Equality into Health Emergency and Disaster Response: COVID-19.**](#)

This report, targeted at DRR and public health practitioners, emphasises that additional care should be given to marginalised communities to improve public health and disaster response, especially in the context of Covid-19. The lack of private space and gender inclusive facilities in emergency shelters increases the risk and vulnerabilities of LGBT+ people in accessing appropriate healthcare. The scarcity of disaggregated data limits the planning of a more inclusive disaster response. The report underlines the importance of investing in research and the protection of gender specific needs. However, the term gender is largely targeted more towards women and girls.

 English  Global  Health; Infrastructure

Seglah, H.A and Blanchard, K. (2022) **Invisible Again: Hyper-Marginalised Groups and Disaster Data**.

This paper addresses the challenges of data collection, analysis and storage in disaster and humanitarian contexts, specifically focusing on marginalised and hyper-marginalised groups. The authors highlight how traditional data collection processes contribute to the invisibility of these groups, particularly when disaggregated data is not available. They also emphasise that the lived realities of hyper-marginalised groups hinder data collection efforts. The paper makes recommendations to promote inclusive data collection by researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in the disaster and humanitarian field; aiming to contribute to more equitable disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response.

 English  Global  Infrastructure; Policy

What's Next?

The process of building this reference guide has identified a number of areas we, as disaster researchers interested in a truly inclusive DRR and DRM process, must recognise. As we navigate a world marked by increasing climate-related disasters and complex emergencies, it's high time we recognise and address the critical omission of gender and sexual minorities in our research, practice and policy.

While disaster studies have significantly evolved over the years, the mainstream attention afforded to other communities has largely been missing from the experience of gender and sexual minorities (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and other non cis-gender and non-heterosexual people) have remained largely invisible. When disaster strikes, these communities often face unique challenges that demand a nuanced and inclusive approach to disaster risk reduction, response, and recovery.

As academics, researchers and policy makers, we have a pivotal role to play in bridging this gap going forward. Here are some suggestions for areas we can focus on that could help to make a difference:

- **Elevating Visibility:** Researchers in this field should prioritise highlighting the distinct experiences and vulnerabilities of gender and sexual minorities within disaster research. Elevate the voices from inside those communities, research and validate their experiences, contribute to evidence building and address their unique needs through comprehensive studies.
- **Embracing Intersectionality:** Researchers must adopt intersectionality as a core framework for comprehending the impacts of disasters. Recognition that gender identities and sexual identities intersect with factors such as race, age, and disability to collectively shape the experiences of these communities during crises should be prioritised.
- **Advancing Inclusive Policies:** Researchers should develop concepts and programme proposals to ensure research efforts are geared towards advocating for the integration of LGBTQIA+ inclusive policies and practices within disaster risk reduction and management. Collaborate closely with policymakers and those in positions critical to change, to ensure these communities are an integral part of disaster resilience strategies.
- **Challenging Stereotypes:** Researchers have a crucial role in dispelling harmful stereotypes and combatting discriminatory attitudes through their work and public engagement. Promote narratives that foster understanding, empathy, and acceptance of gender and sexual minorities.

- **Data Collection Advocacy:** Researchers have an opportunity to actively encourage and participate in the collection of data related to gender and sexual minorities within disaster contexts. This data serves as the foundation for evidence-based policies and interventions that can address specific needs. Ensuring it's inclusive of gender and sexual minorities is the first step in ensuring a better understanding of specific impacts on the LGBTQIA+ community.
- **Engaging and Elevating the Input of Communities:** Prioritise community engagement in research endeavours. Actively involve, listen and learn from gender and sexual minority communities by listening to their stories, concerns, and recommendations. Ensure that the engagement is mutually beneficial. Ensure that your research is culturally competent and genuinely inclusive.
- **Promoting Education and Training:** Researchers should (in their proposals and deliverables) advocate for educational programs and training initiatives that sensitise and educate emergency responders, policymakers, and the broader public to the unique needs of gender and sexual minority communities. Contribute to the development of informed, compassionate responses.

The Path Forward

By actively addressing the gap in gender and sexual minority inclusivity within disaster studies, we pave the way for a more equitable, just, and resilient future. As academics and researchers, our work holds the power to effect change. Let's embark on this journey together, to fill this void with knowledge, empathy, and inclusivity. Together, we can ensure that no one is left behind in times of disaster.



GRRIPP
Gender Responsive
Resilience & Intersectionality In
Policy & Practice

