

Joint Special Issue

Mental Health and Well-Being of Sexual and Gender Minority Groups: Risk and Protective Factors

Message from the Guest Editors

Despite their increasing visibility in many parts of the world, sexual and gender minorities continue to be stigmatized. Negative associations between minority stress processes and mental health have been widely demonstrated. However, research has elucidated risk rather than protective factors for the well-being of this population. This focus on the association between psychopathology and sexual orientation and gender identity may inadvertently contribute to further stigmatizing LGBTQ+ individuals. In fact, sexual and gender minority individuals may share distinctive protective and positive experiences (e.g., belonging to a community, creating families of choice), which act as buffers against the deleterious effects of social stigma and promote resilience. In this special issue, we are looking for papers that go beyond a deficit-based approach, addressing risk and protective factors for the mental health and wellbeing of sexual and gender minority groups in different contexts and throughout the life cycle. The Special Issue is open to both research and review papers. Original studies using quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods are welcome.

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