

# Trickle-Up Choral Pedagogy:

*Trans-Centered Approaches  
to Supporting All Singers*

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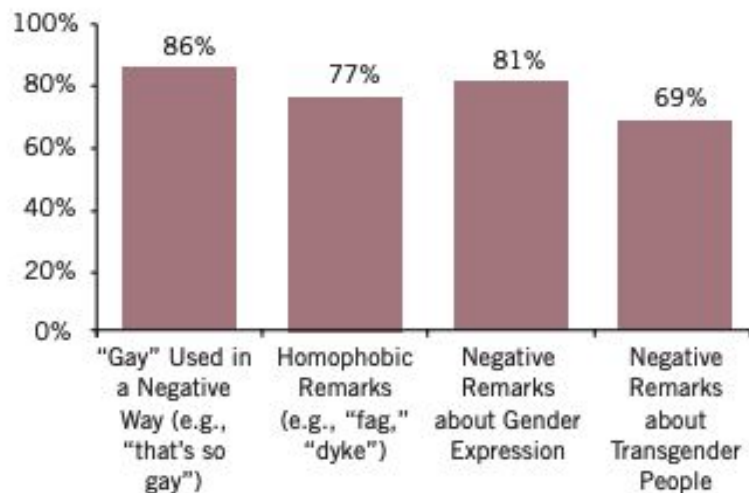


# **THEM Youth Ensemble**

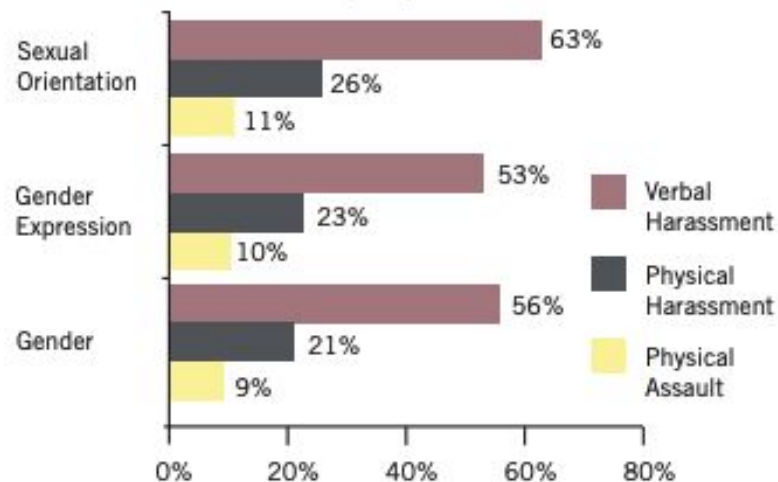
- LGBTQ+ and allied youth, ages 13–24
- Thornhill Lopez Center on 4<sup>th</sup> (Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation)
- Participation vs Performance

# Context: Arizona

**Figure 1. Hearing Anti-LGBTQ Remarks from Students in Washington Schools**  
(percentage of LGBTQ students hearing remarks regularly)



**Figure 2. Anti-LGBTQ Harassment & Assault in Washington Schools**  
(percentage of LGBTQ students harassed or assaulted in the past year based on...)



Source: GLSEN, 2017

# Language

- Gender
- Sex
- AMAB/AFAB
- Transgender/Cisgender
- Nonbinary
- Dysphoria

# THEM-Specific Practices I

- Culture & Rehearsal Procedure
  - Names and Pronouns
  - Skill-building
- Voicing
  - Start simple
  - “I think your voice sounds most comfortable in this range, how do you feel when you sing here?”
  - Emphasis on health
  - Dysphoria vs. Preference

# THEM-Specific Practices II

- Repertoire
  - Tessitura
  - Text
- Score Prep
  - Part Names

# Practices for Everyone

- Pronouns
  - Model the desired behavior
  - Give people the chance to be their best self
- Ensemble Names
  - Specific and honest
- Concert Attire
  - Accessible and affirming

**Questions?**



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