

## 译 | 新法律: 老年LGBT群体将会享受到更好的养老护理

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### New law for treating Mass. LGBT elder population will mean better care for everyone

#### 新法律: 老年LGBT群体将会享受到更好的养老护理

By Lisa Krinsky 9/8/2018

翻译: 飞鱼 审核: 吴航



I've conducted hundreds of LGBT cultural competency trainings throughout Massachusetts for many different types of elder-care providers, including home health aides and staff at senior centers. In nearly every session, someone raises their hand and says, "But we treat everyone the same."

我在马萨诸塞州已经给各种各样的老年人护理提供者举行了上百次的“LGBT认知能力训练”。只是几乎每次上课, 都会有人举手说: “可是我们对每个人都是一视同仁的啊”

In truth, 8 percent of LGBT older adults experience discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity by an elder service or health care provider. Many LGBT elders are fearful of coming out to the people who are assisting them with the daily activities of living.

事实上, 基于性倾向或者性别认同问题, 8%的LGBT老年人受到来自老年人护理工作者的歧视。许多LGBT老年人害怕向他们的护理人员泄露自己的性倾向和性认同。

A first-in-the-nation law signed by Governor Charlie Baker this past July will require elder service providers that receive either state funding or licensure to complete training in how to provide inclusive care to LGBT older adults. Only California has a similar law, but that training is limited to those working in the field of long-term care. The new law will not end discrimination against LGBT seniors, but it should reduce the likelihood of harm. Like most health care initiatives designed to protect a vulnerable population, it will improve care for everyone.

第一个保障LGBT老年人权益的法律由Charlie Baker在今年的七月份签署发行。它要求接受州基金或者具备许可证书的老年人服务提供者, 必须完成一个包容性地为LGBT老年人提供服务的训练。目前只有加州有一条类似的法律, 但是那个培训只限于长期的服务。这个新法律并不能终结目前对LGBT老年人的歧视, 但它将减少可能的对于这一群体的伤害。正如健康中心本就是为保护弱势群体所建, 这项法律将使更多的人获得更好的保障。



© Bob Linscott LGBT Senior Pride Coalition at Boston Pride 2011.

图示是Bob Linscott在2011年的波士顿骄傲周参加的LGBT老年骄傲小分队

One manifestation of trying to treat everyone the same are well-intentioned questions from providers about an opposite sex husband or wife, children, and grandchildren. But asking questions about family without assuming that everyone has had the same family experience—“Who do you talk with every day?” “Tell me who you consider to be your family?” “Who do you turn to in an emergency?” “Who provides care for you? Whom do you care for?” —yields much more information for providers about those they’re caring for.

老年人服务提供者一般会尝试对所有人一视同仁，他们会善意地询问被护理者的另一个性别的家人，比如妻子或丈夫，一般还会问到孩子或孙子。这些问题的本意是好的，但是他们有关于家庭的问题却预设了每个人都有相同的家庭体验——“谁与你每日轻声交谈”，“你怎样理解你的家庭成员”，“危险的时候你想寻求谁的帮助”，“谁给予你关心，你关心过谁”——服务人员向他们的服务对象提出了包含太多信息的问题。

By not making assumptions about the people they are serving, caregivers learn about the next-door neighbor who should be notified in the event of an emergency. They hear about beloved pets who are considered family and thus understand why someone is refusing hospital admission. They collect valuable information about the people they are serving that make it easier to provide much more meaningful care.

通过不作假设的提问，提供服务的人知道了在紧急情况下，那些老人所会求助的邻居。他们会听到，那几只被宠爱的狗狗已经被这些老人视若家人——即便在老人们生病时，狗狗不会被允许进入他们所在的医院。他们掌握了这些老人的宝贵的想法，这使得他们提供的服务能够带有更多的关怀与意义。

When providers try to treat everyone the same they also inadvertently erase the life experiences of LGBT seniors who came of age when being out or crossing gender boundaries was subject to imprisonment or institutionalization. Homosexuality was classified as a mental illness by the psychiatric profession, and many LGBT people were shamed and shunned by their families of origin. Most have had significantly different life experiences than those of their non-LGBT peers.

同样地，服务人员在给LGBT老年人提供相同的服务时，却会不自觉地忽视了这些老人来自一个不同的时代，一个出柜或跨性别认同者要遭受监禁和法律指控的时代。那个时候，同性恋还被精神病学家视为心理疾病，许多同性恋者被他们的家庭成员和出身的阶级视为耻辱，并为他们所冷落。他们不像那些非LGBT的人，LGBT和非LGBT，有着太过不同的人生。



These adults, now in their 60s, 70s, and 80s are more likely to be aging alone, without a spouse, partner or adult children. Today, threequarters of them worry that they do not have the support and assistance they will need as they age. All of these concerns are compounded for LGBT older adults of color, or those who are living with disabilities, have low incomes, or live in rural areas or even cities outside of areas with high populations of LGBT people.

这些已经在养老院的LGBT老年人，现在多已经有六十岁了，甚至有七十多岁或者八十多岁的，他们很可能还孤独地生活着，没有配偶，没有朋友，没有孩子。今天，他们中的四分之三的人担心自己得不到他们这个年龄所需要的帮助。各种各样的担忧混合在一起，从不同的LGBT老年人那里聚集而来，他们或有着被歧视的肤色，或身体残疾，或工资微薄，或生活在偏远地区，或生活在没有什么LGBT同伴的地区。

In my work as an advocate for LGBT older adults, I repeatedly see the results of not treating everyone the same. A closeted gay man living in senior housing in Everett felt safe enough to confide in the resident service coordinator that he was being bullied by another resident and received the support he needed. A Boston-based elder service provider hosted a community event specifically for LGBT older adults. Two Black lesbians, a couple who had long been skeptical of the idea that they could safely welcome providers into their home, signed up for services the following day. After participating in LGBT cultural competency training, service providers on the Cape collaborated to offer a community meal program for LGBT older adults and their friends. The monthly dinners are an opportunity for LGBT older adults to connect with each other and to develop trust and connection with local elder service providers — before they need those services themselves. The dinner on the lower Cape draws 80 participants each month.

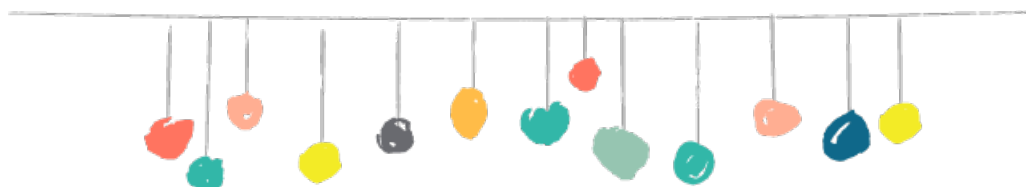
在我作为LGBT老年人权益倡导者的工作中，我多次看到不平等对待的现象。一位住在埃弗雷特高级公寓的未公开身份的男同性恋者感到很安全，他向驻地服务协调员吐露，他受到了另一位驻地居民的欺负，并得到了他所需要的支持。波士顿一家老年人服务提供商专门为LGBT老年人举办了一场社区活动。两名黑人女同性恋者第二天就报名参加了这次活动，而这对伴侣之前一直对是否可以安全地邀请老年人服务提供者去他们家里持有怀疑的态度。在参加完LGBT认知能力培训后，Cape的老年人服务提供商为LGBT老年人和他们的朋友合作提供了一个社区聚餐项目。每月一次的聚餐，对于当地的LGBT老年人而言，是一个使得他们可以互相联系，并在他们需要养老服务之前，与当地的老年人服务提供商建立信任和联系的机会——Cape的晚宴每月吸引了约80名参与者。

Despite recent setbacks, LGBT people have never experienced as much acceptance under the law and in society as they

have today. For that, we can thank the LGBT pioneers who contributed to this significant culture change. Those pioneers are today's LGBT older adults now seeking senior housing, personal care at home or nursing home care. At the very least, we should ensure that when providers say "we treat everyone the same," it means that they give all the people they serve the support needed to live safely and authentically.

尽管最近遭遇挫折，LGBT人群却从未像今天这样被法律和社会所接受。为此，我们应该感谢那些为这一重大文化认知上的改变做出贡献的LGBT先驱。这些先驱就是今天需要舒适的家和养老护理的LGBT老年人。

最后的最后，我要说，当养老服务提供者们说“我们对所有人一视同仁”时，我们应当确保他们给所有需要服务的人的服务都是安全而真诚的。



来源:

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/msn/new-law-for-treating-mass-lgbt-elder-population-will-mean-better-care-for-everyone/ar-BBN1jXF>

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