

{POV}

partially closeted young **LGBT** people  
need

**non-sexual** resources /  
**role models** / family understanding

because

taboo / expectations prevent **cohesive family**  
**and social interactions**

**What's up?**

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# {Interviews}

8 interviewees

## Heather

a graduate student at Berkeley

“the only thing **i wish for is more role models.**”

“i want more equality in media”

“i just wanna feel like i belong—and not to some freak sideshow subculture.”

## David

**The Biggest Stress is coming out.**

Stress is much bigger than being in closet.

Had a list of things he wouldn't do/ say, if someone asked if he was gay, would find out why and stop doing that thing.

After out, **was much less stressful than before**, but took a lot of energy.

## Camy

“Now LGBT structure seems to sexualized, not positive environment”

“But it's a **community defined by sex**”

“Hard to encounter opportunities (people) without formalized events/ mixers”

## Eliver

a post-doc at Stanford

Being “late” in the game, coming out as a gay male at 30 years old.

Getting rejections from potential partners early on in his coming out process - each rejection was **crushing his confidence** that this was the right thing for him.



- Most people come out alone, and are scared to look for help (but they could use it)
- Existing resources are inaccessible to closeted individuals
- Positive real life role models are comforting



