

# Social Justice Watch 0918

[图集精选](#)

[消息精选](#)

[Bisexual people exist – stop erasing us](#)

[Twitter Plans To Fact-Check Trump For The Rest Of The Election, So You Don't Have To](#)

[U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

['LGBT-free zones' are humanity-free zones and have no place in the European Union, says president Ursula von der Leyen](#)

['You must have paid a pretty penny for him.' I was speechless. No one ever admitted race was a factor.': Mom describes transracial...](#)

来源：[Social Justice Watch](#)

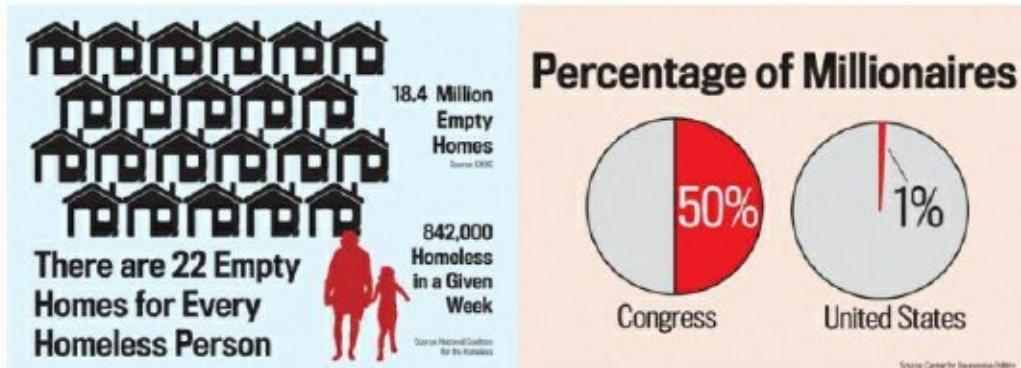
[镜像](#)

# 图集精选

[返回目录](#)

# THE ABSURD CONTRADICTIONS OF CAPITALISM

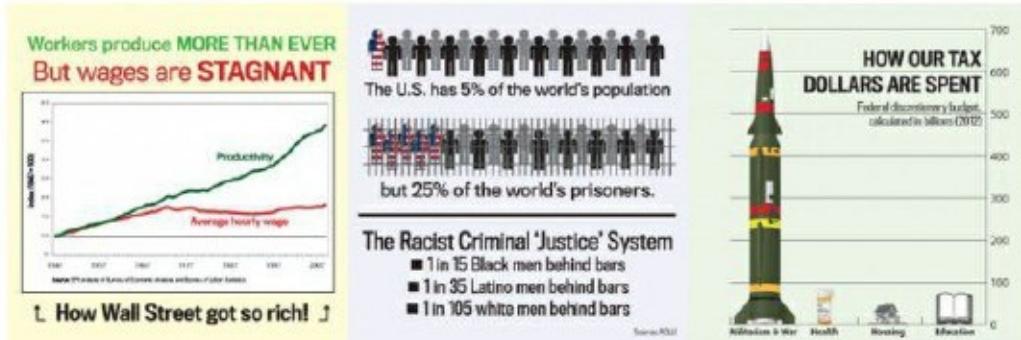
by LiberationNews.org



In the richest country in the world...

**49 Million IN POVERTY**  
+ **97 Million 'NEAR POOR'**

**146 Million**  
**(HALF THE U.S. POPULATION)**



<https://t.me/DemocraticSocialist/2853>



butchniqabi Follow

men are so annoying, "women belong at home in the kitchen blah blah" and YOU belong in the workshop making me a fuckin table! why arent you forging steel or working metal? go out to the fields jebediah! the wheat needs to be reaped!



iwon'tbequiet Follow

men sitting on their asses and telling women to assume their traditional roles is laughable. lol go back to work at the coal mine and build me a house



one-road-to-as-a-bay Follow

ill make you a sandwich after you go to war and die

 WHY THIS IS ROOTED IN  
TRANSPHOBIA

**“I WOULD NEVER  
DATE A TRANS  
PERSON”**

# **"I'M JUST NOT ATTRACTED TO TRANS PEOPLE"**

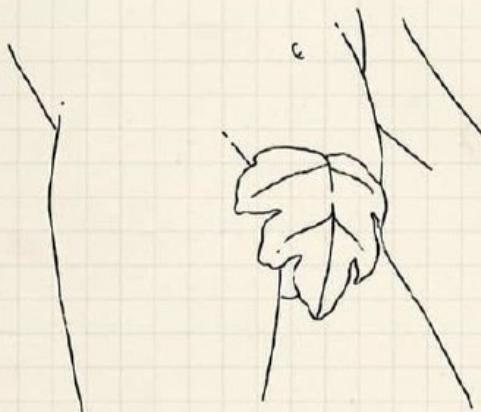
**TRANSGENDER PEOPLE ARE SO DIVERSE THAT  
IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO DESCRIBE WHAT A  
TRANSGENDER PERSON LOOKS LIKE.**

- brown hair
- tall
- model
- fertile
- big hands
- beard

- long hair
- curvy
- singer
- short
- freckles
- green eyes

**FOR EVERY BODY SHAPE, HEIGHT, TONE OR  
CHARACTERISTIC YOU FIND ATTRACTIVE,  
THERE IS PROBABLY A TRANSGENDER PERSON  
WHO FITS THAT DESCRIPTION PERFECTLY.**

# **“BUT I DON’T LIKE XYZ GENITALS”**



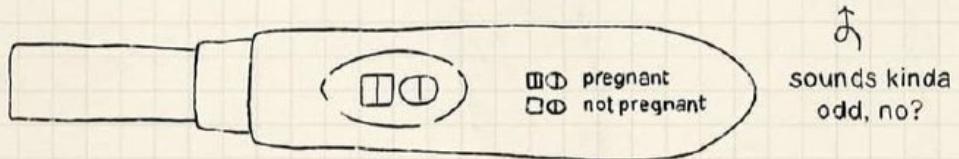
you also can't assume the genitals of a transgender person. an intersex transgender woman may have a natal vagina already! and an intersex trans man may have a natal penis.

**NOT EVERY TRANSGENDER PERSON HAS THE GENITALS  
YOU MAY EXPECT THEM TO.**

**MANY TRANSGENDER PEOPLE HAVE PENISES OR VULVAS  
THAT LOOK EXACTLY LIKE GENITALS YOU ARE  
ATTRACTED TO.**

**"BUT TRANSGENDER PEOPLE CAN'T HAVE BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN AND THAT MATTERS TO ME."**

IF THIS IS TRULY THE CASE THEN YOU MAY WANT TO REPHRASE YOUR ATTRACTION TO, "I'M NOT ATTRACTED TO PEOPLE WHO CAN'T HAVE BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN".



MANY TRANSGENDER PEOPLE ARE STILL ABLE TO HAVE BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY IF THEY HAVE HAD NO SURGERY TO ALTER THEIR REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM.

SOME TRANSGENDER PEOPLE CHOOSE TO FREEZE THEIR SPERM OR EGGS TO ENSURE THEY CAN HAVE BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN IN THE FUTURE.

**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE ATTRACTED TO EVERY  
TRANSGENDER PERSON YOU SEE (OR ANY)!  
BUT IF YOU ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDING  
TRANSGENDER PEOPLE FROM YOUR IDEA OF  
ATTRACTION, IT MAY BE THAT YOUR IDEAS OF  
WHAT A TRANSGENDER PERSON IS, IS BASED  
ON STEREOTYPES THAT YOU DEEM  
UNATTRACTIVE.**

**REDUCING THE ENTIRE TRANSGENDER  
COMMUNITY TO IN-ACCURATE AND HARMFUL  
STEREOTYPES, IS TRANSPHOBIC.**

<https://www.facebook.com/transarmy/posts/195183735310146>

---

---

"Patriarchy is like a man, having his boot on a woman's neck.

Feminism is a woman complaining about the boot.

Conservatives insist there wasn't a problem with the boot being on the neck until the woman started talking about it. If she would just be quiet about the boot, there wouldn't be a problem.

Male allies think there's a way to talk about the boot being on the neck that appeals to everyone and doesn't "alienate" those that would help remove the boot.

"Good Guys" insist that not all men wear boots.

Women with internalized misogyny insist they have a boot on their neck by choice and they love it! They insist something is wrong with women complaining about the boot.

The boot is never removed from the neck."

-LeAndra Lee Baker-

---

IF YOUR ANSWER TO  
SYSTEMIC OPPRESSION IS:

**"THAT'S JUST THE  
WAY SOCIETY WORKS"**

YOU'VE ILLUMINATED THE  
PROBLEM & DECIDED THAT  
THE CONVENIENCE OF  
APATHY OUTWEIGHS THE  
PAIN OF THE PEOPLE  
BEING TARGETED

**FUCK. SHIT. UP. INSTEAD.**

If your answer to systemic oppression is: "That's just the way society works."

You've illuminated the problem and decided that the convenience of apathy outweighs the pain of the people being targeted. [source](#)

---



I'm bisexual.



**I'm not straight,  
I'm bisexual**



I'm not gay,  
I'm bisexual



I'm not lesbian,  
I'm bisexual

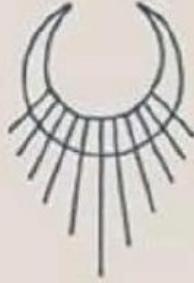


**I'm not half-half.  
I'm bisexual.**

<https://www.facebook.com/transarmy/posts/195183038643549>

---

# Ultra-independence is a trauma response.



Sis, the inability to receive support from others is a trauma response.

Your “I don’t need anyone, I’ll just do it all myself” conditioning is a survival tactic. You needed it to shield your tender heart from abuse, neglect, betrayal, and disappointment from those who could not or would not be there for you.

[source](#)

[返回目录](#)

# 消息精选

[返回目录](#)

The more we educate ourselves on the diversity of sexuality, the more we can help everyone feel welcome, supported, and safe – no matter what labels they use. [telegra.ph/Bisexual-people-exist--stop-erasing-us-09-18](https://telegra.ph/Bisexual-people-exist--stop-erasing-us-09-18)

Telegraph

Bisexual people exist – stop erasing us

People attracted to more than one gender make up the largest part of the LGBT+ community, yet face harmful stereotypes from inside and outside it. Rory Gory (they/them pronouns) is the digital marketing manager for The Trevor Project, the world's largest suicide...

---

[telegra.ph/Twitter-Plans-To-Fact-Check-Trump-For-The-Rest-Of-The-Election-So-You-Dont-Have-To-09-18-2](https://telegra.ph/Twitter-Plans-To-Fact-Check-Trump-For-The-Rest-Of-The-Election-So-You-Dont-Have-To-09-18-2)

Telegraph

Twitter Plans To Fact-Check Trump For The Rest Of The Election, So You Don't Have To

Twitter plans to aggressively crackdown on misinformation on the platform surrounding the upcoming election in what will likely turn into another battle with President Donald Trump. On Thursday, the social networking giant outlined its new policy, one week...

---

European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen has condemned the introduction of 'LGBT-free zones' in Poland, insisting they have "no place" within the European Union.

<https://telegra.ph/LGBT-free-zones-are-humanity-free-zones-and-have-no-place-in-the-European-Union-says-president-Ursula-von-der-Leyen-09-18>

Telegraph

‘LGBT-free zones’ are humanity-free zones and have no place in the European Union, says president Ursula von der Leyen

European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen has condemned the introduction of ‘LGBT-free zones’ in Poland, insisting they have “no place” within the European Union. Queer people have sounded the alarm over a rising tide of anti-LGBT+ hatred in Poland...

---

<https://telegra.ph>You-must-have-paid-a-pretty-penny-for-him-I-was-speechless-No-one-ever-admitted-race-was-a-factor-Mom-describes-transracial-adop-09-18>

Telegraph

‘You must have paid a pretty penny for him.’ I was speechless. No one ever admitted race was a factor.’: Mom describes transracial...

“We were 20 years old. I was a freshman in college and my husband was an industrial worker. We got married in the spring of 1998 and set out to start our family. One year later, I was pregnant and expecting our first child, a precious baby girl. Taylor was...

---

<https://telegra.ph/US-Public-Now-Divided-Over-Whether-To-Get-COVID-19-Vaccine-09-18>

Telegraph

U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine

Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand how Americans are continuing to respond to the coronavirus outbreak. For this analysis, we surveyed 10,093 U.S. adults from Sept. 8 to 13, 2020. This report also draws on data from a survey fielded April...

[返回目录](#)

# Bisexual people exist – stop erasing us

[返回目录](#)



A rainbow flag waves in the wind at the Stonewall National Monument outside the Stonewall Inn, in New York City, New York, U.S., June 4, 2019

*Rory Gory (they/them pronouns) is the digital marketing manager for The Trevor Project, the world's largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBT+ young people*

---

The LGBT+ community is vast, comprising people of all genders and sexualities. One of the largest groups is bisexual people, who have the capacity to be attracted to and/or form relationships with more than one gender.

Yet, all too often, the existence and legitimacy of bisexuality are questioned or denied outright — even by other LGBT+ people. This “bi-erasure” happens despite 75% of young lesbian, gay or bisexual people identifying as bi, according to the CDC’s 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

One prime example of this is the assumption that all people are gay or straight, and that bisexuality is just a phase on the way to either monosexual identity. This false belief erases and invalidates the large numbers of people who experience multi-gender attraction and relationships throughout their lives.

Bisexual advocate Robyn Ochs’ popular definition of bisexuality is, “The potential to be attracted — romantically and/or sexually — to people of more than one sex and/or gender, not necessarily at the same time, not necessarily in the same way, and not necessarily to the same degree.”

Yet many people conflate bisexuality with polyamory. While all relationship types are valid, whether someone is monogamous, non-monogamous, or polyamorous cannot be determined by their sexuality or gender alone.

Despite this, bisexual people are often faced with biphobic assumptions that they are sexually promiscuous, more likely to cheat or unable to commit to a relationship because of their sexual orientation. As a group, bisexuals face much higher rates of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and rape than their gay, lesbian, and heterosexual peers. It is vital, therefore, to confront this harmful typecasting.

For myself, navigating these confusing stereotypes made it difficult to accept my own sexuality growing up. I often felt my identity was defined by whom I was currently in a relationship with, rather than who I inherently was.

Biphobia and bi-erasure can have serious consequences too. According to The Trevor Project’s research, almost half of bisexual youth seriously considered suicide in the past year. And last year, nearly 50% of the young people who reached out to The Trevor Project’s crisis services experienced multi-gender attraction.

Who you are attracted to or whom you date does not make you any less or more bi. And you should never feel like you have to prove your identity. As many LGBT+ people discover, and as I learned over my own unique journey to self-acceptance, there is no one right way to be queer.

Indeed, bisexual is only one of the terms commonly used to describe multi-gender attraction.

Pansexual, an identity term made popular by celebrities like Miley Cyrus and Janelle Monáe, is used to describe romantic and/or sexual attraction to people regardless of gender identity or to people of all genders. While some argue that the prefix *pan*, which comes from the Greek prefix for “all,” makes pansexual a more inclusive term, the common definition of bisexual specifies an attraction to more than one gender as well.

As an online community manager for The Trevor Project, I’ve seen many online arguments over which label is best. But I’ve also seen many young people use identity terms interchangeably or depending on the audience they’re speaking to.

LGBT+ youth in the United States report using more than 100 different words to describe their gender identities and sexualities, demonstrating a nuanced understanding of identity and attraction. In addition to the more commonly used bisexual and pansexual, terms like omnisexual, abrosexual, skoliosexual, and asexual biromantic are among those also used to describe being attracted to more than one gender.

No matter what label or labels you use, though, there is no “better” one.

And while we often think of the LGBT+ community and the straight world as separate spaces, the truth is that the largest group of LGBT+ people regularly transcends this boundary.

As a young person, I would have benefited greatly from resources specifically for bi youth, to help me combat the harmful stereotypes that made it difficult for me to accept myself.

The more we educate ourselves on the diversity of sexuality, the more we can help everyone feel welcome, supported, and safe – no matter what labels they use.

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

# Twitter Plans To Fact-Check Trump For The Rest Of The Election, So You Don't Have To

[返回目录](#)



Twitter plans to aggressively crackdown on misinformation on the platform surrounding the upcoming election in what will likely turn into another battle with President Donald Trump. On Thursday, the social networking giant outlined its new policy, one week after the president encouraged some U.S. residents to vote twice in November. As a result, Twitter says it will label or remove “false or misleading information intended to undermine public confidence in an election or other civic process.”

According to their statement, the company will now censor false or misleading claims that can lead to confusion around existing election laws. This includes comments that might sow doubt in the voting process, unconfirmed statements about election rigging and ballot tampering, and any declarations about election results that might interfere with the voting process. Basically, Twitter is taking on Trump with its fact-checking labels so you don’t have to — and it’s likely he won’t be too thrilled about this policy update, which will go into effect next week.

Trump and Twitter have long feuded over what kind of information is appropriate to post on the site. Earlier this year, the president threatened to

“strongly regulate” or shut down social media outlets after Twitter added a fact-checking label to two of his tweets falsely claiming mail-in voting would lead to widespread voter fraud in the presidential election.

At the time, Trump responded to Twitter’s new policy, accusing the company of “stifling free speech” and “interfering with the 2020 Presidential Election.” Twitter has also slapped labels on Trump’s tweets threatening violence against protestors, noting the comments violate a “policy against abusive behavior” by threatening “harm against an identifiable group.”

Trump has repeatedly pushed a narrative that mail-in voting would cause trouble in the election, in an effort to undermine the democratic process this fall, and Twitter’s new policy seems to be one way of doing some damage control. The company seeks to both crackdown on misinformation about the election and voting process itself, as well as to get ahead of any turmoil that might follow the election results thanks to the president’s repeated interferences. After all, Trump has joked he wouldn’t leave the White House, even after two terms.

The president hasn’t commented on Twitter’s latest policy just yet, although based on his past threats to shut down the site, he most certainly will not approve of the changes. But Twitter isn’t backing down, either.

“We will not permit our service to be abused around civic processes, most importantly elections,” the company said Thursday. “Any attempt to do so — both foreign and domestic — will be met with strict enforcement of our rules, which are applied equally and judiciously for everyone.”

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

# U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine

[返回目录](#)



Pew Research Center conducted this study to understand how Americans are continuing to respond to the coronavirus outbreak. For this analysis, we surveyed 10,093 U.S. adults from Sept. 8 to 13, 2020. This report also draws on data from a survey fielded April 29 to May 5, 2020, among 10,957 U.S. adults.

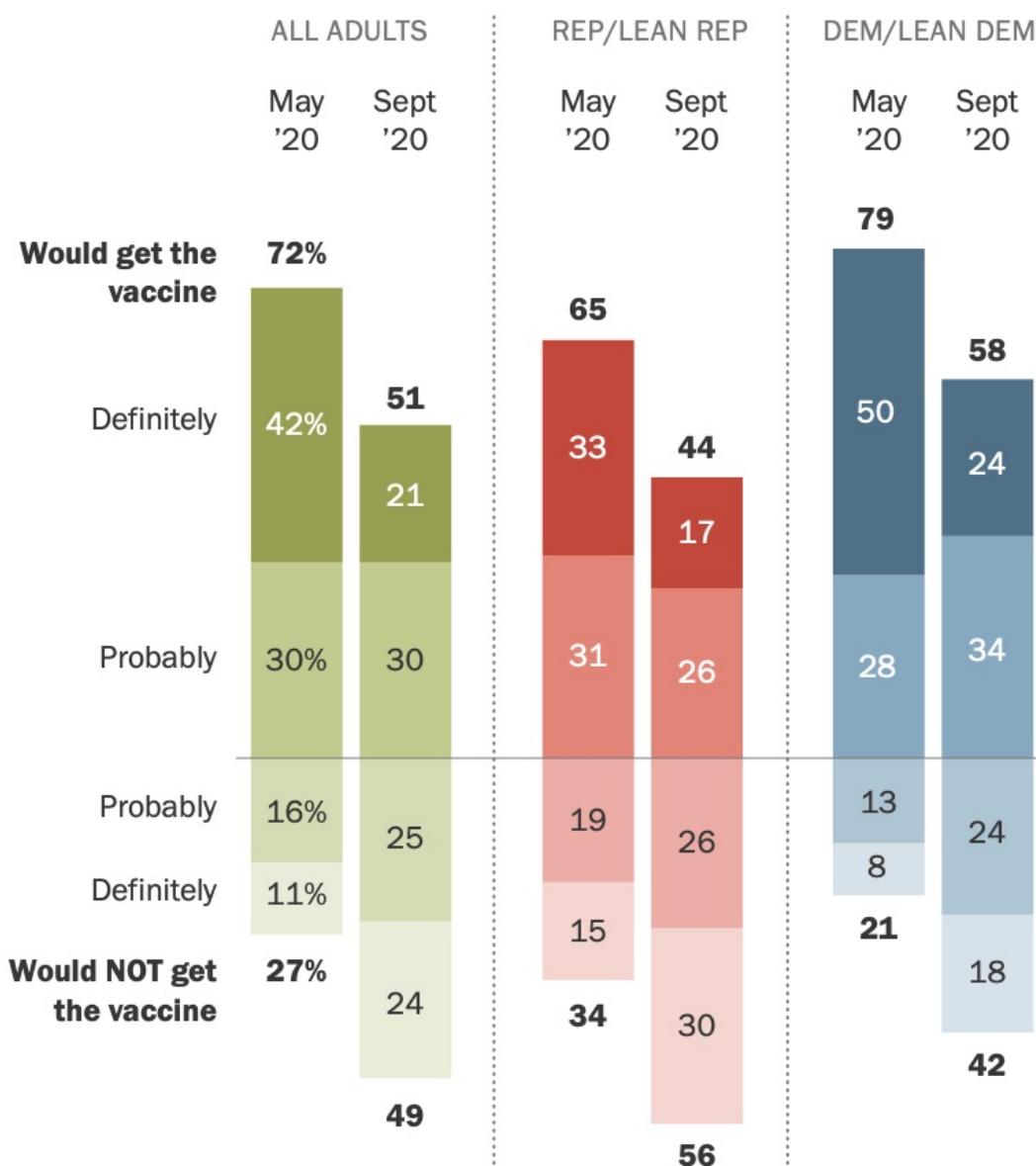
Everyone who took part in either survey is a member of Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel (ATP), an online survey panel that is recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. This way nearly all U.S. adults have a chance of selection. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other categories. Read more about the ATP's methodology.

See here to read more about the questions used for this report, along with responses, and its methodology.

---

## Drop in share of Americans who say they would get a COVID-19 vaccine if it were available to them today

% of U.S. adults who say if a vaccine to prevent COVID-19 were available today, they ...



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted Sept. 8-13, 2020.

"U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine"

As efforts to develop and test a COVID-19 vaccine spur debate around the timing and release of a federally approved vaccine, the share of Americans who say they would get vaccinated for the coronavirus has declined sharply since earlier this year.

About half of U.S. adults (51%) now say they would definitely or probably get a vaccine to prevent COVID-19 if it were available today; nearly as many (49%) say they definitely or probably *would not* get vaccinated at this time. Intent to get a COVID-19 vaccine has fallen from 72% in May, a 21 percentage point drop.

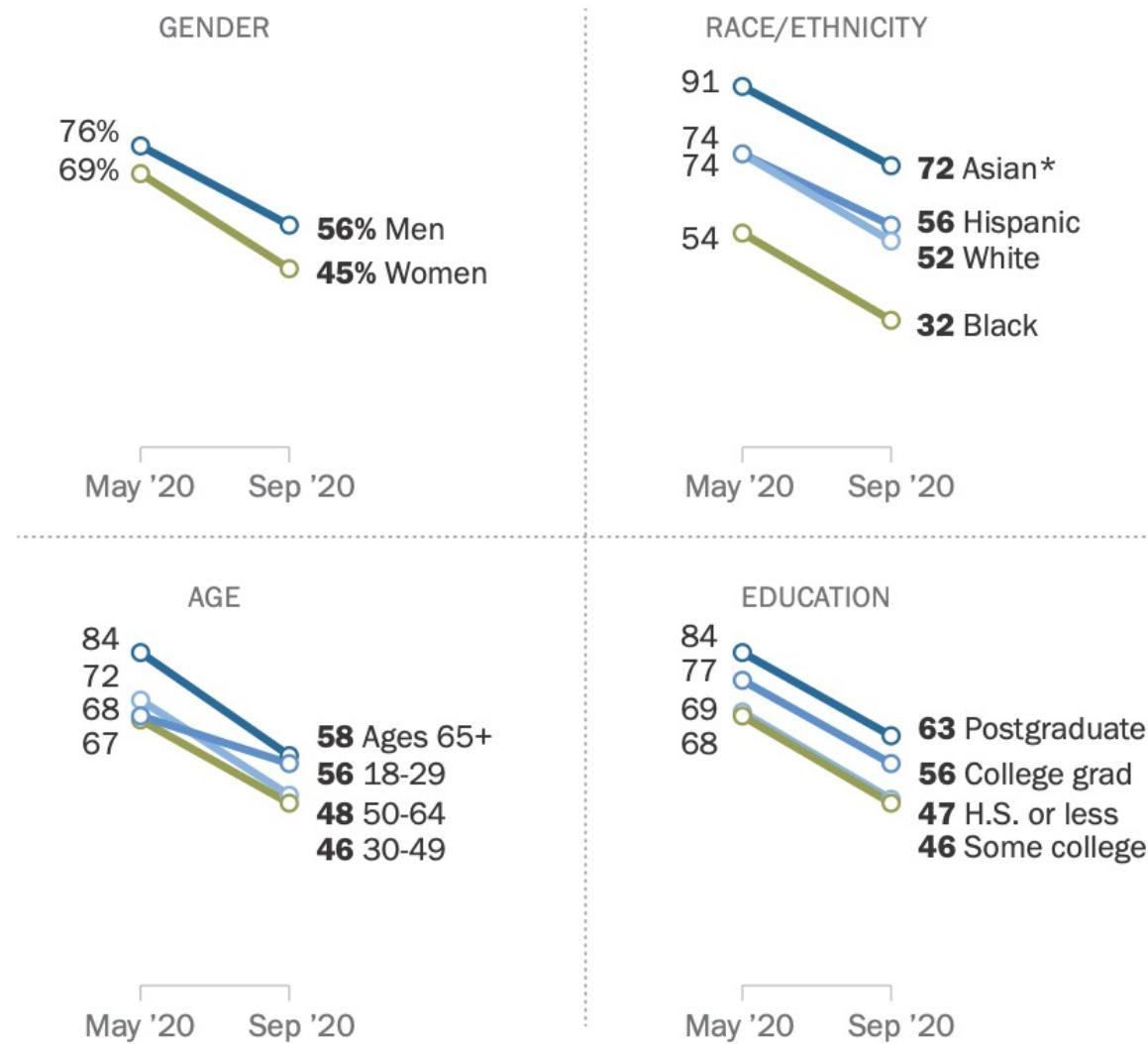
The share who would *definitely* get a coronavirus vaccine now stands at just 21% – half the share that said this four months ago.

There are widespread public concerns about aspects of the vaccine development process. On the heels of a pledge from nine pharmaceutical companies to ensure that a potential vaccine would meet rigorous standards, the Center survey finds three-quarters of Americans (77%) think it's very or somewhat likely a COVID-19 vaccine will be approved in the United States before its safety and effectiveness are fully understood. And when asked about the pace of the vaccine approval process, 78% say their greater concern is that it will move too fast, without fully establishing safety and effectiveness, compared with just 20% who are more concerned approval will move too slowly, creating unnecessary delays.

---

## **Widespread declines in the shares who say they would get a COVID-19 vaccine**

*% of U.S. adults who say they would definitely/probably get a vaccine for COVID-19 if one were available today*



\* Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: Respondents who gave other responses or did not give an answer are not shown.

White, Black and Asian adults include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: Survey conducted Sept. 8-13, 2020.

"U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine"

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**

---

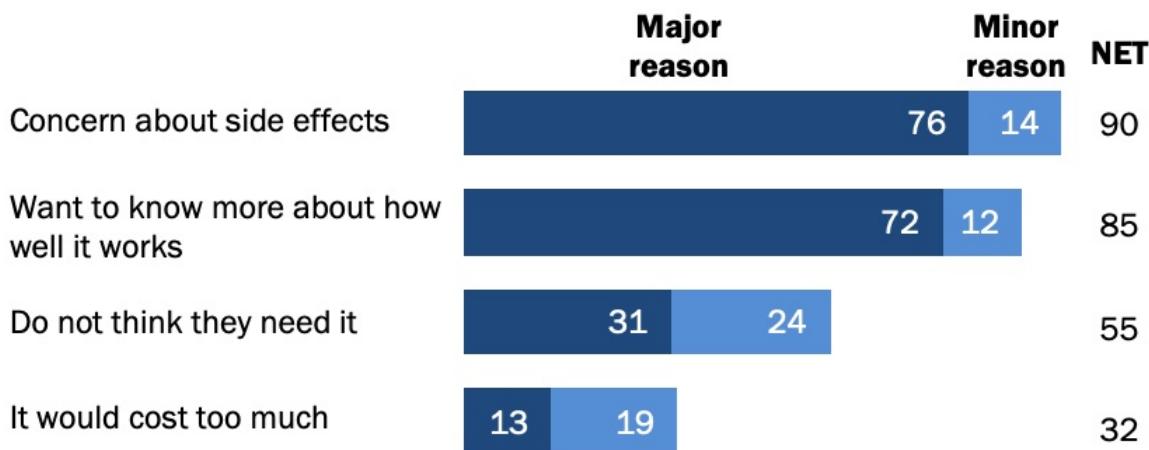
The new national survey by Pew Research Center, conducted Sept. 8-13 among 10,093 U.S. adults, finds intent to get a COVID-19 vaccine has declined across all major political and demographic groups.

However, sizable differences across groups remain. Democrats and those who lean to the Democratic Party are 14 percentage points more likely than Republicans and Republican leaners to say they would probably or definitely get a vaccine (58% vs. 44%). And Black adults are much less likely to say they would get a vaccine than other Americans: Just 32% of Black adults say they would definitely or probably get a COVID-19 vaccine, compared with 52% of White adults, 56% of Hispanics and nearly three-quarters (72%) of Asian Americans. (Asian adults were interviewed in English only.)

---

### **Concern over side effects, uncertainty about effectiveness top reasons for those not planning to get a COVID-19 vaccine**

*Among U.S. adults who say they **probably/definitely would not** get a vaccine to prevent COVID-19, % who say each of the following is a major/minor reason why*



Note: Respondents who gave other responses or did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted Sept. 8-13, 2020.

“U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine”

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**

---

Concerns about side effects and uncertainty around the effectiveness of a

vaccine are widely cited as reasons by those who would not get a COVID-19 vaccine if one were available today.

Among the roughly half of Americans who say they would not get a COVID-19 vaccine, 76% say concern about side effects is a major reason why they would definitely or probably not get it.

Several vaccines are currently under trial right now. One trial was temporarily put on hold earlier this month for potentially causing side effects in a trial participant, but has since resumed.

A large majority (72%) of those who would not get a COVID-19 vaccine also say a desire to know more about how well it would work is a major reason why they don't currently plan to get a coronavirus vaccine.

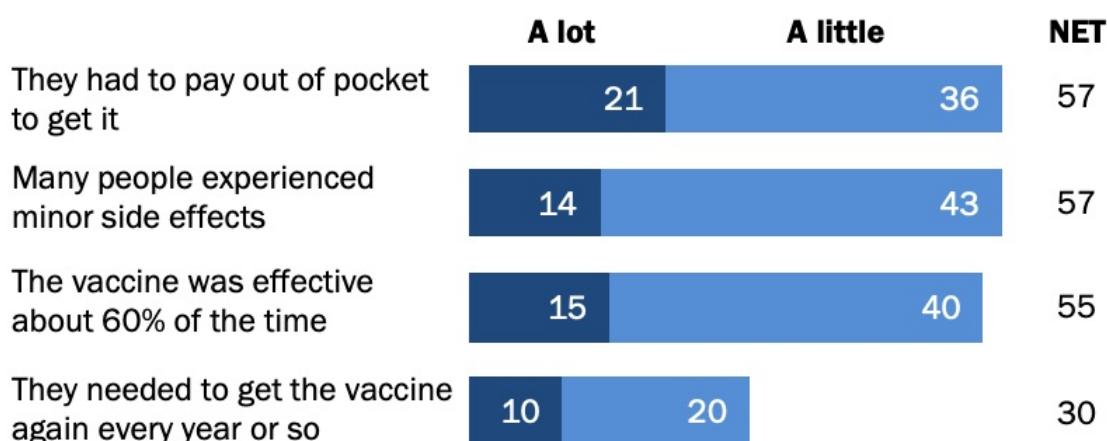
Fewer adults cite not thinking they need the vaccine (31%) or the vaccine's cost (13%) as a major reason they would not likely get vaccinated.

Those who say they *would* definitely or probably get a vaccine for COVID-19 if it were available today see a range of factors that could impact that decision.

---

## **Those planning to get a COVID-19 vaccine say cost, side effects, effectiveness could reduce their likelihood of getting vaccinated**

*Among U.S. adults who **probably/definitely would** get a vaccine to prevent COVID-19, % who say each of the following would make them a lot/a little less likely to get the vaccine*



Note: Respondents who gave other responses or did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted Sept. 8-13, 2020.

“U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine”

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**

---

Overall, 57% of those planning to get a vaccine say they would be a little (36%) or a lot (21%) less likely to do so if they had to pay out of pocket to get it. About four-in-ten (42%) say out-of-pocket costs would not change their likelihood of getting a vaccine.

Similarly, majorities say that many people experiencing minor side effects (57%) and the vaccine being effective about 60% of the time (55%) would reduce the likelihood of them getting vaccinated at least a little. But fewer than two-in-ten say either of these things would make them *a lot* less likely to get the vaccine. The possible need to get a vaccine again every year or so is not seen as a major deterrent among those planning to get vaccinated: 70% say this wouldn’t make a difference to them.

Researchers are still not sure how effective a COVID-19 vaccine will ultimately

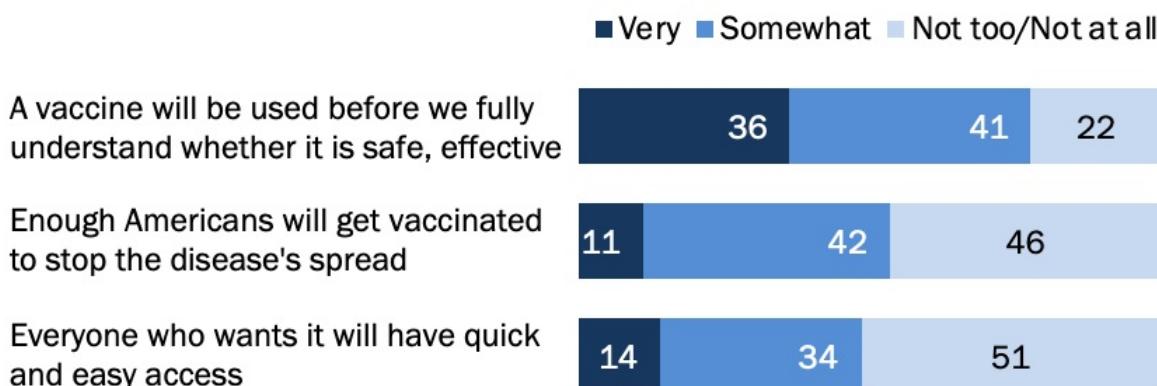
be. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has said it would authorize a COVID-19 vaccine if it was safe and at least 50% effective in preventing the disease or decreasing the severity of infections, although Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has said scientists are hoping for a vaccine that is at least 75% effective.

## Many Americans think it's likely a vaccine will be used before its safety and effectiveness are fully understood

---

### Majority of public thinks it's likely that vaccine will be used before safety, effectiveness fully understood

*% of U.S. adults who say each of the following is \_\_\_ likely once a vaccine for COVID-19 is approved in the U.S.*



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted Sept. 8-13, 2020.

"U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

---

As Americans look ahead to when a vaccine for COVID-19 is approved in the U.S., many express doubts about how safe and effective a vaccine will be initially.

About three-quarters of Americans (77%) say it is at least somewhat likely that a vaccine for COVID-19 will be approved and used in the U.S. before it's fully known whether it is safe and effective, including 36% who say this is *very* likely to happen. Just 22% say this is not too or not at all likely.

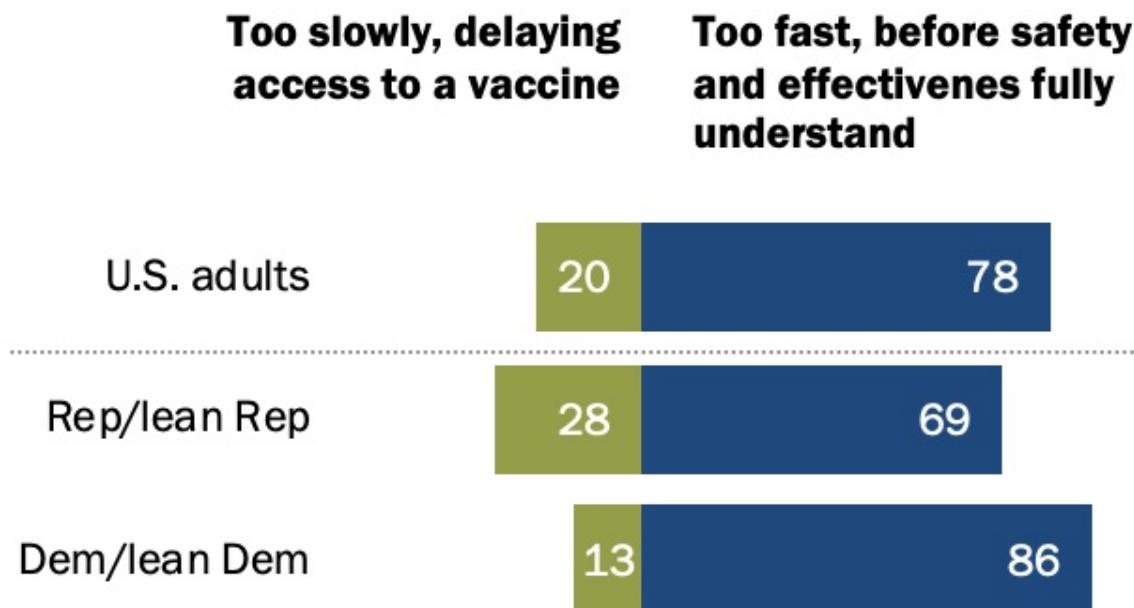
Public assessments are more mixed when it comes to whether enough Americans will get vaccinated to curb the spread of the disease: 53% say this is at least somewhat likely, while 46% think it not too or not at all likely.

Americans also have a mixed outlook on vaccine access. About half of U.S. adults (48%) say it's at least somewhat likely that everyone who wants the vaccine will have quick and easy access to it, while 51% say this is not too or not at all likely.

---

## **Public concern over moving too fast on COVID-19 vaccine approval process**

*% of U.S. adults who say they are more concerned that approval of a COVID-19 vaccine will move ...*



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted Sept. 8-13, 2020.

“U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine”

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**

---

Consistent with the view that a vaccine may be approved before its safety and effectiveness are fully understood, Americans overwhelmingly say their greater concern is that the approval process will move too fast, rather than too slowly. Nearly eight-in-ten (78%) say their greater concern is that the vaccine approval process will move too fast, without fully establishing that it is safe and effective. Just 20% say they are more concerned the approval process will move too slowly, causing unnecessary delays in access to a vaccine.

While Republicans and Democrats have differed over many aspects of the coronavirus outbreak – including the threat it presents to public health and how quickly to lift restrictions on public activity – majorities of both groups say their greater concern about the vaccine approval process is that it will move too fast, rather than too slowly. About seven-in-ten Republicans (69%) are more concerned about the approval process moving too fast, and an even larger majority of Democrats (86%) share this view.

### **Intent to get COVID-19 vaccine tied to confidence in development process**

---

## **Those who would get COVID-19 vaccine more trusting of development process**

*% of U.S. adults who say they have \_\_\_ of confidence that the research and development process in the U.S. will produce a safe and effective vaccine for COVID-19*

■ A great deal ■ A fair amount ■ Not too much/None at all



*Those who would definitely/probably ...*



Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted Sept. 8-13, 2020.

“U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine”

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**

---

Those who plan to get a COVID-19 vaccine express much greater confidence in

the vaccine development process than those who do not plan to get vaccinated.

Overall, 19% of the public has a great deal of confidence that the research and development process in the U.S. will produce a safe and effective vaccine for COVID-19, while another 45% say they have a fair amount of confidence. About a third (35%) say they have not too much or no confidence in this process.

Among those who say they would definitely or probably get a vaccine, more than eight-in-ten express either a great deal (30%) or a fair amount (54%) of confidence in the research and development process. By contrast, 55% of those not planning to get a coronavirus vaccine say they have not too much or no confidence at all in this process.

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

# **‘LGBT-free zones’ are humanity-free zones and have no place in the European Union, says president Ursula von der Leyen**

[返回目录](#)



European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen has condemned the introduction of ‘LGBT-free zones’ in Poland, insisting they have “no place” within the European Union.

Queer people have sounded the alarm over a rising tide of anti-LGBT+ hatred in Poland, where politicians from the ruling right-wing Law and Justice Party have stoked homophobia with a series of high-profile attacks on the supposed “LGBT agenda”, while local governments have declared “LGBT+ free zones” now

covering more than a third of the country.

### **European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen: ‘LGBTQI-free zones are humanity free zones.’**

Ursula von der Leyen, head of the European Commission, heeded calls from MEPs to address the issue in a speech to the European Parliament on Wednesday (16 September).

The German politician said: “I will not rest when it comes to building a union of equality.

“A union where you can be who you are and love who you want – without fear of recrimination or discrimination.

“Because being yourself is not your ideology. It’s your identity, and no one can ever take it away.

“So I want to be crystal clear – LGBTQI-free zones are humanity free zones. And they have no place in our union.”

"LGBTQI-free zones are humanity-free zones."

EU Commission President von der Leyen used her #SOTEU speech to urge swifter EU action against human rights abuses both inside the bloc and around the world, "be it in Hong Kong, Moscow or Minsk."

[pic.twitter.com/A2nkzPTJ7U](https://pic.twitter.com/A2nkzPTJ7U)

— DW Europe (@dw\_europe) September 16, 2020

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

# **‘You must have paid a pretty penny for him.’ I was speechless. No one ever admitted race was a factor.’: Mom describes transracial...**

[返回目录](#)



“We were 20 years old. I was a freshman in college and my husband was an industrial worker. We got married in the spring of 1998 and set out to start our family. One year later, I was pregnant and expecting our first child, a precious baby girl. Taylor was born in April of 1999 and she was truly special. She was born with Down syndrome. We had to learn quickly. There were therapists, specialists, evaluations, and then there were the advocates. It wasn’t easy over the years but we learned and Taylor thrived.

After years of trying, we wanted our family to grow even more. 14 years, to be exact. The doctor lowered his head to read the results and explained he had no

medical explanation to why I was infertile. I was hurt and heartbroken, to say the least, but my husband stood by my side. We didn't let the news deter us from our hopes of having another child. I remembered the Feed the Need commercials I'd seen as a little girl, thinking to myself these children need a family they deserve a family. We by no means could afford an international adoption but we could give a home to a child right here in our very own community.



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy

As an Early Childhood educator myself and my husband a business owner by day and pastor by calling, we began our foster care journey. We filled out all of the paperwork, leaving only one question blank. We didn't check which race we

would prefer. We took all of the training classes and prepared ourselves, or so we thought. It was four weeks of waiting by the phone, looking at my cellphone constantly and checking to make sure I hadn't missed a call from Children Services. It was the longest four weeks of pure anxiety I'd ever experienced.

Then it happened. We finally got a call. It was for an eight-month-old little boy. 'A little boy with dark brown hair and blue eyes' is how the caseworker described him said as she read the details off of the paperwork. Then she paused. 'He's white,' she said. 'Do you guys think this will work?' she asked.



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy

Here we are, African American, and he was Caucasian. Without hesitation, we said yes. We were overjoyed! I frantically ran through the house trying to make sure everything was perfect. Then the doorbell rang. The caseworker stood there,

holding him. He had the brightest blue eyes and chubby cheeks. He was perfect. I tried to listen as she read the details of his case but apparently, I must have missed something. She never mentioned what we would have to endure in the time to come. Nevertheless, we were thrilled we were officially foster parents.



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy

It only took one day into being foster parents before we'd learn just how different we were. Being African American in the south with a Caucasian foster son, who knew we would draw so much attention? It was supposed to be a simple trip to the local market to pick up some things for the baby. I strapped

him in the basket and our first encounter would unfold in the produce section completely catching me off guard. ‘You must have paid a pretty penny for him,’ the older white gentleman said as he looked me over. I was in shock, speechless the nerve. I simply shook my head and walked away. This would be the first of many instances over the years.



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy

We'd just gotten a dose of the glares, stares, double-takes, and stares from others. I'd learn to take each opportunity differently: some I could teach about foster care, the need for families, the diverse group of children in need of a home and others, I'd have to just walk away from. Five months after David came into our home, we received another call. This time I asked more questions. It was for

a six-year-old African American boy. We said ‘yes’ again with no hesitation. He had the deepest dimples and the biggest smile that could light up a room, and now he was apart of our family. This time, with Dwayne, there were no onlookers. Everyone just automatically assumed he was our biological son.



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy

As the months went on, we moved toward adoption. The adoption was pending, not towards David's case but towards Dwayne's. We didn't understand it. David had been with us much longer and both cases were eerily similar. Dwayne's case was pushed fast and the adoption happened in what seemed like overnight. Whereas with David's case, every 'I' had to be dotted and every 'T' had to be crossed. This couldn't be happening! Was this really happening? Everyone involved saw what was happening. Everyone knew what was happening but no one said a word. You see, having our daughter, Taylor, taught me so much. Those advocates taught me to use my voice. Those advocates taught me to speak up for the rights of children.



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy

Those advocates taught me to stand up for those who couldn't speak up for themselves. So we did. I emailed, I called, I documented, and I fought! We fought and we fought hard for David! After all, we loved him immensely and he loved us. We were the only parents he knew. We didn't care about race. We simply cared about what was best for him. We would do everything in our power

to make sure he stayed with us. No one ever said it and no one ever outwardly admitted that race was a factor. Our love was a factor too. Our love and determination to show others ‘you don’t have to match to be a family.’ Our love for this little boy who looked nothing like us would win in the end. Our love is what mattered the most. After our start as a small family of three, there are now six of us. We officially adopted Dwayne in July of 2018 and David in February of 2019. We are currently fostering to adopt one more little one.”



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy



Courtesy of Mik and Tracy

*This story was submitted to Love What Matters by Mik and Tracy. You can follow their journey on Instagram. Do you have a similar experience? We'd like to hear your important journey. Submit your own story here. Be sure to*

*subscribe to our free email newsletter for our best stories, and YouTube for our best videos.*

**Read more stories like this:**

**‘Isn’t it strange parenting a teen who isn’t much younger than you?’ My adopted son and I are 13 years apart, but to him, I’m just mom.’: Mom fosters 17 children, ‘They are all so worthy of love’**

**‘You’ll always have a home with us.’ I’d lived in 12 different homes. This man changed my life.’: Foster teen adopted by coach in college, ‘He walked me down the aisle to give me away’**

**‘This isn’t the place for me. I just don’t fit in.’ He didn’t want to be adopted. We were broken.’: After foster heartbreak, couple adopt teenage boy, ‘He was given to us in our most desperate hour’**

Do you know someone who could benefit from reading this? **SHARE** this story on Facebook with family and friends.

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)