

A large, vibrant rainbow arches over the text, with its colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple) clearly visible. The rainbow is positioned centrally, framing the title and authors.

LGBTQ+ ADOPTION

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Public Problem



There is a stigma against LGBT couples adopting, and many policies nationwide that states and adoption agencies to turn away LGBT couples



Causes of Problem

Federal law does not protect against discrimination of LGBT couples, negative stereotypes against LGBT parents and their influence on sexual orientation



LGBTQIA+

ADOPTION POLICIES

*Obergefell vs. Hodges federally legalized gay marriage, allowing same sex couples to overcome adoption barriers like marital status



CALIFORNIA POLICY & LAW ON LGBT ADOPTION

Law prohibits discrimination in adoption based on sexual orientation. California also allows same-sex partners to adopt their partner's child

STATE SUPPORT FOR LGBT PARENTS

States that have explicitly stated their support for LGBT parents include: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Washington D.C., Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Vermont



NEVADA POLICY & LAW ON LGBT ADOPTION

States is silent on fostering by LGBT parent but state law prohibits discrimination in adoption based on sexual orientation

RESTRICTIONS IN NEVADA

Only one parent may adopt, per Nevada State law, unless the couple are registered domestic partners



ALABAMA POLICY & LAW ON LGBT ADOPTION

State permits state-licensed child welfare agencies to refuse to place and provide services to children and families, including LGBT people and same-sex couples, if doing so conflicts with their religious beliefs

ALABAMA HOUSE BILL 24

signed into law this bill allowing adoption agencies in Alabama to follow faith-based policies, such as not placing children with gay couple



SOURCE: MOVEMENT ADVANCEMENT PROJECT, "EQUALITY MAPS: FOSTER AND ADOPTION LAWS."

Effects of Problem



Leaves thousands of children in the foster care system, and allowing for the stigma of LGBT parents to live on

Federal & State Solutions of Problem

Federal: Amend the Equal Protection Clause that allows for LGBT couples to have all the same rights as a hetero normative couple. Regardless of sexual orientation added to constitution as a protection. Making it illegal for any state or government affiliated institution to discriminate against LGBT individuals and couples.

State:

- Under law, states are not able to discriminate any person based on race, religion sex or sexual orientation.
- Requires foster care homes to meet a certain number of LGBT families adoptions per year
- If quota is not met they are required to submit a 6 month report to the state explaining their efforts to recruit LGBT communities to adopt. Meet a quota of 15

Local & Legal Solutions of Problem

Local

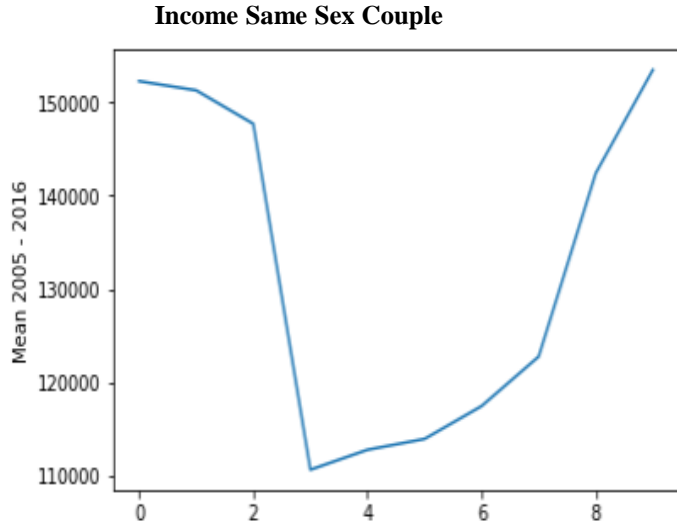
- Propose a bill to allocate money to educating communities about growing social issues such as LGBT exclusion from adopting and rights heteronormative couples have.
 - LGBT center for communities
- Attempt to mobilize communities to talk about the benefits of children being adopted by couples that are LGBT

Courts: Possible lawsuits calling for equality with in all couples that could support the push for equality in these LGBT communities.

14th Amendment: Section 1.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Data Analyst's Highlights



As one can see from the graph above in 2007 the mean income began to decline. This is pre recession. The adoption rate would be relatively low in 2007. Income tends to be very high, this may be due to the state they reside at.

Casual Models

Indirect Causal Relationship

let x = Same sex spouses
let z = Income



Dependent Variable

Let y = LGBT Rate of Adoption

Casual Model 1

Moderated Causal Relationship

let x = Same sex spouses



let z = State



Dependent Variable

Let y = LGBT Rate of Adoption

Casual Model 2

Findings:

(1) Having a spouse increases the chance of adoption. Income may be the hidden factor that causes this relationship since both partners may be bringing home income. [Income is the mediating variable].

(2) Same sex spouses adopt at a higher rate. The state decides whether to allow marriage before 2015.

Direct Casual Relationship

let x = Total Same Sex Couple



Dependent Variable

Let y = LGBT Rate of Adoption

Casual Model 3

Data Analyst's Highlights

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	Adopted Children	R-squared:	0.698
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.692
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	115.6
Date:	Wed, 24 Oct 2018	Prob (F-statistic):	1.32e-14
Time:	00:36:13	Log-Likelihood:	-447.55
No. Observations:	51	AIC:	897.1
Df Residuals:	50	BIC:	899.0
Df Model:	1		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
Same Sex Spouse	0.2501	0.023	10.753	0.000	0.203	0.297
Omnibus:	52.703	Durbin-Watson:	2.050			
Prob(Omnibus):	0.000	Jarque-Bera (JB):	402.235			
Skew:	2.458	Prob(JB):	4.53e-88			
Kurtosis:	15.850	Cond. No.	1.00			

Regression of spouse (independent) | adopted children (dependent)

Approx = 69.8 variability

	State	Total Adopted	Adopted Children	Same Sex Spouse	Same Sex Couple
0	Alabama	24944	301	4234	7,589
1	Alaska	691	594	573	1,462
2	Arizona	28966	543	7362	17,827
3	Arkansas	15973	1040	3655	6,228
4	California	167190	16458	35815	104,723

Analysis of Year 2007

Findings:

Adopted Children is the independent variable, Same Sex Spouses are more likely to adopt since being a spouse means you live in state that allows same sex marriage. Total adopted includes non same sex couples, this Casual models show that depending on the state an lgbtq person resides affects the adoption rate. In order to be considered a spouse the laws must allow it. Summary Statistics of same sex spouse (independent variable 2, showed california had the most same sex spouses, alaska had the lowest, this correlated to california having high adoption rate and alaska low adoption rate.

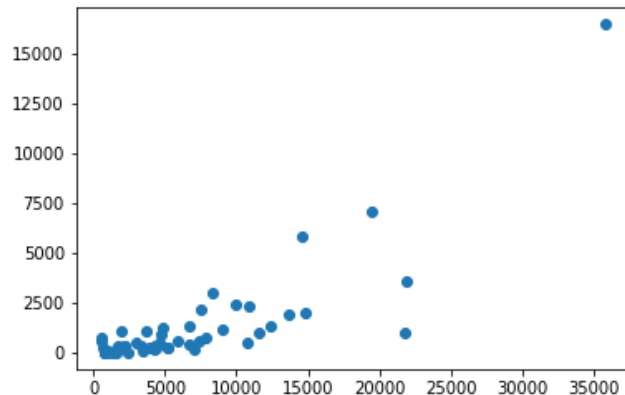
Data Analyst's Highlights

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	...	41
count	12.000000	12.000000	12.000000	12.000000	12.000000	12.000000	12.000000	12.000000	12.000000	12.000000	...	12.000000
mean	3333.750000	436.750000	5176.166667	2109.083333	40995.500000	4903.666667	4512.416667	1119.416667	1366.166667	17516.333333	...	606.416667
std	1551.447953	269.13806	2731.183721	1215.432468	16216.643883	3014.856467	1121.090091	671.995868	1087.502379	9446.391532	...	203.503611
min	1625.000000	114.000000	2271.000000	947.000000	23377.000000	1843.000000	2375.000000	494.000000	210.000000	8147.000000	...	295.000000
25%	1863.000000	254.750000	2652.750000	1023.000000	28700.250000	2281.750000	3849.750000	632.000000	534.500000	9287.500000	...	435.500000
50%	2920.500000	423.500000	4903.000000	1697.500000	38047.500000	4456.000000	4714.000000	912.500000	1176.500000	15883.500000	...	626.500000
75%	4240.000000	538.500000	7275.000000	3172.000000	45746.000000	6319.000000	5320.500000	1263.000000	1918.250000	22695.250000	...	757.250000
max	6312.000000	1073.000000	10885.000000	4181.000000	73920.000000	10112.000000	6126.000000	2324.000000	3729.000000	38956.000000	...	931.000000

8 rows x 51 columns

Same_sex_spouses | Each state

Findings: California (4) has the highest adoption rate by LGBT, because it has the highest LGBT population , policies that support and protect LGBTQ. Max 73920
(Scatter Plot) The more same sex spouses the more adopted children.



Same Sex Spouse | Adopted Children Scatter Plot

For more details: <http://data-analyst-poli127.tk/>

Statistics Infographic

LGBT+ Adoption

Federal & State Level

LGBTQ+ ADOPTION RATES IN 2000

In the United States, there were a total of 1,586,004 adoptions in the year of 2000. Of those adoptions, 65,345 were by gay and lesbian couples. California has one of the highest LGBTQ+ adoption rates, with 16,458 adoptions carried out by gay and lesbian couples. The total adoptions in the state as of 2000 is 167,190 by all sexualities. As for Alabama, the total adoptions that occurred was 24,994. Of the total adoptions, only 301 of those were by lesbian and gay couples. In the state of Nevada, the total number of adoptions were 10,588; of those, only 279 were from gay and lesbian couples.



ALABAMA ADOPTION RATES IN 2000



24,994

Adoption
by all
Sexualities



301

Adoption
by Gay &
Lesbian
Couples

CALIFORNIA ADOPTION RATES IN 2000



167,190

Adoption
by all
Sexualities



16,458

Adoption
by Gay &
Lesbian
Couples

Statistics Continued

NEVADA ADOPTION RATES IN 2000

NATIONAL ADOPTION RATES IN 2000

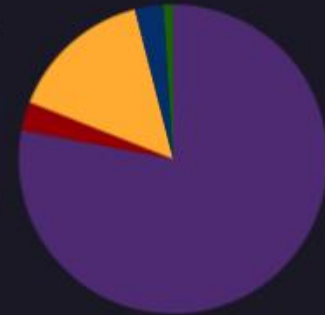


Estimated Distribution of Adopted Children Under Age 18, by Family Type

*as of 2000

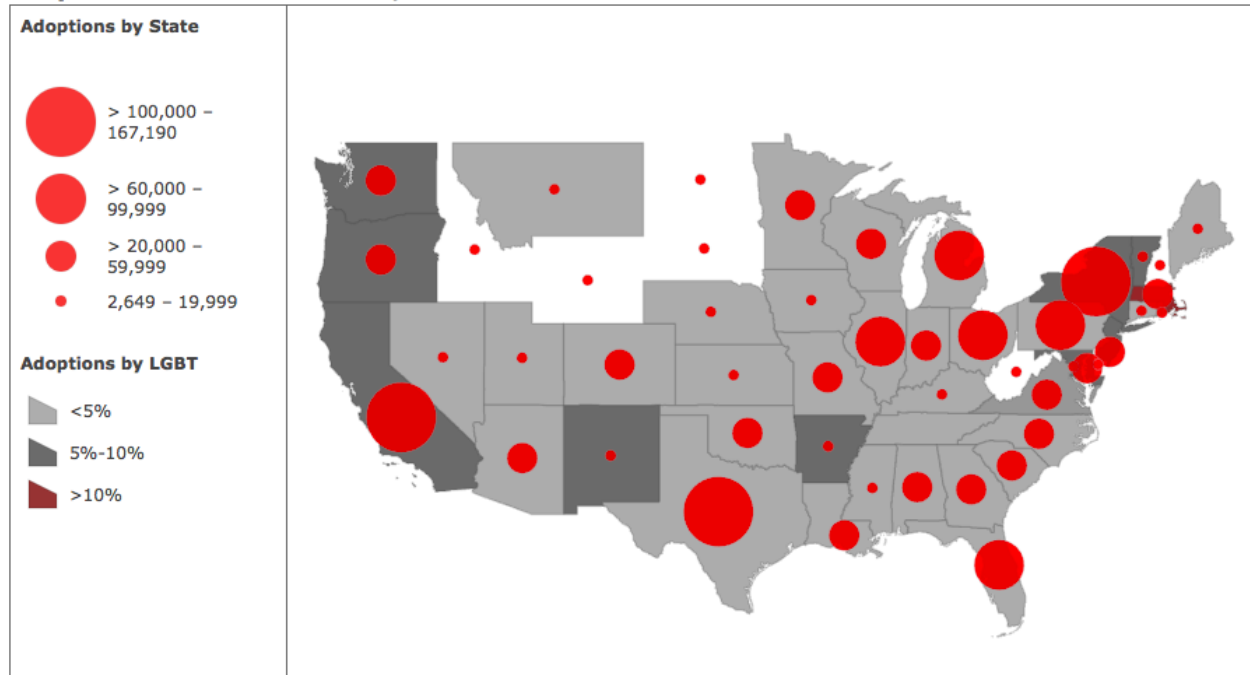
Gay and lesbian parents are raising 4% of all adopted children in the United States.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, individuals in in same-sex couples raising adopted children have the highest levels of education. Same sex couples with adopted children also have the highest average annual household income of any of the adoptive family types, averaging \$102,474 annually.



GIS Analyst's Highlights

Adoptions in the United States, 2007

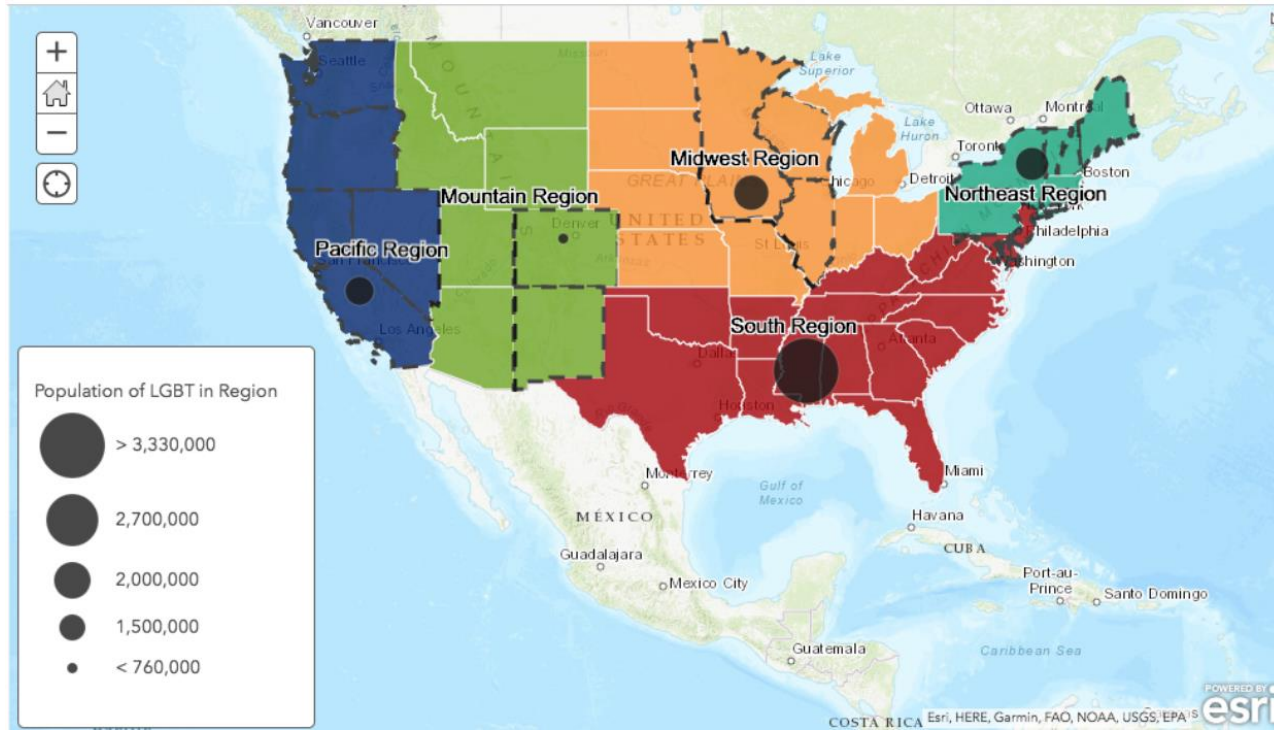


Note: States that are not color coded had not data on adoptions by LGBT couples.

Findings:

- States with the highest numbers in adoptions include California, Texas, Massachusetts and New York
- States where children are more likely to be living with a same-sex couple include Massachusetts (16.4%), California (9.4) and New Mexico (9%)
- LGBT parents are raising less than 5% of all adoptive children in the United States

GIS Analyst's Highlights



Adoption rates and population

*States outlined in black have laws that protect LGBT individuals

*About 8% of the national population identifies as LGBT

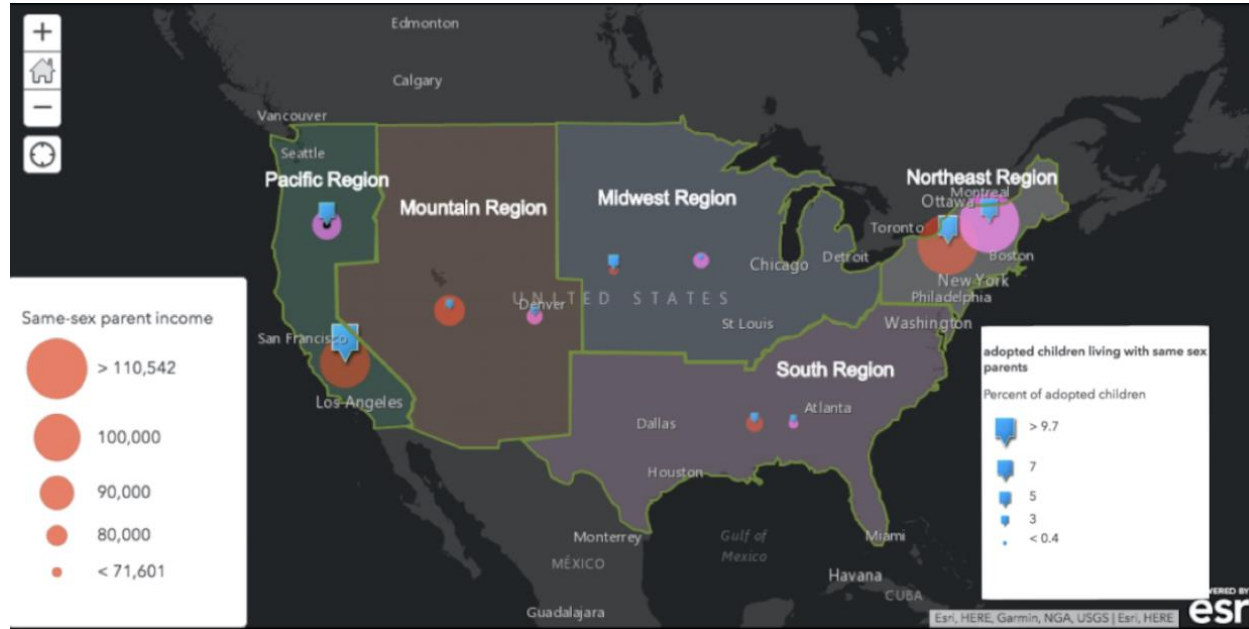
*Most of the LGBT population is found in the South region

*About 35% of the adult population consist of LGBT

*In the Mountain region we see the least amount of the LGBT individuals

*Less than 8 percent of the LGBT population

GIS Analyst's Highlights



Disparity between same-sex parent income and LGBTQ adoption rates across five regions in the Nation

Key: **Orange** circle: same-sex parent income, **Purple** circle: opposite-sex parent income, **Blue** square: adoption rates

Findings:

- (1) Same-sex couples in the Mountain states have the lowest adoption rates of same-
- (2) Sex couples throughout the country LGBT individuals in the Mountain states are much more likely to report having a household income below \$24,000 than their non-LGBT counterparts
- (3) Same-sex couples raising children in the South have a household income that is nearly \$11,000 lower on average than their different- sex married parent counterparts who are raising children.

Policy Analyst's Highlights

- The federal government needs to work with the state officials to make sure the equal protection clause is not violated
- At the state level, legislators need to make sure funding is used to educate the community about LGBT and equal rights.
- At the local level communities especially in the South, where most of LGBT individuals live, they need to start conversation on the extended rights these individuals and couples deserve.

Communications Analyst's Highlights



Reflection

- We have to start small in order to start gaining more awareness about adoption discrimination towards LGBTQ+ parenting.
 - If we begin with talking about the issue, it will spread attention and awareness for people to start getting involved.
- The causes of this issue are linked to the fact that there are currently no policies that protect the adoption rights to LGBTQ+ peoples.
- The solutions to the problem include amending the Equal Protection Clause, implementing state laws to meet a quota of adoptions for LGBTQ+ people, and provide public education to our communities to raise awareness.

Bibliography

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