THE US FOREIGN POLICIES AND SEXUALITY

Student’s Name

Course

Tutor

University

City and State

Date

THE US FOREIGN POLICIES AND SEXUALITY

**Overview**

Foreign policies are an essential tool in the establishment of a good international reputation. Public diplomacy is the channel through which a country enacts its foreign policies. Public diplomacy involves the use of public relations approaches to forge closer ties with other nations. While public diplomacy always presents several benefits for the second country, experts acknowledge that most countries only use public diplomacy in situations that benefit them. Foreign policies, thus, are goals that a country seeks to achieve abroad to further its agendas, whether for humanitarian or economic purposes. The United States, the main country accused of using foreign policies to promote its affairs, interferes in politics around the world. The US government largely uses foreign policies to guarantee the security of its people, preserve power balance in the world, protect human rights, and retain access to resources (U.S. Department of State, 2017). Retention of access to resources is the leading cause of mistrust between the US and Africa-Arab nations. Intervention in Iraq, for example, was heavily funded because there was a prospect of acquisition of oil. However, in Vietnam, the intervention to stop the spread of communism was less heavily funded; and it can be claimed that the US lost the Vietnam War.

A comparison between the two cases shows bias, in that the US invested in the intervention in Iraq with more gusto than in the Vietnam war, where the US was poised to gain a resource. 9,087,000 military personnel served in the Vietnam War between 1964 and 1975 (US War Dogs Association, 2020). After losing the war, the US quit, although largely due to public pressure. This shows that citizens affect foreign policies through surmountable public pressure. The responses of the US in stringent policies regarding foreigners after terrorist attacks and sudden resultant mass hysteria also show the depth of the public’s influence. Therefore, foreign policies are closely associated with public needs and culture. American culture emphasizes equality, freedom, capitalism, and human rights. In one of the controversial subjects, sexuality, the US states are split regarding the legality of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people (The Dialogue, 2020). Most newspapers report that the US government is making changes to include LGBTQ support in its agenda. The American culture and attitudes concerning sexuality can, in this sense, spread to other nations through foreign policy. The author of the report proposes that studying the foreign policies can ascertain the link between the US and sexuality by looking for US-backed sexuality advocacy abroad. Essentially, studying the US foreign policy since World War II proves the link between sexuality and the state by identifying the levels of US-backed sexuality advocacy globally.

**Problem and Methods**

Studying US foreign policies could potentially shed new light on the association between sexuality and the state. Sexuality is a part of the state if its foreign policies include a clause that can influence the second country’s policies. For instance, the US could recommend LGBTQ-favourable laws to another country as a condition for a certain benefit. To achieve a wholesome assessment, the author collected articles from the Google Scholar database to evaluate qualitative information on the problem. Due to the legal nature of the topic, the author also collated some government resources. Additionally, the author included data from pertinent newspaper articles. The author reviewed the articles for any biases.

**Literature Review**

Gender and sexuality are connected closely to the USA’s manifestos and policies. Dean (2012) reviews Frank Costigliola’s work on the nexus between statecraft and emotion. Frank reviewed policies from World War II to the time of writing. Frank’s approach was that of gender and cultural theories and history, where the author suggested that gender and culture are connected to diplomacy. Dean (2012) criticizes the notion that imperatives of national interests are not driven by emotion. Using the tale of Pamela Churchill, the author portrays an image of the role of sexual liaisons with powerful and financially stable men. Pamela was known for her charm and sexual allure, besides being linked by an affinal kinship to Great Britain’s prime minister. Dean (2012) seconds Frank’s findings that the personal is political even in the high politics of international relations. By exploring personal behaviours, it is clear that policy decisions and emotions are inseparably bound together (Dean, 2012). Therefore, while gender and sexuality are not formal structures, they hold real influence over decision-making. This article is a primary source of information since it explores the direct connection between sexuality and policies. It shows the connection between the state and sexuality, where sexuality influences the policies made by the state through actions that affect the emotional spectrum. Its major limitation is that the theory of emotional drive is not directly applicable to every nation.

Abstinence-only-until-marriage (AOUM) policies and programs funded and promoted by the US government since 1996 target adolescents. Santelli et al. (2017) note that adolescence is connected to sexual identity and intimacy. They claim that abstinence from sexual activities is a healthy choice. However, programs that promote AOUM have ethical and scientific controversies that cause rejection by medical professionals. Intentions to abstain from sexual activities always fail despite the theoretical effectiveness of abstinence (Santelli et al., 2017). The rising age of first marriage globally shows that fewer youths remain celibate into marriage. Nevertheless, the promotion of AOUM by the US undermines sexual education in the US and foreign aid although finding for AOUM continues in the US. Scientific evidence shows that AOUM programs are ineffective in delaying sexually risky behaviours. Moreover, the definition of AOUM under the US federal funding requirements hold that the programs can provide misleading information on human sexuality and provide stigmatizing and medically inaccurate information (Santelli et al., 2017). Resultantly, the program threatens fundamental human rights to life, health, and information. The authors further assert that the AOUM policies are ineffective and they violate many adolescent rights. They also reinforce harmful gender stereotypes and lead to exclusion and stigmatization. This article provides pertinent data to this research, showing the link between the USA’s agendas and its international sexuality programs. The misguiding information and stigmatization of certain groups presents the US as an unscrupulous state and finds a stark breach of human rights by a nation focused on upholding values, freedom, and rights.

America's foreign relations, gender, and sexuality have been entwined since the US assented non-discrimination clauses on both gender or sexuality. Gender discrimination was abolished earlier, after activists promoted gender equality and received immense public support. Sexuality discrimination, much like racism, is still relatively controversial within the community despite the government's full support. The inclusion and exclusion of men and women over time and gender differences affect diplomacy (Aggestam & Towns, 2018). Aggestam and Towns (2018) say that since the 1920s, international organizations and states have gradually and often hesitantly accepted women. A century later, men are still overrepresented in diplomacy with 85% of the world's ambassadors being men in 2014 (Aggestam & Towns, 2018). The authors argue that there is a need to move out of Europe and North America and focus on Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Efforts to include members of the LGBTQ in employment have worked actively for the inclusion of transgender people and other sexuality subgroups. This paper portrays an accurate picture of supremacy and entitlement of interference in other nations. It even encourages Europe, the US, and Canada to interfere better by 'focusing' on Africa, Asia, and Latin America. While the recommendation appears inconsequential, it supports habits like those criticised by Santelli et al. (2017). The article provides a fresh perspective of the USA’s foreign policy, with a look at internal affairs.

Neo-colonialism is seen in the exportation of culture to other nations. In this research, the author identifies a connection between culture, policies, and sexuality. Anthony (2019) seconds the findings that identify a connection between neo-colonialism and the US foreign policy. Using AIDS assistance as the topic of interest, the author discusses the shifts in investment and focus in the anti-AIDS war. The connection between AIDS and sexuality has allowed the US to impose different norms in African countries regarding sexual behaviour and values. African countries have joined the debate since they are dependent on funding from the US. Anthony (2019) claims that, regardless of the technological and material support provided by the government, the incorporation of African nations into the sexual debate is a form of cultural neo-colonialism. Essentially, the interference of the US and its use of channels that force the dependent countries to accept its norms regarding sexuality is a form of neo-colonialism. The article contributes to the study by providing a political angle regarding sexual norms transference from the US to other nations through conditional funding and resource provision.

Human rights protection and sexuality are also entwined. Emotions affect policy-making, and human rights appeal to emotions in cases of gender-based violence or discrimination. Symons and Altman (2015) say that sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) has become more prominent since the Cameron and Obama administrations transformed the US and the UK policies to embrace sexuality rights. After sexuality rights became norms, other countries appeared to be doing little to catch up. The author discusses international norm polarization. This is a phenomenon where the initial response is combative and the change is resisted, leading to an international disputation between the enforcer and the other state. However, socializing pressure pushes the countries towards compliance with rival norms (Symons & Altman, 2015). Therefore, foreign policies undergo international resistance, then norm change, and finally acceptance. The authors also identify a link where disputed norms are closely linked to the state’s identity. Debates on extra-judicial killings and equality divide the UN and Human Rights Council (Symons & Altman, 2015). The authors identify the barriers against sexuality rights in foreign policies. The article contributes to the research by linking the international community debates and controversies to the UK and the US policies on sexuality. It shows how international disagreements affect international policies and perceptions of sexuality and gender. It also links the US government to foreign policies on sexuality during Obama’s administration.

International organizations, including several that represent the US, use Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) as a tool for addressing gender-based violence. Le Mat et al. (2018) evaluate the implementation of CSE in Ethiopia. The paper looks at transfer mechanisms, policy adoption, and reformulation of CSE in the country. The authors note that all the efforts towards instituting gender relations in Ethiopia are donor-driven. The foreigners have also promoted the dissemination of information and networking technologies (Le Mat et al., 2018). Other studies show that CSE promotes gender-equitable attitudes and transforms the attitudes of the community towards gender-based violence. The authors also identify one major barrier to foreign policies like CSE: cultural differences. The differences increase mistrust, especially in regions where the US has fought alongside opponents since the 1950s. This article contributes heavily to the research, showing how the US and the international community communicate and promote SRHR to address gender-based violence. The article proves that the US believes in SRHR. Notably, the article does not specifically discuss the contributions of the US, rather, it discusses the policies implemented by the United Nations.

**Secondary Evidence**

The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) provides information on LGBTQ, sexual violence, and women concerning foreign policies. Angelo and Bocci (2021) write that LGBTQ members have made significant progress globally but those in some countries still face imprisonment, death, and repression for their orientation. The US has played a significant role in protecting LGBTQ rights, especially in the Obama era, but Donald Trump seemingly undid some of the work his predecessor had done (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). President Joe Biden is left with the heavy task of rejuvenating the public diplomacy efforts of Obama to protect citizens from discriminatory laws. Figure 1 shows the distribution of countries by the level of acceptance of LGBTQ. 12 countries impose the death sentence and over 70 countries criminalize homosexuality. The extreme punishments are de facto criminalization, imprisonment, and death penalties. Most of Asia neither legalizes nor criminalizes the group. Similarly, very few nations have any form of LGBTQ protection laws within the continent. In Africa and the Middle East, the majority of the countries imprison or execute LGBTQ. The 1994 *Toonen v. Australia* case was monumental in the establishment of decriminalization of sexual orientation (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). The efforts since 2007 to drum up support against instances of LGBTQ dehumanization produced the Yogyakarta Principles (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). The then US Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, proclaimed that gay rights are human rights in 2011. Despite legalization, LGBTQ members are still discriminated against at work and in public services.

The US foreign policy is reflected by advances at home. The US has become a leading advocate for LGBTQ rights internationally (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). The country’s credibility on this front is tied to its representation in government. LGBTQ Americans faced social and legal discrimination in the past. In the modern world, even where LGBTQ is not illegal, security overlooks abuse and murder perpetrated against them (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). Homophobicity, however, is declining as more states take actions to protect the members of the community. They were denied opportunities to work in the military, civil service, or abroad. In Poland and Hungary, for instance, legislation denies funding to organizations that do not respect LGBTQ+ rights. The generation of activists that emerged in the 1980s contested measure in the US that disproportionately discriminated against LGBTQ+ (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). Discrimination against HIV/AIDs patients, for instance, created a gap in resource distribution. The efforts of the activists inspired Obama’s administration to include LGBTQ+ in its domestic and foreign policies agenda (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). The administration not only promoted LGBTQ rights in civil and military service but also included transgender people in the Affordable Care Act. Obama protected LGBTQ from bullying and he was the first US president to support same-sex marriage rights.

Obama’s era was monumental in connecting foreign policies to sexuality and establishing the US as the world leader in advocating for LGBTQ rights. The administration helped launch the UN agenda for protecting LGBTQ rights. The international body launched the State Department’s Global Equity Fund to advance LGBTQ rights globally (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). It also directed executive agencies to promote the rights through foreign assistance and diplomacy; by supporting the repeal of discriminatory laws (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). This statement on using foreign assistance and diplomacy to promote LGBTQ+ rights shows the clear link between the state, specifically the United States, and sexuality. Essentially, the study of foreign policies would, in light of the information regarding the use of diplomacy to promote diverse sexuality laws and culture, demonstrate the link between the stare and sexuality. Obama appointed the first convoy for negotiating LGBTQ+ rights and coordinate the state’s diplomacy concerning the matter.

**Discussion**

**Policies-Sexuality Relationship**

Foreign policies enacted by the US since World War II show an evolution in mentality and approaches. France, the first country to achieve this milestone, decriminalized homosexuality in 1791 (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). The LGBTQ+ organization, currently known as the Scientific-Humanitarian Committee, was founded in Berlin in 1897 to promote sexual identities. The Nazi party of Germany banned LGBTQ in 1933 (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). Those found guilty of infraction were placed in camps, persecuted, or imprisoned. The first US national LGBTQ society, Mattachine Society, was founded in 1950. The Daughters of Bilitis, the first lesbian activist group, was founded in 1955 (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). President Dwight Eisenhower banned LGBTQ from working in the public sector through Executive Order 10450 of 1953, resulting in the Lavender Scare that persisted until 1975 (Angelo & Bocci, 2021; Tiemeyer, 2016). Stonewall Riots, the world’s first major LGBTQ protest, erupted in 1969 (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). Then the American Psychiatric Association quit classifying homosexuality as a mental illness and the World Health organization depathologized homosexuality in 1973. The US Center for Disease Control identified the first HIV/AIDS in 1980. The news caused a stir as the epidemic ravaged the LGBTQ populations (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). Nonetheless, President Ronald Reagan acknowledged the outbreak in 1985.

Denmark became the first country to recognize same-sex civil marriages in 1989. The Netherlands became the first to legalize same-sex marriages in 1989. In 1994, the US began to take more notice and the Attorney General, Janet Reno, issued an order that recognized persecution for sexuality as reasons for asylum (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). Ambassador James Hormel became the first openly gay public official and his nomination was rescinded after President Bill Clinton faced backlash from the senate (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). In the 21st Century, the US Department of State started recognizing the human rights of LGBTQ by including abuse against LGBTQ in its annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices. In 2013, President Barrack Obama nominated five gay men as ambassadors (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). In the same year, the Supreme Court extended marriage benefits to same-sex couples. In 2015, the Supreme Court recognized marriage equality in all US states and territories (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). In 2016, the UN Security condemned the killing of forty-nine people, mostly LGBTQ, by a single assailant. Most importantly, in 2018, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights mandated the protection of LGBTQ in twenty Latin American countries. The organization asserted that same-sex marriages and transgender rights are human rights (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). Notably, India decriminalized homosexuality in 2018, Taiwan legalized marriage equality in 2019, and distinguishably, Russia banned same-sex marriages in 2020. There is a contradicting pattern that seems to rely on the influence of US foreign policies.

Trump’s administration was characterized by revisions of the policies that had favoured the progress of LGBTQ equality advocacy so far. The administration appointed several publicly gay men to high-ranking government positions (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). However, Trump repealed many protections for LGBTQ. He initiated a ban on military participation for transgender members and repealed their healthcare benefits. He also oversaw the institution of the Commission on Unalienable Rights that threatened LGBTQ and women rights (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). Furthermore, Trump adopted policies that allowed people receiving grants from the Department of Health and Human Services to discriminate against LGBTQ people. Consequently, this interfered with HIV prevention, refugee assistance, and adoption and foster care services. Concerning foreign affairs, the Trump administration de-emphasized LGBTQ inclusion and advocacy. It even removed references to LGBTQ people in the policy guidance (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). Global efforts to promote LGBTQ+ continued to progress even without the US (Angelo & Bocci, 2021). A 2019 report from the UN, for instance, called for the banning of conversion therapies. Ireland elected its first publicly gay prime minister in 2017 while Serbia elected the first lesbian president. The pattern was witnessed even in Japan and Columbia at a time when the US was no longer active in LGBTQ advocacy. Pope Francis, going against Vatican beliefs, supported same-sex civil unions. Despite the slowed efforts of the US, the policies around the world continued to develop in favour of LGBTQ human rights.

Advocacy organizations have changed approaches and, instead of advocating for separate rights, they now advocate for equality in the respect of rights. Koppell, Brigety II, and Bigio (2020) note that schools lack studies on diversity and inclusion. They note that US foreign policies are hindered by ignorance and lack of awareness. say that schools need to address racism, inequality, and marginalization. They should show student’s how these issues affect communities. The class syllabi should be tailored to include topics like diversity, inclusion, and equity in national security and global affairs (Koppell, Brigety II, & Bigio, 2020). The authors also advocate for increasing innovative decisions across teams in research. The most important contribution from Koppell, Brigety II, and Bigio (2020) is that the effectiveness of the US foreign policies is limited by the continued neglect of inclusion, equity, and diversity. Essentially, the link between foreign policies and sexuality can be determined by assessing the influence of domestic politics and policies on international advocacy for non-discriminatory laws on sexuality abroad.

**State-Sexuality Relationship**

The study of the foreign policies-sexuality relationship yields data on both gender and sexuality. The connection between the two is explored by Bakker (2019). Baker (2019) notes that the distinction between gender and sexuality is negligible in advocacy. Moreover, the author describes Trump's poor decisions and criticizes the choices the former president made while in power regarding the LGBTQ community. Baker (2019) does not explain the link between sexuality and gender, other than factors like the role of emotions and empathy in policy-making. The International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) pushes for the rights of all genders and ages following international human rights (ICRW, 2020). The Mckinsey Global Institute estimates that gender equality could rake in $28 trillion in revenues (ICRW, 2020). The document links feminism, sexuality advocacy, and policies. The Council for Global Equality advocates for advancements in the American Foreign Policy to include gender identity and sexual orientation recognition (2007). This recommendation was passed before Obama's administration; which accomplished most of the recommended goals. The organization’s support for policies that encourage the adoption of foreign policies evidences the influence of policies and state leadership on sexuality policies.

Gender is repeatedly connected to sexuality in papers authored by institutions. Russell (2019) discusses and praises the Obama administration for its efforts on US foreign policy. Women came to matter in 1995 after the Beijing Declaration that gave them a voice in international policies (Russell, 2019). The US foreign policies have influence sexuality and gender rights through sexuality education, research on sexual behaviour, marriage, family, and healthcare dimensions (Girard, 2004). The Atlantic Council also contributes to the discussion by providing recommendations for Biden's administration on the future of the US LGTBTI (2020). The policies are a combination of several recommendations from multiple stakeholders. Most authors call for the US to lead in the support of LGBTQ rules. President Biden issued a Presidential Memorandum requiring all government departments to ensure that US diplomacy and foreign assistance are tied to LGBTQ right promotion; this ties the state to sexuality (United States Department of State, 2021a; Avery, 2021). The use of foreign aid to promote LGBTQ rights shows the importance of the matter to the US government. Kokonos (2021) says these goals could backfire because they are far-reaching.

Changing the US foreign policies can ensure dignity and rights for LGBTQ. Crehan et al. (2020) state that the US should restore its place as the LGBTQ advocacy leader. They criticize the administration for abandoning support for universal human rights (Crehan et al., 2020). The article links the state to sexuality given that its unsatisfactory support of universal human rights affects the marginalized communities and groups based on sexuality. Supporting universal human rights and equal rights regardless of sexuality is beneficial to the US. It refocuses its policies and strategic priorities. It will also reshape the achievements of the next generation. The US must demonstrate that it cares about human rights to promote the policies (Crehan et al., 2020). In a statement issued by the US Department of State, the Biden administration vowed to support foreign and national policies on the protection and empowerment of girls and women (United States Department of State, 2021b). The new support for gender and sexuality policies will most likely improve the lives of women and girls by expanding health assistance. The government pledged $32.5 million to the United Nations Population Fund in support of sexuality and gender advocacy (United States Department of State, 2021). While the document does not offer a stand on Biden's beliefs concerning LGTBQ, it shows that sexuality, in terms of gender, is an integral part of US policies.

**Conclusion**

Overall, the study of US foreign policies since World War II shows a connection between the state and sexuality in the promotion of LGBTQ and gender equality across the world. The state must first invest in promoting its laws to favour gender and sexuality equality before it can spread the belief to another country. By first adopting the policies, the state makes the new guidelines a form of culture. In this sense, if one studies the foreign policies on sexuality and gender promoted by the US, the researcher will notice that the US itself applies the policies it advocates. Essentially, the study of foreign policies regarding sexuality shows the connection between the state and sexuality in the efforts and measures that the state takes to spread its beliefs.

References

Aggestam, K. and Towns, A., 2019. The gender turn in diplomacy: a new research agenda. *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 21(1), pp.9-28. https://doi.org/10.1080/14616742.2018.1483206

Angelo, P. and Bocci, D., 2021. *The Changing Landscape of Global LGBTQ+ Rights*. [online] Council on Foreign Relations. Available at: https://www.cfr.org/article/changing-landscape-global-lgbtq-rights [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Anthony, C.G., 2018. Schizophrenic Neocolonialism: Exporting the American Culture War on Sexuality to Africa. *International Studies Perspectives*, [online] 19(4), pp.289–304. Available at: https://academic.oup.com/isp/article-abstract/19/4/289/5052712 [Accessed 14 Apr. 2021].

Atlantic Council, 2020. *LGBTI foreign policy recommendations for the next US administration - Atlantic Council*. [online] Available at: https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/event/lgbti-foreign-policy-recommendations-for-the-next-us-administration/ [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Avery, D., 2021. *Biden signs foreign policy memo putting U.S. at “forefront” of global LGBTQ rights*. [online] NBC News. Available at: https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/biden-signs-foreign-policy-memo-putting-u-s-forefront-global-n1256848 [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Bakker, T., 2019. Gender, Sexuality and International Politics in Troubled Times: A Conversation with Laura Sjoberg in Brazil. *Contexto Internacional*, 41(1), pp.141–152.

Crehan, P., Dicklitch-Nelson, S., Lyn, K.-J.F., Gilliam, J., Gruberg, S., Kaminski, R., Schwenke, C. and Thoreson, R., 2020. *Transforming U.S. Foreign Policy to Ensure Dignity and Rights for LGBTI People*. [online] Center for American Progress. Available at: https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/lgbtq-rights/reports/2020/11/16/492936/transforming-u-s-foreign-policy-ensure-dignity-rights-lgbti-people/ [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Council for Global Equality, 2007. *Building a Strategy for an LGBT-Inclusive U.S. Foreign Policy*. [online]. Available at: http://www.globalequality.org/storage/documents/pdf/lgbt\_foreign\_policy\_project-discussion\_paper.pdf [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Dean, R., 2012. The Personal and the Political: Gender and Sexuality in Diplomatic History. *Diplomatic History*, [online] 36(4), pp.763–767. Available at: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1467-7709.2012.01054.x [Accessed 14 Apr. 2021].

Girard, F., 2004. *Global implications of US domestic and international policies on sexuality*. Sexuality Policy Watch-SPW.

ICRW, 2020. *What Would a Feminist Foreign Policy Mean for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights?* [online] ICRW. Available at: https://www.icrw.org/publications/what-would-a-feminist-foreign-policy-mean-for-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights/ [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Kokonos, L., 2021. *The Missing Realism of Biden’s Pro-LGBTQ Foreign Policy*. [online] Foreign Policy. Available at: https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/03/04/the-missing-realism-of-bidens-pro-lgbtq-foreign-policy/ [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Koppell, C., Brigety II, R. and Bigio, J., 2020. *Transforming International Affairs Education to Address Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*. [online] Council on Foreign Relations. Available at: https://www.cfr.org/report/transforming-international-affairs-education-address-diversity-equity-and-inclusion [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Le Mat, M.L., Altinyelken, H.K., Bos, H.M. and Volman, M.L., 2020. Mechanisms of adopting and reformulating comprehensive sexuality education policy in Ethiopia. *Journal of Education Policy*, 35(5), pp.692-712.

Russell, C. (2019). *Why Women and Girls Matter to U.S. Foreign Policy*. [online] The Institute of Politics at Harvard University. Available at: https://iop.harvard.edu/get-involved/study-groups-0/spring-2019-cathy-russell [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Santelli, J.S., Kantor, L.M., Grilo, S.A., Speizer, I.S., Lindberg, L.D., Heitel, J., Schalet, A.T., Lyon, M.E., Mason-Jones, A.J., McGovern, T., Heck, C.J., Rogers, J. and Ott, M.A., 2017. Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage: An Updated Review of U.S. Policies and Programs and Their Impact. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, [online] 61(3), pp.273–280. Available at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1054139X17302604 [Accessed 14 Apr. 2021].

State.gov. (2021). *The Development of Foreign Policy - Short History - Department History - Office of the Historian*. [online] Available at: https://history.state.gov/departmenthistory/short-history/development [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Symons, J. and Altman, D., 2015. International norm polarization: sexuality as a subject of human rights protection. *International Theory*, 7(1), pp.61-95.

The Dialogue. (2020). *LGBTQ Rights and US Foreign Policy: A Need to Lead - The Dialogue*. [online] Available at: https://www.thedialogue.org/analysis/lgbtq-rights-and-us-foreign-policy-a-need-to-lead/ [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Tiemeyer, P., 2016. LGBTQ Issues and US Foreign Relations. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*. [online] Available at: https://oxfordre.com/americanhistory/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199329175.001.0001/acrefore-9780199329175-e-380 [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

U.S. Department of State, 2017. *Department Organization*. [online] U.S. Department of State. Available at: https://2009-2017.state.gov/r/pa/ei/rls/dos/436.htm [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

US War Dogs Association, 2020. *Vietnam Statistics*. [online] US War Dogs Association. Available at: http://www.uswardogs.org/vietnam-statistics/#:~:text=VIETNAM%20VETERANS&text=9%2C087%2C000%20military%20personnel%20served%20on,represents%209.7%25%20of%20their%20generation. [Accessed 13 Apr. 2021].

United States Department of State, 2021a. *Advancing the Human Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex Persons Around the World - United States Department of State*. [online] Available at: https://www.state.gov/advancing-the-human-rights-of-lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queer-and-intersex-persons-around-the-world/ [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

United States Department of State, 2021b. *Prioritizing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights in U.S. Foreign Policy - United States Department of State*. [online] Available at: https://www.state.gov/prioritizing-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-reproductive-rights-in-u-s-foreign-policy/ [Accessed 15 Apr. 2021].

Appendix

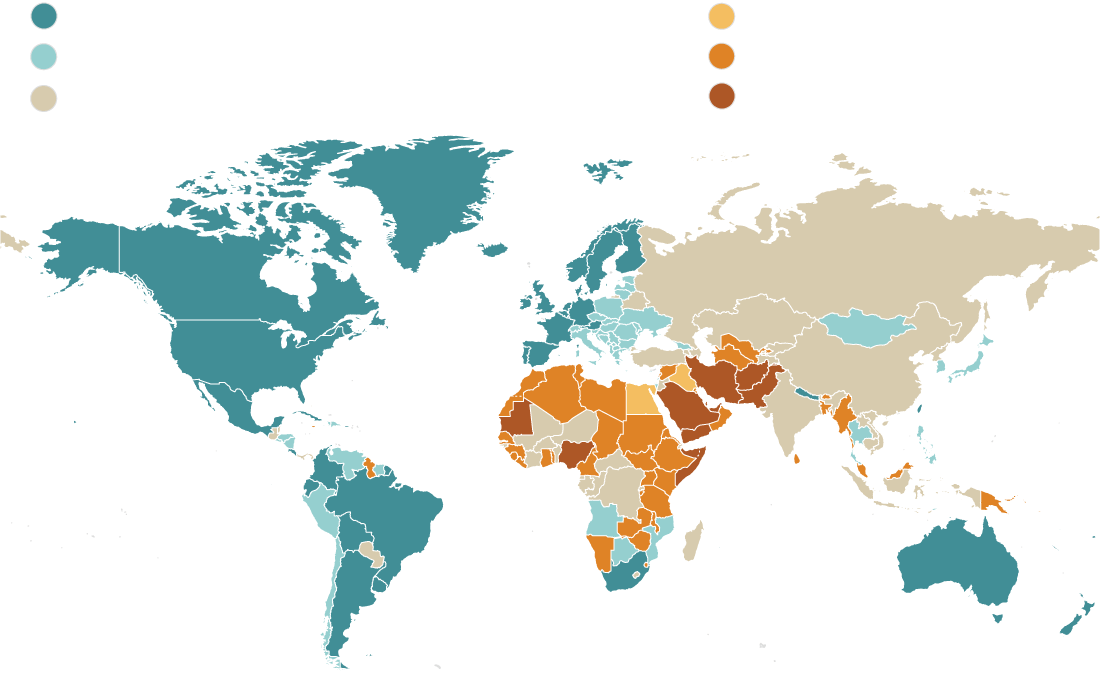


Figure 1: Distribution of LGBTQ Attitudes (Angelo & Bocci, 2021)



Figure 2: Key for Figure 1 (Angelo & Bocci, 2021)