

2SLGBTQ+

When accessing services and support to address experiences of violence, 2SLGBTQ+ people experience additional intersectional oppressions or barriers. In fact, 2SLGBTQ+ people face disproportionate levels of sexualized violence due to systemic homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, and other forms of marginalization including community violence. All forms of violence must be taken into account when developing supports and safety plans.

Forms of Abuse Experienced

- ☐ Intimate partner violence takes many forms, such as physical, emotional, sexual, and financial abuse, but also includes experiences of racism or ableism or other intersectional experiences of oppression.
- ☐ Threatening to “out” you as 2SLGBTQ+ and/or a survivor of abuse to family, friends, employers, faith spaces, police, or community
- ☐ Isolating or ostracizing you from the 2SLGBTQ+ community, friendships, and/or other partners
- ☐ Questioning or belittling your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression
- ☐ Threatening to take custody of your kids because of your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression
- ☐ Making homophobic/biphobic/transphobic comments to your children
- ☐ Threatening your new partner(s)
- ☐ Reporting you to child protection authorities for being unfit because of your sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, calling the police on you, involving government agencies in a way that threatens safety.

Safety Planning

Like other communities, 2SLGBTQ+ people struggle with addressing violence within their communities. Safety plans must be survivor-led, culturally-relevant, and harm reductionist in approach. Here are some potential options of what that might look like:

- ☐ Identify people you trust to talk to about your experience or who can help you with your plan and keep it confidential
- ☐ Learn about local shelter services and their ability to meet your needs.
- ☐ Talk to your employer about your situation. If not safe to do, identify other people in your workplace who can provide support (i.e. coworkers, Human Resources)
- ☐ Identify organizations and/or spaces that could be a resource for you.
- ☐ When going out, plan to go with a group who know about your safety concerns
- ☐ You may wish to identify and/or avoid places where your (ex)partner tends to visit or frequent for your safety. You do not deserve to lose access to your community spaces.

Resources

- ☐ pflag Canada Halton provides monthly support meetings for 2SLGBTQ+ individuals and their loved ones. facebook.ca/haltonpflag
- ☐ LGBT YouthLine provides 2SLGBTQ+ peer support for those 29 yrs and under through phone (1-800-268-9688), text (647-694-4275) and web chat services between Sun-Fri, 4pm-9:30pm. youthline.ca
- ☐ Trans Lifeline is a helpline for transgender people with various types of crises, including struggles with gender identity. They also offer information on community resources. translifeline.org
- ☐ 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations has online information and resources. 2spirits.org