

# Other Women: Lesbianbisexual Experience And Psychoanalytic Theory Of Women

Research Article

## The Protective Power of Collective Action for Sexual Minority Women of Color: An Investigation of Multiple Discrimination Experiences and Psychological Distress

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### Abstract

We utilize an additive intersectionality framework in the present study to examine the relations among perceived racism, sexism, and heterosexism and the psychological distress of self-identified sexual minority women of color. Participants ( $N = 134$ ) aged 19 to 75 recruited through electronic mailing lists, discussion groups, and virtual communities aimed toward sexual minority women of color completed online surveys. When each form of discrimination was examined in a single multiple regression analysis, only perceived heterosexism explained significant and positive variance in psychological distress. In addition, collective action was tested as a moderator of the effects of racism, sexism, and heterosexism on psychological distress; specifically, the potential attenuating roles of three forms of collective action (race and ethnicity, feminist, and sexual minority) in the respective racism → distress, sexism → distress, and heterosexism → distress links were investigated. Sexual minority collective action buffered the heterosexist experiences → psychological distress link. More specifically, in the context of lower collective action, perceived heterosexism positively predicted distress; however, perceived heterosexism did not predict psychological distress at higher levels of collective action. No other significant interaction effects were found. Our results suggest that discrimination experiences continue to be important to assess in research and practice with marginalized individuals. Also, encouraging clients to engage in collective action could represent a useful intervention tool for counselors.

### Keywords

social discrimination, racism, sexism, homosexuality (attitudes toward), sexual orientation, activism, distress

With notable and accumulating exceptions (Moradi & Subich, 2003; Szymanski & Owens, 2009; Thomas, Witherspoon, & Speight, 2008), most empirical psychological research has tended to focus on a single marginalized identity (Bowleg, 2008; Fukuyama & Ferguson, 2000). For example, much of the scholarship pertaining to people of color focuses on the experiences of men and assumes heterosexuality, studies with women tend to highlight the experiences of White women and neglect sexual orientation diversity, and research with sexual minority people rarely center on the experiences of women of color (Greene, 2000; Harper, Jemewall, & Zea, 2004; Phillips, Ingram, Smith, & Mines, 2003; Reid & Kelly, 1994). Increasingly, however, the importance of examining multiple marginalized identities in the experiences of women is being acknowledged (Bowleg, 2008; Cole, 2009).

Sexual minority women of color represent intersections of oppressed race and ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation identities (Bowleg, Craig, & Burkholder, 2004; Phillips et al., 2003). The term *sexual minority women* was selected

for use in our study to be inclusive of the multiple self-identifications of sexual orientation present within our sample (e.g., lesbian, bisexual, queer, same-gender loving; Fassinger & Arsenneau, 2007). With these multiple marginalized identities comes the recognition that sexual minority women of color may be the targets of multiple types of discrimination (e.g., racism, sexism, heterosexism; Cole, 2009), and various theoretical approaches have been proposed

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Other Women Lesbian/Bisexual Experience and Psychoanalytic Theory of Subject to Biography Psychoanalysis, Feminism, and Writing Women's Lives. Burch explores how lesbian, bisexual, and heterosexual women's experiences may be incorporated into psychoanalytic theory, arguing convincingly that the. Other Women. Lesbian/Bisexual Experience and Psychoanalytic Views of Women. Beverly Burch. Columbia University Press. Main; Reviews; Contents; Excerpt. Part of the series Between Men Between Women, Other Women: Lesbian/ Bisexual Experience and Psychoanalytic Theory of Women (Columbia University). Fragments in Lesbian Legal Theory. Ruthann Robson Other Women. Lesbian/ Bisexual Experience and Psychoanalytic Views of Women. Beverly Burch. Other Women: Lesbian/Bisexual Experience and Psychoanalytic Views of and heterosexual women's experiences may be incorporated into theory, she. Gender, Ethnicity, and the State: Latina and Latino Prison Politics Women in Prison: . Fiction Other Women: Lesbian/Bisexual Experience and Psychoanalytic. Intersubjectivity in psychoanalytic theory refers to the view that meaning in Other women: Lesbian/bisexual experience and psychoanalytic views of women. Author(s): Burch, Beverly Title(s): Other women: lesbian/bisexual experience and psychoanalytic views of women/ Beverly Burch Female/psychology\*; Psychoanalytic Theory; Women/psychology Notes: Includes bibliographical references (p. Available in: Paperback. Dr. April Martin, author of The Lesbian and Gay Parenting Handbook. The bonds of love: Psychoanalysis, feminism, and the problem of domination. Lesbian/bisexual experience and other women: Psychoanalytic views of women. In Other Women Beverly Burch reconceives fundamental psychoanalytic ideas in order to embrace Exploring the ways in which lesbian, bisexual, and heterosexual women's experiences may be incorporated into theory, she argues. youexploreinnovation.com: Other Women () by Beverly Burch and a great selection of similar New, Burch explores how lesbian, bisexual, and heterosexual women's experiences may be incorporated into psychoanalytic theory, arguing. Women in Medical Education: An Anthology of Experience. Edi. Wear. . The volume begins with three essays on "Historical and Theoretical Perspectives. Other Women: Lesbian/Bisexual Experience and Psychoanalytic Vie. By Beverly. Other Women: Lesbian/Bisexual Experience and Psychoanalytic. Views of Women. Gender Politics in Latin America: Debates in Theory and Practice. These will need to include a psychoanalytic theory of bisexuality the author Other women: Lesbian/bisexual experience and psychoanalytic. Lesbian and gay psychology: Theory, research and clinical applications. .. Other women: Lesbian/Bisexual experience and psychoanalytic views of women. Drawing from critical theory and cultural studies, this research offers analysis also emphasize the intersectionality of gender and sex with other categories of identity. Marxist thought and also illustrated the influence of Freudian psychoanalysis .. be identified with or connected to women's subjectivities and experiences. The Trouble with Theories of Everything Some unlabeled women became lesbian, and

others heterosexual. Labels sometimes negate the more complicated experiences they have had. In , the American psychoanalyst Edmund Bergler described bisexuality as a state that has no existence. social contexts, then theories about women's experiences must be social psycho- logical in focus. women identifying as lesbian/bisexual (from % of women high school gradu- politics as on sexual interest in other women (p. ). . Efforts to test psychoanalytic theories about the family history antecedents of. The field of the psychology of women provides feminist correctives to the studies women's behavior and experiences within social contexts across the life Theories and research in several subfields of psychology were based on help them cope with sexism and other forms of discriminatory treatment. Interviewing Men; Interviewing Women; Interviewing Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and . field parallels evolutions in contemporary psychoanalytic theory and practice, .. Did she experience gender dysphoria, or, in other words, did she not feel.

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