

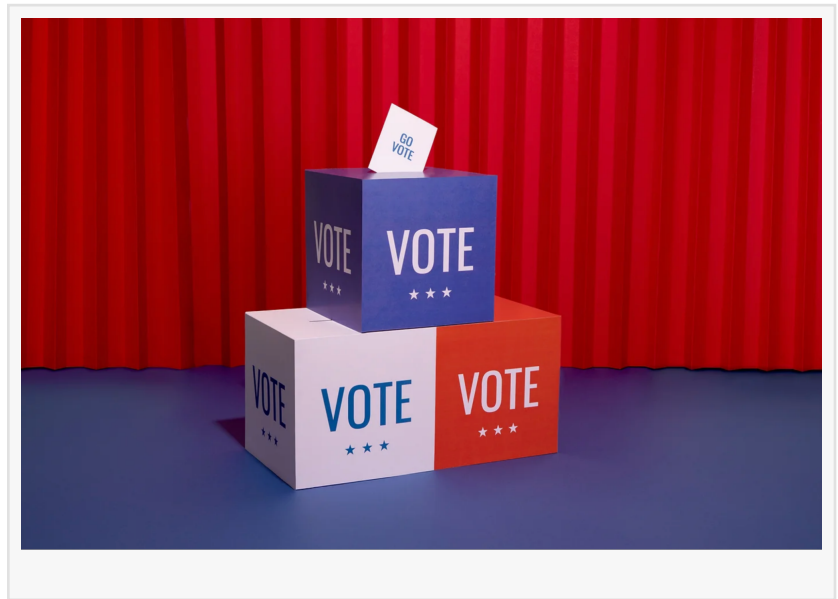
# Research by New Era of Democracy: Impacts of Anti-LGBTQ Legislation on Youth Civic Engagement & Voting Participation

*This study provides evidence that anti-LGBTQ legislation decreases queer youth's resolve for civic engagement and voter participation.*

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conducted by the New Era of Democracy sheds light on the detrimental effects of anti-LGBTQ legislation on the civic engagement and voting participation of queer youth. This study provides evidence that anti-LGBTQ legislation decreases queer youth's resolve for civic engagement and voter participation.



The study, aimed at understanding the nuanced impacts of anti-LGBTQ legislation on the civic participation of queer youth, used a survey to uncover significant correlations between exposure to anti-LGBTQ legislation and diminished engagement in civic activities.

One significant finding of the study is the observed decrease in civic engagement among queer youth familiar with anti-LGBTQ legislation. Participants rated their involvement in various civic activities on a scale of 1 to 5, including volunteering, attending town hall meetings, and participating in demonstrations. The analysis showed that those knowledgeable about discriminatory laws affecting the LGBTQ community reported lower levels of civic engagement compared to those less familiar with such legislation. This indicates a potential deterrent effect of anti-LGBTQ legislation on the active participation of queer youth in community affairs.

Furthermore, the research revealed a concerning trend in the voting behavior of queer youth related to their awareness of anti-LGBTQ legislation. While nearly 68% of participants less familiar with such laws reported frequent voting, only 42% of those familiar with them exhibited the same level of engagement in electoral processes. This finding underscores the negative

impact of discriminatory laws on the political participation of marginalized communities, emphasizing the urgent need for inclusive policies and legislative reform.

The study also highlighted the emotional toll of anti-LGBTQ legislation on queer youth, with over 65% of respondents reporting feelings of exclusion, marginalization, or fear due to such laws. This sense of insecurity not only affects the well-being of LGBTQ individuals but also reduces their trust in governmental institutions and democratic processes.

Additionally, anti-LGBTQ legislation was found to undermine the trust and confidence of LGBTQ youth in the political system. The perception of being targeted by discriminatory laws may lead to disillusionment with the political process, reducing motivation for civic engagement and voting. Fear of discrimination or the belief that their voices are not valued may also contribute to reluctance to participate in political activities.

It's vital that policymakers and stakeholders address these findings to create inclusive and equitable environments for all. Efforts to combat such legislation should prioritize the voices and experiences of queer youth to foster a more inclusive and participatory society.

New Era of Democracy is dedicated to advancing knowledge and promoting social justice through rigorous empirical research.

Learn more about the research study by New Era of Democracy at <https://www.neweraofdemocracy.org/post/impacts-of-anti-lgbtq-legislation-on-youth-voter-participation>

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