# LGBTQ+ COMPETENCY IN MATERNITY AND PERINATAL SERVICES.

AJ SILVER - THEY / THEM





Our vision is that birth and parenthood is improved for all who birth and parent. Adding and amplifying voices of the overlooked and often invisible minorities in the birthing world.

We want every health care professional and birth worker to feel able, competent and excited to support families that exist outside the world's cis - hetero normality.

We want to improve outcomes from LGBT+ parents by sharing our knowledge, lived experience and our voices with those who need to hear us.

We run workshops on LGBT Competency and LGBT Lactation as well as offering consultancy services.

# out now AJ SILVER Supporting A Book for Birth Professionals and Parents

There is so much to learn fro packed it full of informatic Each read brought me t reflections, not only with what I teach and how. On



The Queer Birth Club was born out of necessity to fill the void of LGBT+ inclusion in the birth world.





## Barriers

#### ASSUMPTIONS

The assumptions that you and your business make about the sex, gender and sexuality of your service users. LANGUAGE

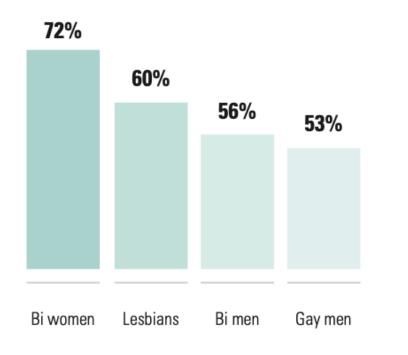
> The language you and your business uses in person, On it's paperwork social media and even it's signage.

### DELIVERY How confident and competent are you are using this language in your every day working environment.





LGBT people who have experienced anxiety in the last year



Half of LGBT people (52 per cent) said they've experienced depression in the last year, with another ten per cent saying they think they might have experienced depression.
Two thirds of trans people (67 per cent) have experienced depression in the last year. Seven in ten non-binary people (70 per cent), more than half of LGBT women (55 per cent) and more than two in five GBT men (46 per cent) have had the same experience.

**One in six** trans people (16 per cent) and **two per cent** of LGB people who aren't trans have been refused care by a healthcare service because of being LGBT.

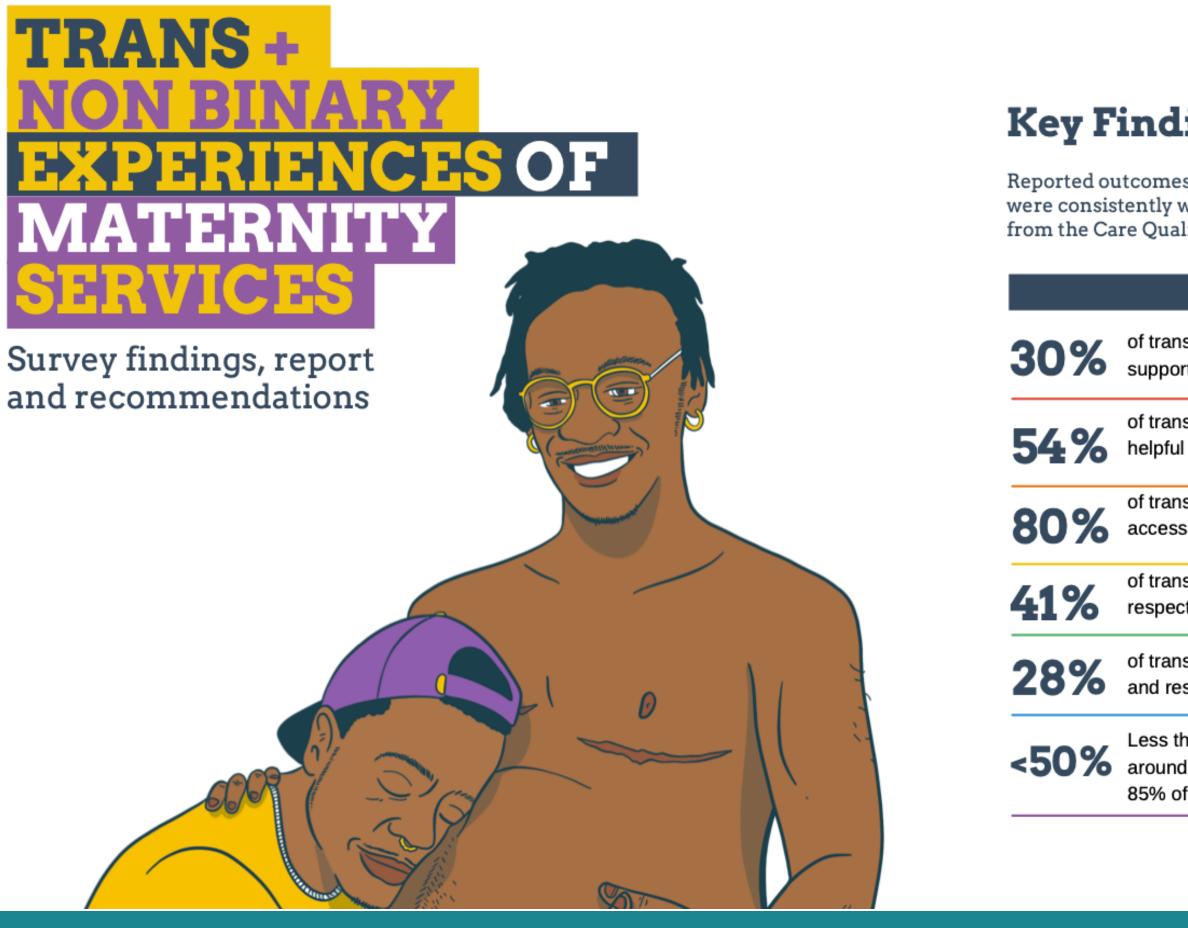
**One in five** trans people (20 per cent) have been pressured to access services to suppress their gender identity when accessing healthcare services.

**One in seven** LGBT people (14 per cent) say they've avoided treatment for fear of discrimination because they're LGBT. Almost two in five trans people (37 per cent) and **a third** of non-binary people (33 per cent) have avoided treatment for fear of discrimination. **One in four** LGBT people aged 18-24 (26 per cent) and **one in five** LGBT disabled people (20 per cent) and Black, Asian and minority ethnic LGBT people (19 per cent) have avoided treatment.

**Almost one in four** LGBT people (23 per cent) have at one time witnessed discriminatory or negative remarks against LGBT people by healthcare staff. In the last year alone, **six per cent** of LGBT people – including **20 per cent** of trans people – have witnessed these remarks.

**One in four** LGBT people (25 per cent) have experienced inappropriate curiosity from healthcare staff because they're LGBT, including **nine per cent** who've experienced this in the last year alone. **Half** of trans people (48 per cent) and more than **a third** of non-binary people (36 per cent) have experienced inappropriate curiosity; **29 per cent** of trans people experienced this in the last year alone.





## **Key Findings Summary**

Reported outcomes for trans and non-binary birth parents in the ITEMS survey were consistently worse across the board when compared to comparable results from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) Maternity Services Survey 2019.

#### The Survey

of trans and non-binary respondents did not access any NHS or private support during their pregnancy or pregnancies.

of trans and non-binary respondents who freebirthed\* would have found it helpful to have a midwife to support them during labour and giving birth

of trans and non-binary respondents who freebirthed were not confident to access maternity services if they needed to.

of trans and non-binary respondents felt they were spoken to in a way which respected their gender all the time during antenatal care.

of trans and non-binary respondents said they were not treated with dignity and respect during labour and birth compared to just 2% of the MSS sample.

Less than half of the trans and non-binary respondents felt that their decisions around feeding their baby were always respected by midwives, compared to 85% of the MSS sample.



## Further Learning Resources

<u>Books:</u>

Where is the Mother Trevor MacDonald

Supporting Queer Birth AJ Silver

The Natural Mother of the Child Krys Malcolm Belc

> Smalls on Motherhood Claire Lynch

Pregnant and Butch AK Summers

Queer Conception Kristin L. Kali Podcasts:

Pride & Joy Freddy McConnell

Pride In Birth Dr Mari Greenfield

#### <u>Socials:</u>

Trans Midwife 18 - Youtube

Kayden x Coleman

The Fox Family

Ash\_Bainbridge

#### <u>Articles / Studies:</u>

## Birth Beyond the Binary - Aims He's not the Mother - Aims ITEMS Survey - LGBT Foundation LGBT+ In Britain - Stonewall <u>Films / TV:</u> A Deal with the Universe Seahorse

Our Baby: A Modern Miracle







# **@thequeerbirthclub**

'Packed full of information, and all of it accessible. Each read brought me to new revelations and reflections, not only with my own practice but with what I teach and how.'

Mars Lord, Life Coach and Doula Educator