# Leading Factor Related to Negative attitudes towards transGender individuals and their usage of public bathrooms: <br> Angelique Epps (Sociology) Department of Behavioral Sciences \& Human Services, Bowie State University 

## Hypothesis

It is expected to find that individuals who practice religion are more likely to be non-supportive of transgender individuals using the same public restrooms as their opposite sex than those who do not practice religion.

## PARTICIPANTS

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*44 Students
*30 Women/14 men
*Average Age = 23
&Race
    *African American (N =44)
    *Latino (N=2),
    *Native American, and (N=1) and
    *Biracial individual (N=1)
                    MEASURES
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* Participants were asked to specify their gender (1) M, (2) F, and (3) Other.
\& Participants were asked to specify their race (1) AA, (2)
Latino, (3) Native American, and (4) Other.
\& Participants were asked if they considered themselves
spiritual, believing in a higher power (1) Yes, and (2) No.
* Participants were asked their beliefs on transgender individuals and same sex bathrooms
- (1) Transgender individuals should use the bathroom consistent with their chosen gender,
- (2) Transgender individuals should use the bathroom consistent with the biological gender they were born into,
- (3) There should be same sex bathrooms instead of Men's and Women's bathrooms and
- (4) Other.



## Methods

* The study was drawn from Bowie State University students who were enrolled in the classes of Professor Charla McKinzie Bishop.
* Variables used to conduct the research were religion and public bathrooms.
* There were ( $\mathrm{N}=44$ ) Bowie State participants, in which ( $\mathrm{N}=30,68.2 \%$ ) were women, and ( $\mathrm{N}=14,31.8 \%$ ) were men. ( $\mathrm{N}=40,90.9 \%$ ) of the participants were African American, While ( $\mathrm{N}=2, .05 \%$ ) were Latino, ( $\mathrm{N}=1, .02 \%$ ), and ( $\mathrm{N}=1, .02 \%$ ) was Biracial.


## Results

Hypotheses \#1
\& It was expected to find that people who practiced religion (go do service often) would be more non-supportive of transgender individuals using the same restrooms as their opposite sex than those who do not practice religion.

* Chi-square results suggest that there is no difference between religion and transgender's usage of public bathrooms: $X^{2}(6)=5.752$, $p=.452$ Not signficant
Hypothesis \#2
\& In the second hypothesis, it was expected to find that those who considered themselves spiritual (belief in a higher power) would be more non-supportive of transgender's usage of public bathrooms than those who do not identify as religious.
\& Chi square results suggest that there is no difference between religiosity and transgender's usage of public bathrooms. $X^{2}(9)=$ $6.730, p=.665$. Not significant


## Discussion



* Researchers found consistent evidence that self-identifying as with either being "religious" or as a "Christian (and a lesser extent, being Muslim) was associated with increased transprejudice.
* Chi square results suggest that there is not difference in religious practice or spirituality in terms of attitudes towards transgender individual and usage of public bathrooms of their opposite sex. (See the results sections).

