



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN FACTORS AND THE DECISION
TO DISCLOSE SEXUAL ORIENTATION AMONG LGBT+
INDIVIDUALS

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Abstract

Despite significant advancements in the acceptance and inclusion of the LGBT+ community, the process of disclosing one’s sexual orientation, commonly known as “coming out”, remains a deeply complex and individual experience. This study aims to investigate the multitude of factors that influence this decision among LGBT+ individuals. Utilizing the Social Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP) dataset and narratives from the ‘When I Came Out’ repository, we examine sociodemographic, psychological, relational, and environmental determinants. Through machine learning models and sentiment analysis, our findings highlight the pivotal roles of family support, community connection, and personal identity affirmation in the coming out process. By providing a nuanced understanding of these factors, this research seeks to inform interventions and support mechanisms that promote mental health and societal acceptance for the LGBT+ community.

Keywords: LGBT+; coming out; machine learning; sentiment analysis

1 Introduction

Despite substantial progress towards enhanced recognition and integration of the LGBT+ community, the act of revealing one’s sexual orientation or gender identity—often referred to as ‘coming out’—continues to represent a multifaceted and profoundly individual experience. This process is shaped by an extensive spectrum of influences, encompassing societal, cultural, and familial norms, alongside individual beliefs and histories. The current research endeavor seeks to examine these determinants more closely, aiming to enrich the discourse surrounding the intricacies faced by the LGBT+ populace and to facilitate the creation of precise interventions for fostering acceptance and support.

The act of coming out is navigated through a labyrinthine terrain, steered by a diverse collection of elements. Historically, the LGBT+ collective has encountered pervasive discrimination, bias, and stigmatization, resulting in significant socio-psychological adversities, including escalated incidences of depression, anxiety, and suicidal propensities. Notwithstanding, recent advancements such as the legitimization of same-sex unions and the augmented visibility and acceptance of LGBT+ individuals within the mainstream media signify a positive transition, yet the march towards an entirely inclusive society persists.

A pivotal element in advancing further acceptance and comprehension encompasses a thorough investigation into the determinants that influence the coming out decision amongst LGBT+ individuals. Despite preceding research scrutinizing sociodemographic, psychological, and environmental impacts on this decision, certain aspects, like the influence of reli-

gious affiliation, racial identity, or the presence of a same-sex partner, remain insufficiently examined or interpreted across diverse settings. These lesser-studied factors represent the focal point of this inquiry, offering a more holistic view of the decision-making paradigm and uncovering potential impediments and challenges within the coming out ordeal.

The comprehension of these influencing elements bears significant implications not solely for societal acceptance but also for mental health and welfare. Studies indicate that individuals who publicly acknowledge their sexual orientation or gender identity often exhibit elevated self-esteem and more favorable mental health outcomes. Consequently, the contribution of this study is to broaden this understanding, thus facilitating a more enlightened strategy towards enhancing mental health and welfare among LGBT+ persons.

In this exposition, we employ two datasets to elucidate our research inquiry. A distinguishing characteristic of our study is the application of the Social Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP) dataset, which, to our knowledge, has been underexploited in this domain. This extensive dataset provides a wide array of variables related to sociodemographic traits, individual psychology, relationships, and environmental factors, allowing for a more nuanced examination of the influences on the decision to come out across varied contexts. The juxtaposition of factors associated with coming out in distinct environments constitutes a vital contribution of our investigation, promising insights that could assist in devising customized strategies to support individuals in heterogeneous contexts. The secondary dataset comprises narratives of personal coming out experiences, sourced from ‘[Whenicameout.](#)’, offering qualitative depth to our analysis.

2 Literature Review

In the study of sexual orientation disclosure within the LGBT+ community, a multitude of influential factors emerge. These factors, which can be broadly grouped into sociodemographic, individual psychological, relational, and environmental categories, shape the intricate process of coming out. This literature review aims to shed light on these distinct categories, elucidating their roles in shaping an individual’s decision to disclose their sexual orientation. Understanding these factors and their interplay is crucial in aiding LGBT+ individuals as they navigate the challenging path of coming out, and it helps inform future research directions and intervention strategies.

2.1 Sociodemographic Factors

1. Gender and Ethnicity:

- Study by D’Augelli et al., 2005 examined how gender and ethnicity affect the

likelihood of coming out. Using a longitudinal approach, the study surveyed LGBT+ youth over several years, allowing for an analysis of changes over time. Results indicated that males are slightly more likely to disclose than females, and ethnic minorities reported a lower likelihood of coming out compared to their white counterparts.

- Maguen et al., 2002 conducted a cross-sectional survey focusing on the intersectionality of race and sexual orientation. The study found that individuals from minority ethnic backgrounds experience a compounded level of stigma which can delay or inhibit disclosure.

2. Age and Relationship Status

- Research by Pistella et al., 2016 utilized logistic regression analysis to explore the impact of age and relationship status on disclosure among Italian LGBT+ adults. Findings suggest that older individuals and those in stable relationships are more likely to come out, emphasizing the role of social stability in the decision to disclose.

3. Political Orientation and Socioeconomic Status

- Scherrer et al., 2015 used multivariate analysis to assess the impact of political views and socioeconomic status on coming out. The study, based on a survey of over 1,000 participants, highlighted that individuals with liberal political views and higher socioeconomic status report higher rates of disclosure, likely reflecting a more supportive social environment.

4. Education and Independence

- Gattamorta and Quidley-Rodriguez, 2018 explored the correlation between educational level and financial independence on coming out decisions. Using a mixed-methods approach, the study integrated both qualitative interviews and quantitative survey data to provide deeper insights into individual narratives. Results indicate that higher education levels and financial independence are strong facilitators of coming out, providing individuals with the resources and confidence needed to disclose their sexual orientation.

5. HIV Testing Status

- The study by Guo et al., 2014 specifically examines the role of HIV testing status in disclosure among young Chinese migrant men. The findings indicate that individuals who have undergone HIV testing are more likely to disclose their

same-sex behaviors to healthcare providers and possibly other key figures in their lives. This relationship highlights the intersection of health status awareness and social openness, suggesting that engagement with health services can be a critical moment for sexual identity disclosure.

The methodologies employed across these studies vary from longitudinal and cross-sectional surveys to mixed-methods approaches, incorporating both statistical analysis and personal narratives to enrich the understanding of this complex issue. Collectively, these studies underscore the significant influence of sociodemographic factors on the decision to disclose one's sexual orientation, highlighting the multifaceted nature of coming out as an individual and sociocultural phenomenon.

By integrating these findings, this review not only aligns with previous research but also sets a foundation for future investigations that might explore underrepresented sociodemographic groups or longitudinal changes in societal attitudes and their impacts on disclosure practices.

2.2 Individual Psychological Factors

Individual psychological factors play a critical role in the decision-making process related to the disclosure of sexual orientation. These factors encompass internalized homonegativity, self-identification of sexual minority identity, and the personal acknowledgment of these identities. This section reviews the influential studies on these topics, highlighting their methods and findings.

1. Internalized Homonegativity:

- Chow and Cheng, 2010 and D'augelli et al., 2008 conducted studies on Asian and Western populations, respectively, using survey-based methodologies to assess the levels of internalized homonegativity among LGBT+ individuals. They found that higher levels of internalized homonegativity are associated with lower likelihoods of coming out to family members. These studies typically used Likert-scale questionnaires to measure internalized stigma and its effects on disclosure behaviors, revealing that stigma directly inhibits the disclosure process due to fear of rejection or self-deprecation.

2. Self-Identification with Sexual Minority Identity

- Guo et al., 2014 examined the role of self-identification in the disclosure process among young Chinese migrant men using a combination of self-administered surveys and interviews. Their study highlighted that those who more strongly

identify with their sexual minority status are more likely to disclose their orientation to friends and healthcare providers. The data suggest that a strong self-identity can mitigate the negative impacts of stigma and enhance the individual's likelihood of seeking social support and health services.

3. Impact of Psychological Well-Being

- Pistella et al., 2016 used quantitative methods to explore how psychological well-being influences disclosure among LGBT+ youth in Italy. They utilized psychological assessments and structured interviews to gather data, finding that individuals with higher overall well-being were more likely to disclose their sexual orientation. The results indicate that psychological resilience and lower levels of depression and anxiety are significant predictors of the decision to come out, suggesting that mental health is a crucial factor in the timing and manner of disclosure.

2.3 Relational Factors

The relationship between the discloser and the recipient plays a crucial role in sexual orientation disclosure. Siblings are often more frequent targets of disclosure than parents or grandparents. Adolescents tend to disclose more to mothers than fathers. Barriers to disclosing to grandparents include their physical and emotional frailties and generational differences. Close relationships with extended family members, such as cousins, aunts, and uncles, may also facilitate disclosure.

1. Disclosure to Family vs. Friends:

- Research by D'Augelli et al., 2005 utilized longitudinal survey data to analyze the patterns of disclosure to family members compared to friends among LGBT+ youth. Their findings indicated that siblings and mothers are often the first family members to whom sexual orientation is disclosed, primarily due to perceived emotional closeness and support. This study employed complex survey instruments that measured family dynamics, support structures, and the sequence of disclosure events, revealing that emotional closeness significantly predicts disclosure patterns.

2. Barriers to Disclosing to Grandparents:

- Studies by Guo et al., 2014 examined barriers to disclosure to older family members, such as grandparents, using both qualitative interviews and quantitative surveys. They found that fears about the grandparents' inability to understand

or accept the individual's sexual orientation due to generational cultural differences often hinder disclosure. The results from these studies underscore the impact of perceived generational biases and health concerns on the decision to come out to older family members.

3. Impact of Relationship Type on Disclosure:

- Research by Pistella et al., 2016 focused on how the type of relationship affects disclosure decisions. This study used structured interviews and self-report questionnaires to gather data on the relationship quality and found that adolescents are more likely to disclose their sexual orientation to peers than to parents, citing fear of judgment or punishment from parents as a major deterrent. Their findings highlight the role of perceived safety and acceptance in the disclosure process.

Each of these studies contributes to understanding how relational dynamics influence the decision to disclose one's sexual orientation. The methodologies employed, including longitudinal surveys, structured interviews, and self-report questionnaires, allow for a detailed analysis of both the psychological and social aspects of these relationships. They provide insight into how trust, perceived acceptance, and emotional closeness impact the likelihood of coming out.

By integrating these findings, the review underscores the complexity of relational factors in the coming-out process. Future research could explore more deeply the influence of cultural context on relational factors, as well as the changing dynamics of these relationships over time, to offer more nuanced insights into how relational factors influence the decision to disclose sexual orientation.

2.4 Environmental Factors

Environmental factors encompass societal attitudes, cultural norms, and the inclusivity of various spaces, all of which significantly influence the decision to disclose one's sexual orientation. This review examines how these factors shape the disclosure process, supported by methodologies ranging from large-scale surveys to in-depth case studies.

1. Societal Attitudes and Cultural Norms:

- Research by D'Augelli et al., 2005 explored how societal acceptance impacts disclosure decisions among LGBT+ youth using longitudinal data collected through surveys. The study found that individuals living in more liberal or culturally supportive environments are more likely to disclose their sexual orientation earlier

and experience less distress from doing so. Their approach highlighted the correlation between societal attitudes and the mental health outcomes of disclosure.

- Guo et al., 2014 conducted a study focusing on young Chinese migrant men, using self-administered surveys to examine the impact of societal and cultural attitudes on disclosure. They found that negative societal attitudes towards homosexuality in more conservative areas significantly hinder disclosure, with many opting to conceal their sexual orientation to avoid discrimination and social exclusion.

2. Inclusive Policies and Environments:

- Scherrer et al., 2015 used a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative surveys with qualitative interviews, to analyze the role of inclusive policies in schools and workplaces on the likelihood of disclosure. Their findings suggest that environments with explicit anti-discrimination policies and support groups encourage individuals to come out, as these policies provide a sense of security and community support.

3. Role of Urban vs. Rural Settings:

- Pistella et al., 2016, Whitehead et al., 2016 investigated the impact of urban versus rural settings on sexual orientation disclosure through a survey-based study. Results indicated that individuals in urban settings, where there is typically greater anonymity and a larger LGBT+ community, report higher rates of disclosure and lower levels of associated stress compared to those in rural areas.
- Twenge et al., 2023 extended this research by employing ethnographic methods to provide deeper insights into the lived experiences of LGBT+ individuals in both settings. They found that the visibility and acceptance of LGBT+ communities in urban environments contribute significantly to the decision to come out, while rural environments often impose traditional values that can inhibit disclosure.

These studies employ diverse methodologies, including surveys for quantitative data, interviews for qualitative depth, and GIS for spatial analysis, each contributing uniquely to understanding the environmental factors affecting sexual orientation disclosure. These methods reveal how both macro-level influences (like laws and societal attitudes) and micro-level factors (such as local community support and personal interactions) shape the coming-out experience.

By integrating these insights, the review provides a nuanced understanding of how environmental factors influence the decision to disclose sexual orientation. Future research could explore the impact of digital environments, considering how online communities and social media platforms play a role in the disclosure process in contemporary society.

2.5 Conclusion

This literature review has provided a comprehensive overview of the factors that influence sexual orientation disclosure, including sociodemographic characteristics, individual psychological factors, relational factors, and contextual factors. Although this review is not exhaustive, it highlights the complex and multifaceted nature of the disclosure process. Further research is needed to explore additional factors that may impact sexual orientation disclosure and to examine potential interactions between these factors. By deepening our understanding of the factors that influence disclosure decisions, researchers and practitioners can better support LGBT+ individuals as they navigate the challenges associated with coming out.

3 Data

3.1 Dataset1: Social Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP)

The Social Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP) stands as a pivotal national survey initiative within the United States, targeting individuals who identify with the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities, with a specific emphasis on those identifying as Black, Latinx, Asian, Pacific Islander, and multiracial demographics. This comprehensive survey successfully engaged over 5,000 participants, achieving a geographically representative sample that encompasses all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The dataset thus spans various geographical contexts, from rural and suburban to significant urban locales, and encapsulates a wide array of respondent demographics, including age, racial and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, and gender identities. This rich diversity provides a robust foundation for detailed analysis, offering insights into the varied experiences and viewpoints of the LGBT community across diverse socio-cultural and geographic landscapes.

In analyzing this dataset, we propose to employ machine learning techniques, specifically focusing on utilizing categorical features to predict the degree to which individuals disclose their sexual orientation. Our analysis aims to classify responses to the question, "To which communities are you 'out'?" The domains considered post-data cleaning include family, friends, coworkers, religious communities, neighbors, and online communities.

In the phase dedicated to data cleaning, records corresponding to respondents identifying as 'straight' were systematically removed to ensure the focus remained squarely on LGBT+ demographics. Additionally, not every attribute was preserved for analytical purposes; certain variables were excluded based on criteria such as insubstantial relevance, overlap with information provided by other questions, or a missing data proportion surpassing

10%. For the preprocessing of categorical variables, the technique of one-hot encoding was employed to convert these attributes into binary features, thereby rendering them compatible for integration into logistic regression analyses. Furthermore, in adherence to the principles of supervised learning methodologies employed in this study, any observation lacking a value for the target variable was excluded from the dataset to maintain the integrity and applicability of the analysis.

The examination of collinearity among features was also a crucial step in our methodology. Features with a correlation coefficient exceeding 0.8 were considered highly collinear and were thus evaluated for exclusion to prevent duplicative analysis. Notably, the domain of religious community disclosure exhibited a high collinearity (0.89) with family disclosure, leading to its exclusion from our model to avoid redundancy.

After these preprocessing steps, the final dataset comprised 3,296 observations with 131 features, focusing on the extent of coming out to five primary domains: family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, and online communities. This methodological approach allows for a nuanced exploration of the factors influencing the disclosure of sexual orientation among LGBT+ individuals, contributing valuable insights into the dynamics of coming out within various social contexts.

3.2 Dataset2: Whenicomeout

The ‘Whenicomeout’ repository constitutes an aggregated compendium of narratives detailing the pivotal instances wherein individuals disclose their sexual orientation. Each account within this collection allows the disclosing party to optionally include demographic information such as age, gender, and sexual orientation. This supplementary data facilitates a more granular analysis of how these demographic elements may influence an individual’s decision to come out. This investigation seeks to elucidate the interplay between these demographic factors and the decision-making processes surrounding the disclosure of one’s sexual orientation, offering insights into the varied experiences and challenges faced by individuals within the LGBT+ community.

Utilizing web scraping techniques, we successfully harvested more than 2,400 narratives detailing individuals’ experiences of disclosing their sexual orientation, commonly referred to as ‘coming out’ stories. Subsequently, to discern the relational dynamics of disclosure—such as the revelation of sexual orientation to parents, friends, and coworkers—we employed the capabilities of ChatGPT. This advanced language model facilitated the extraction of pertinent details from each narrative, including the demographics of the individuals to whom the sexual orientation was disclosed, as well as the age, gender, and sexual orientation of the storytellers themselves. This methodological approach enables a comprehensive analysis of the social networks involved in the coming out process, offering insights into the varied

contexts and interpersonal dynamics of sexual orientation disclosure.

Prompt:

You are tasked with analyzing narratives that detail an individual’s experience of disclosing their sexual orientation. Your objective is to carefully read each story and then identify the following key pieces of information:

1. The specific individual or group to whom the storyteller disclosed their sexual orientation.
2. The storyteller’s age, gender, and sexual orientation when they posted the narrative. (Please find These information at the end of the narrative.)

Upon completion of your analysis, format your findings as follows:

Output Format:

(['Person or Group Disclosed To'], ['Age'], ['Gender'], ['Sexual Orientation'])

Please process the provided narrative to extract and format the required information accordingly.

4 Exploring the Statistical Relationship: Understanding the Factors of Coming Out

Given the distinct nature of the datasets at our disposal, wherein the Social Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP) comprises both numerical and categorical data, and the ‘Whenicomeout’ dataset consists of textual data, it necessitates the adoption of varied methodological approaches for analysis.

4.1 Statistical Relationship

Within the context of analyzing the Social Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP) dataset, our objective is to predict responses to the query, "To how many individuals within the following communities are you 'out'?" To this end, we propose a phased analytical strategy, beginning with the application of logistic regression to establish a performance baseline. Subsequent stages involve the utilization of tree-based methodologies, such as Random Forest, followed by the implementation of a Multilayer Perceptron neural network. This sequential approach allows for a comprehensive evaluation of model efficacy across varying analytical frameworks. The task at hand is classified as a multiclass classification problem, wherein responses are distributed across five categories: 'None', 'Some', 'About Half', 'Most', and 'All'.

Initially, we will undertake a binary classification task, wherein we will categorize the responses 'None', 'Some', and 'About Half' as class 0, and the responses 'Most' and 'All' as class 1. This categorization rationale stems from the observation that distinguishing between 'Most' and 'All' is inherently challenging, and thus, these responses are aggregated into a single class. Conversely, the remaining responses are collectively assigned to a different class, facilitating a more streamlined and effective analysis of the data.

4.1.1 Logistic Regression

Objective and Methodology: The initial phase of our analysis employs logistic regression as a foundational modeling approach. The strategic selection of logistic regression as the benchmark for our model within the study of the Social Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP) dataset is founded upon several critical considerations. Logistic regression, a fundamental statistical method for binary and categorical outcome prediction, offers a straightforward, interpretable framework for modeling the probability of certain outcomes, such as the likelihood of individuals disclosing their sexual orientation within specific community contexts.

One of the primary reasons for employing logistic regression as a baseline model lies in its simplicity and transparency. The interpretability of logistic regression models is particularly valuable in sociological research, where understanding the direction and magnitude of relationships between variables is as crucial as the predictive accuracy of the model. This transparency facilitates the clear communication of results to a broad audience, including stakeholders who may not possess technical expertise in machine learning.

Furthermore, logistic regression serves as an effective benchmark due to its efficiency. It requires relatively fewer computational resources compared to more complex models, making it a practical first step in the modeling process. By establishing a performance baseline with logistic regression, we can objectively assess the incremental value added by more sophisticated algorithms like Random Forest or neural networks, ensuring that

the complexity of subsequent models is justified by tangible improvements in predictive performance.

Additionally, logistic regression’s reliance on fewer assumptions about the distribution of variables (e.g., linearity between independent variables and the log odds) makes it a versatile tool for initial analyses. This characteristic is especially pertinent given the diversity of the SJSP dataset, where assumptions about data distributions may not be readily apparent or may vary across the different domains of disclosure explored in our study.

In sum, logistic regression’s role as a benchmark model in our research stems from its clarity, efficiency, and the foundational understanding it provides. It allows us to establish a solid baseline from which we can explore more complex models, ensuring that our methodological advancements are grounded in a clear understanding of the fundamental relationships within our data. This approach not only aids in the rigorous evaluation of model performance but also ensures that our findings are accessible and meaningful to a wide audience, thereby contributing effectively to the discourse on sexual orientation disclosure within the LGBT+ community.

Implementation: Logistic regression will be applied to the SJSP dataset, with appropriate preprocessing including one-hot encoding of categorical variables and normalization of numerical features to ensure model compatibility. The binary outcome variable will facilitate the use of logistic regression in predicting the likelihood of respondents’ disclosure levels falling into the two predefined categories.

4.1.2 Random Forest

Objective and Methodology: Following the logistic regression phase, we will advance our analysis by employing the Random Forest algorithm. In the context of our research, the utilization of the Random Forest algorithm is a strategic choice, motivated by its inherent strengths in handling complex, non-linear relationships that frequently manifest within the data derived from the Social Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP) dataset. Random Forest, as an ensemble learning method that integrates multiple decision trees, offers several advantages that are particularly relevant to our study objectives.

Firstly, Random Forest is renowned for its robustness against overfitting, a common pitfall in machine learning models, especially in scenarios involving high-dimensional data. Given the multifaceted nature of the SJSP dataset, which includes a wide range of variables from demographic details to personal narratives, the capacity to generalize beyond the training data without overfitting is invaluable. This characteristic ensures that our model remains reliable and applicable across various unseen instances, thereby enhancing the validity of our findings.

Secondly, the algorithm’s ability to handle both categorical and numerical data seam-

lessly aligns with the diverse nature of our dataset. The SJSP dataset encompasses a broad spectrum of variables, necessitating a flexible modeling approach that can accommodate this diversity without extensive preprocessing. Random Forest naturally accounts for the heterogeneity of data types, simplifying the analytical process while retaining the richness of the dataset.

Furthermore, Random Forest provides an intrinsic mechanism for feature importance evaluation, offering insights into which variables significantly influence the prediction of an individual’s likelihood to disclose their sexual orientation within different communities. This aspect is particularly beneficial for our study, as it aids in identifying key factors that drive the disclosure process, thereby contributing to a deeper understanding of the complexities surrounding sexual orientation disclosure.

Moreover, the ensemble nature of Random Forest, through aggregating decisions from multiple decision trees, enhances the model’s accuracy and stability. This collective decision-making process mitigates the risk of errors associated with individual trees and results in a more accurate and reliable predictive model. Such precision is crucial in our study, where the goal is to accurately predict and analyze the patterns and factors influencing the coming out process among LGBT+ individuals.

In summary, the selection of Random Forest as a methodological tool in our research is grounded in its robustness, versatility, and the depth of analysis it enables. These attributes make it an ideal choice for addressing the intricate questions at the heart of our study, thereby enriching our understanding of the sexual orientation disclosure process within the LGBT+ community.

Implementation: The Random Forest model will be trained on the same dataset, with the aim of improving upon the baseline performance established by logistic regression. This stage will involve tuning hyperparameters such as the number of trees in the forest and the depth of each tree to optimize model performance. The binary classification will continue to serve as the operational framework for this phase of analysis.

4.1.3 Multilayer Perceptron Neural Network

Objective and Methodology: As the final stage of our analytical strategy, we will implement a Multilayer Perceptron (MLP) neural network. The introduction of it, particularly in the context of studying the Social Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP) dataset, represents a methodological advancement designed to address the complexities and nuances inherent in predicting the disclosure of sexual orientation across diverse communities. This decision is underpinned by several compelling reasons, each aligning with the overarching goal of enhancing our understanding of the factors influencing the coming out process within the LGBT+ population.

Complexity and Non-linearity in Data: One of the primary motivations for employing an MLP Neural Network is its inherent capacity to model complex, non-linear relationships between input variables and the outcome. The SJSP dataset, characterized by its rich array of categorical and numerical variables, presents a multifaceted view of the social and personal dynamics surrounding sexual orientation disclosure. MLP, with its multiple layers and non-linear activation functions, is adept at capturing and modeling these intricate patterns that simpler models, such as logistic regression, might overlook.

High-dimensional Data Handling: The MLP Neural Network is particularly suited for dealing with high-dimensional data sets. The SJSP dataset encompasses a wide range of variables, from demographic information to detailed personal narratives. MLP's ability to process and extract relevant features from such high-dimensional data ensures a more comprehensive analysis, potentially unveiling subtle but significant predictors of disclosure behavior.

Enhanced Predictive Performance: The introduction of MLP to our analytical arsenal aims to significantly improve predictive accuracy and model robustness. By adjusting the architecture—such as the number of hidden layers and neurons, and optimizing hyperparameters—MLP models can be finely tuned to enhance their ability to generalize well to unseen data. This improvement in performance is critical for developing targeted interventions and support mechanisms for individuals within the LGBT+ community.

Flexibility in Model Development: MLP Neural Networks offer a high degree of flexibility, allowing researchers to experiment with various configurations and architectures to best capture the underlying data structures. This flexibility is vital in exploratory studies like ours, where the relationships between variables are complex and potentially unknown at the outset. The ability to iteratively refine the model architecture based on empirical results is a significant advantage, enabling a more nuanced understanding of the data.

Advanced Insights into Data Features: Beyond predictive accuracy, MLP can provide insights into the importance and influence of different features on the outcome variable. Through techniques such as feature importance extraction after model training, researchers can identify which variables play critical roles in influencing the likelihood of disclosure, thereby informing both theory and practice related to LGBT+ experiences.

Incorporating MLP Neural Networks into our analysis signifies a deliberate move towards leveraging advanced computational techniques to better understand the social phenomena under investigation. This methodological choice reflects our commitment to employing the most appropriate and effective tools available to elucidate the complex dynamics of sexual orientation disclosure, with the ultimate aim of contributing valuable insights to the field of sociology and supporting the well-being of the LGBT+ community.

Implementation: The MLP neural network will be designed with multiple hidden layers,

each comprising a specific number of neurons to effectively model the predictive relationship between the input features and the multi-category outcome variable. This stage will involve careful consideration of the network architecture, including the number of hidden layers and neurons, activation functions, and the optimization algorithm, to enhance the model’s ability to generalize beyond the training data. The transition to multiclass classification in this phase will necessitate the use of an appropriate loss function, such as cross-entropy, and evaluation metrics that accurately reflect the model’s performance across the multiple classes.

4.1.4 Conclusion

Through the phased implementation of logistic regression, Random Forest, and a Multi-layer Perceptron neural network, this analytical strategy aims to progressively refine our understanding and prediction of the disclosure levels within the SJSP dataset. Each module represents a step towards more sophisticated modeling techniques, with the ultimate goal of achieving the highest possible accuracy in predicting the extent to which individuals are ‘out’ within their respective communities.

4.2 Sentimental Analysis

For the analysis of the ‘Whenicomeout’ dataset, which comprises a compilation of narrative accounts, we integrate sentiment analysis as a methodological approach to explore the emotional responses associated with the process of disclosing one’s sexual orientation. To facilitate this analysis, we propose the utilization of the Google Sentiment Analysis API. This tool provides a sentiment score for each sentence within the narratives, reflecting the emotional valence ranging from negative to positive. Additionally, the API assigns a magnitude value to each sentence, indicating the intensity of the expressed sentiment, irrespective of the sentiment score. This magnitude parameter spans from 0 to an indefinite upper limit, serving as an indicator of the strength of sentiment conveyed in the textual content. Through this analytical technique, we aim to discern and quantify the emotional dimensions characterizing the coming out narratives within the dataset.

5 Results

5.1 Binary Classification

In the analytical framework of our study, particularly concerning the variable ”To how many individuals within the following communities are you ‘out’?”, we delineate the response options ‘None’, ‘Some’, and ‘About Half’ as constituting class 0, whereas the responses

‘Most’ and ‘All’ are aggregated into class 1. This bifurcation transforms our analytical task into a binary classification endeavor, providing a foundational basis for evaluating model efficacy.

5.1.1 Binary: Logistic Regression

Initially, we employ logistic regression to establish a benchmark for our analysis. The logistic regression model yields the following accuracy metrics across diverse domains: Family (0.72), Friend (0.76), Coworkers (0.72), Neighborhood (0.68), and Netizen (0.72). These results furnish a baseline against which the performance of binary classification tasks can be assessed. Notably, the analysis reveals a pronounced disparity in accuracy between the two classes, with class 1 consistently exhibiting higher accuracy than class 0. This discrepancy may be attributed to an inherent imbalance within the dataset, wherein a significant proportion of respondents report being ‘out’ to the majority of their communities, as opposed to a smaller segment. In subsequent phases of our research, we will explore methodologies to address this imbalance and refine our analytical approach.

Table 1: Logistic Regression Accuracy for Binary Classification.

ZW: be specific about what is the evaluation score, precision/recall/f1/accuracy?

	Family	Friend	Coworker	Neighborhood	Netizen
Class0	0.6	0.5	0.65	0.66	0.58
Class1	0.78	0.84	0.76	0.69	0.79
Overall	0.72	0.76	0.72	0.68	0.72

5.1.2 Binary: Random Forest

In our analysis, the Random Forest algorithm was integrated as an advanced methodological approach, accompanied by a strategy to address the dataset’s inherent imbalance issue. Specifically, the Synthetic Minority Over-sampling Technique (SMOTE) was employed to augment the training dataset by oversampling minority classes. This intervention aimed to mitigate the skewed distribution of classes within our dataset, which could potentially bias the model’s performance.

Subsequent to the application of SMOTE and the implementation of Random Forest, we observed a notable enhancement in model performance compared to the baseline established by logistic regression. The accuracy metrics across various domains were as follows: Family (0.77), Friend (0.83), Coworkers (0.74), Neighborhood (0.68), and Netizen (0.77). These results suggest that Random Forest, augmented by SMOTE, significantly improves predictive accuracy.

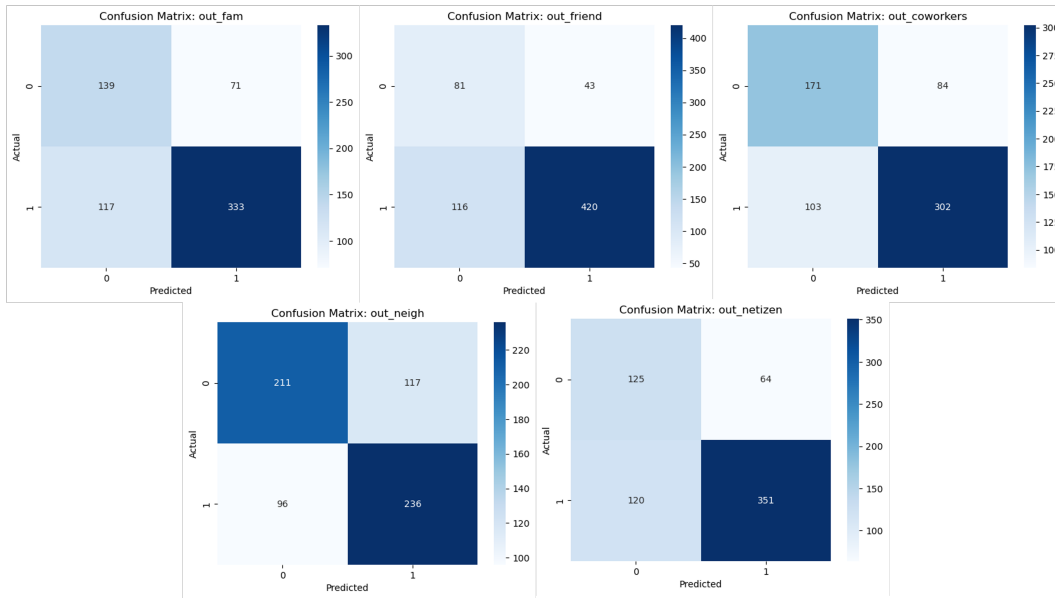


Figure 1: Confusion Matrix of Logistic Regression

However, it is crucial to acknowledge that while the Random Forest model exhibited overall superior performance, it did not unequivocally address the issue of class imbalance. In fact, the analysis revealed that the disparity in classification accuracy between the two classes was exacerbated in certain instances. For example, within the ‘Friend’ category, the accuracy for classes 0 and 1 was observed to be 0.30 and 0.91, respectively. This contrasted with the performance of logistic regression, which demonstrated a more balanced accuracy distribution (0.5 for class 0 and 0.84 for class 1). Such findings indicate that while Random Forest, in conjunction with SMOTE, contributes to enhancing overall model accuracy, it may inadvertently intensify the accuracy discrepancy between classes in specific contexts.

This phenomenon underscores the complexity of addressing class imbalance in predictive modeling and highlights the necessity for a nuanced approach to evaluating model performance. Beyond aggregate accuracy metrics, it is imperative to consider the balance of performance across classes, ensuring that advancements in predictive capabilities do not disproportionately favor one class over another.

Table 2: Logistic Regression Accuracy for Binary Classification.

	Family	Friend	Coworker	Neighborhood	Netizen
Class0	0.59	0.30	0.62	0.68	0.46
Class1	0.84	0.91	0.8	0.68	0.85
Overall	0.77	0.83	0.74	0.68	0.77

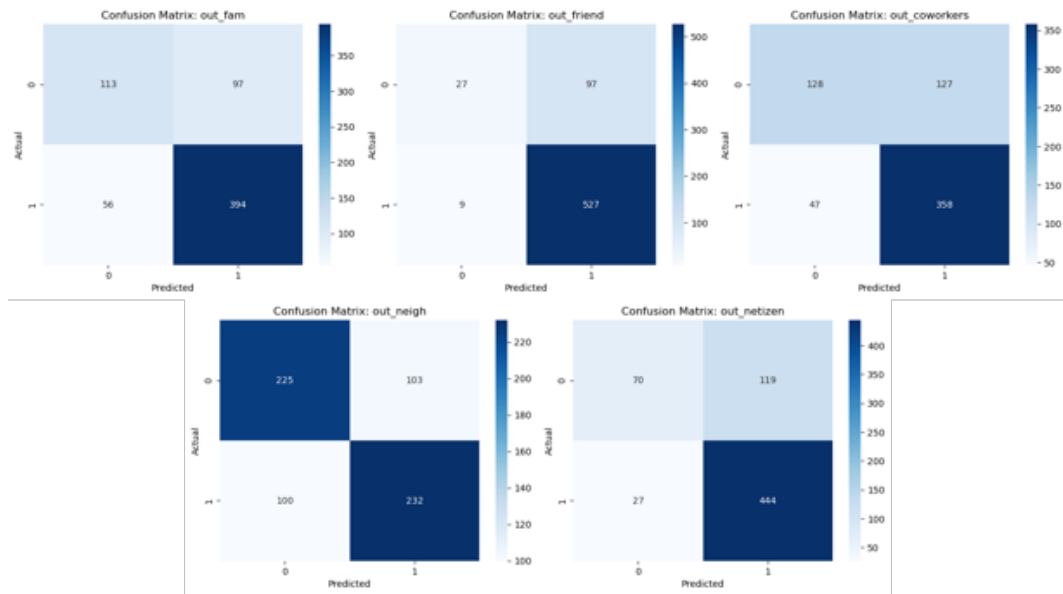


Figure 2: Confusion Matrix of Random Forest

5.1.3 Binary: MLP

After implementing the Random Forest model, we observed a significant increase in accuracy for the majority class. However, there was a notable decrease in accuracy for the minority class. This phenomenon can often be misconstrued as overfitting; however, it is more precisely attributed to the model’s propensity to favor the majority class due to its larger representation in the dataset. To address potential biases and achieve a more balanced performance across classes, we subsequently applied the MLP model.

The MLP model demonstrated overall accuracies of 0.77, 0.83, 0.74, 0.69, and 0.78 for the family, friends, coworker, neighborhood, and netizen domains, respectively. These results are relatively consistent with those observed in the Random Forest model, underscoring the MLP’s robust predictive capability across different social contexts. The slight variations in performance across these domains reflect the model’s sensitivity to the unique dynamics inherent in each social setting.

Moreover, a noteworthy improvement was observed in the accuracy for the minority classes with the MLP model. For instance, in the friends domain, the accuracy for Class 0 improved from 0.30 (as observed with Random Forest) to 0.45 with MLP. Similarly, in the netizen domain, Class 0 accuracy increased from 0.46 to 0.55. These enhancements are particularly encouraging as they indicate that the MLP not only maintained overall accuracy but also improved performance for the minority classes, thereby addressing the imbalance issues more effectively than the Random Forest model.

Table 3: MLP Accuracy for Binary Classification.

	Family	Friend	Coworker	Neighborhood	Netizen
Class0	0.6	0.45	0.61	0.70	0.55
Class1	0.83	0.9	0.81	0.69	0.85
Overall	0.77	0.83	0.74	0.69	0.78

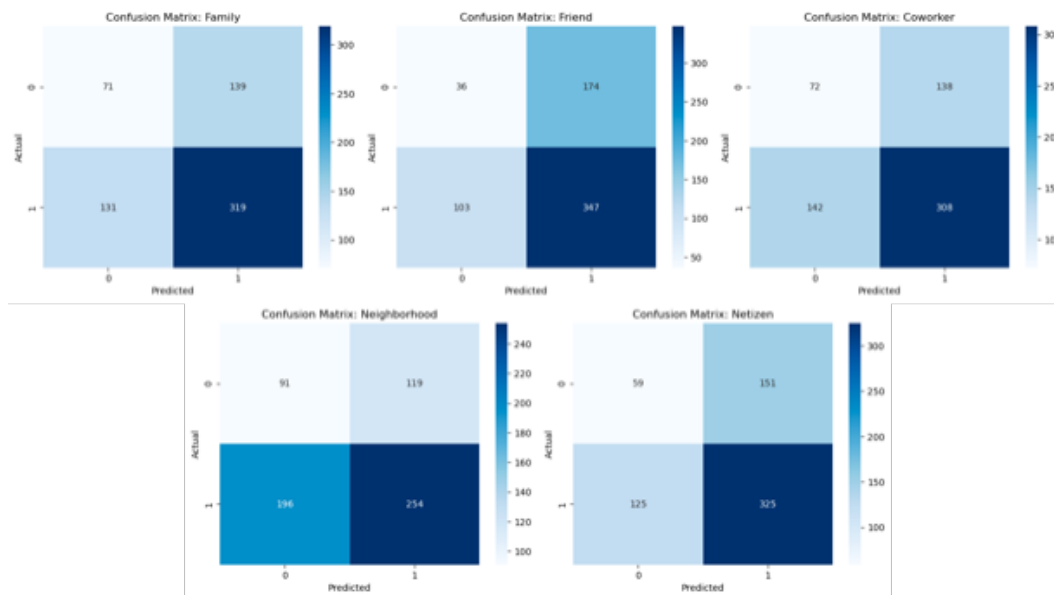


Figure 3: Confusion Matrix of MLP

5.2 Multi-Class Classification

Initially, our analysis employed a binary classification framework to categorize responses, an approach that, while yielding accurate results, does not afford a nuanced comparison across multiple classes. The binary schema, which consolidates the first three response options into class 0 and the final two into class 1, inadvertently results in a degree of information compression, thereby simplifying the complexity of the data into a dichotomous format. This methodological decision, while practical in certain contexts, potentially overlooks the rich gradations of experiences and attitudes represented within the dataset.

Acknowledging the limitations inherent in binary classification—particularly the constrained capacity to capture the full spectrum of respondents’ experiences—we propose transitioning to a multi-class classification approach. This refined analytical strategy aims to preserve and illuminate the subtleties embedded in the dataset by distinguishing among all five response categories as separate classes. By applying the same predictive models—logistic regression, Random Forest, and the MLP Neural Network—within a multi-class framework, we anticipate a more comprehensive understanding of the variables influencing

individuals' decisions to disclose their sexual orientation across different communities.

This methodological evolution to multi-class classification not only aligns with our commitment to a more detailed and accurate representation of the dataset but also enhances our ability to identify and analyze nuanced patterns and trends. By embracing this approach, we endeavor to generate insights that are both more granular and more reflective of the complexity of the coming out process, thereby contributing to a deeper and more informed discourse on sexual orientation disclosure within sociological research.

5.2.1 Multi-Class: Logistic Regression

The data delineated in Table 3 reveal a discernible diminution in the accuracy of multi-class classification vis-à-vis binary classification, with overall accuracy metrics declining from 0.72, 0.76, 0.72, 0.68, 0.72 to 0.47, 0.59, 0.45, 0.39, 0.49, respectively. This trend is consonant with the anticipated complexities inherent in differentiating among an expanded array of categories, in contrast to the comparatively straightforward binary distinction. The escalation in classification intricacy invariably introduces challenges in sustaining elevated accuracy levels, attributable to the broader decision boundaries requisite for the delineation of multiple classes.

Furthermore, the results explicitly underscore a significant issue of class imbalance, emanating from the unequal distribution within the dataset under examination. This imbalance issue is manifest in the model's performance, indicating a systemic discrepancy that warrants methodological consideration and adjustment to ensure equitable representation and analysis of all classes within the dataset.

In the advancement of our methodological framework, logistic regression is utilized as the initial benchmark model. This strategic selection provides a uniform basis for comparison, enabling the assessment of relative performance enhancements conferred by more sophisticated analytical models, such as Random Forest and the MLP Neural Network, within the ambit of multi-class classification. The predilection for logistic regression as a benchmark stems from its capacity to delineate a foundational performance metric, thereby facilitating the evaluation of the incremental benefits rendered by advanced modeling techniques in addressing the complexities of multi-class categorization within our dataset.

5.2.2 Multi-Class: Random Forest

The implementation of the Random Forest algorithm has yielded an increment in accuracy across all domains by approximately 0.05, a development that is indeed favorable. Nonetheless, a notable limitation associated with the application of Random Forest is its exacerbation of the pre-existing issue of class imbalance. This is particularly evident in the

	Family	Friend	Coworker	Neighborhood	Netizen
Class1	0.24	0.00	0.36	0.44	0.25
Class2	0.32	0.35	0.22	0.23	0.21
Class3	0.18	0.07	0.15	0.08	0.09
Class4	0.21	0.19	0.1	0.07	0.14
Class5	0.69	0.79	0.67	0.58	0.73
Overall	0.47	0.59	0.45	0.39	0.49

Table 4: Logistic Regression Accuracy for Multi-Class Classification.

coworker domain, where the accuracy of predicting certain classes has diminished to zero. Additionally, there is evidence to suggest that Random Forest may contribute to overfitting, as observed in the prediction outcomes where only classes with a higher representation in the dataset—implied by greater weight—experience an increase in predictive accuracy, while the accuracy for less represented classes declines. This phenomenon underscores the necessity for further methodological refinement to address these challenges, ensuring a balanced and robust model performance across all classes.

	Family	Friend	Coworker	Neighborhood	Netizen
Class1	0.23	0.00	0.34	0.38	0.10
Class2	0.41	0.36	0.23	0.25	0.16
Class3	0.07	0.05	0.00	0.08	0.10
Class4	0.24	0.23	0.00	0.04	0.12
Class5	0.71	0.80	0.68	0.63	0.73
Overall	0.54	0.65	0.49	0.43	0.53

Table 5: Random Forest Accuracy for Multi-Class Classification.

5.3 Sentiment Analysis: WhenIComeOut

In this section of our analysis, we shift our attention to the ‘When I Come Out’ dataset, which compiles personal accounts of individuals’ experiences during their coming out process. To evaluate the sentiment expressed in these narratives, we employ the Google Sentiment Analysis API. This tool provides a comprehensive sentiment analysis, yielding an overall sentiment score and magnitude, as well as individual scores and magnitudes for each sentence within the narratives. Key Components of the Sentiment Analysis:

- **Overall Sentiment Score:** Reflects the aggregate sentiment of the entire narrative.
- **Overall Magnitude:** Measures the strength of emotion across the whole narrative.
- **Sentence-level Scores:** Provides sentiment values for individual sentences.

- **Sentence-level Magnitudes:** Indicates the emotional intensity for each sentence.

Post sentiment analysis, we extracted crucial demographic data such as age, gender, and sexual orientation directly from the narratives. Additionally, we incorporate the ChatGPT model to identify the recipients of the coming out disclosure, ensuring that our analysis remains congruent with preceding research efforts.

The retrieval of demographic details and the identification of disclosure recipients is integral to aligning our sentiment analysis with earlier studies. This alignment is essential to uphold the continuity and accuracy of our research.

While sentiment scores and magnitudes are insightful, they are not absolute indicators of the storytellers' emotions or the societal context. They serve as proxies for the emotional tone conveyed in the text and should be interpreted with consideration of each individual's distinct experience. The incorporation of ChatGPT enhances our analysis by providing nuanced insights into the interpersonal dynamics present within the coming out narratives.

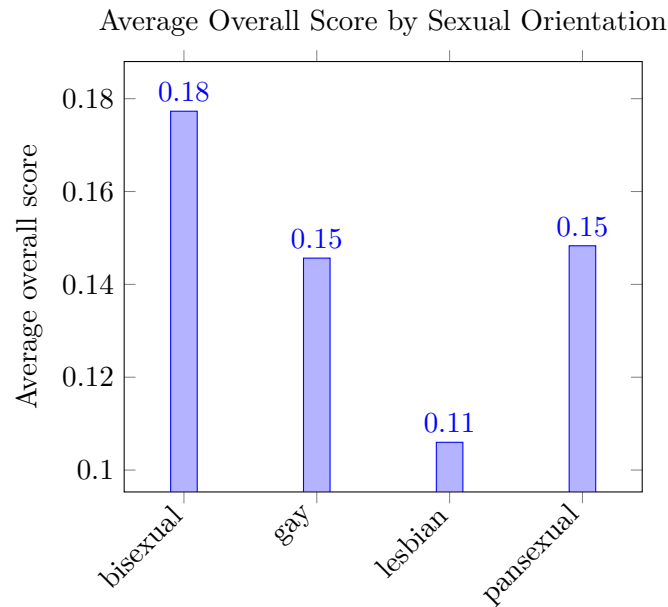
5.3.1 Average overall score by sexual orientation

The bar graph presents insightful data regarding the sentiment analysis of expressions categorized by sexual orientation.

Individuals identifying as bisexual exhibit the highest average sentiment score, suggesting narratives associated with this group tend to contain more positive language or experiences.

The gay and pansexual categories showcase similar sentiment scores, indicating that expressions from these groups have a comparable degree of positive sentiment on average.

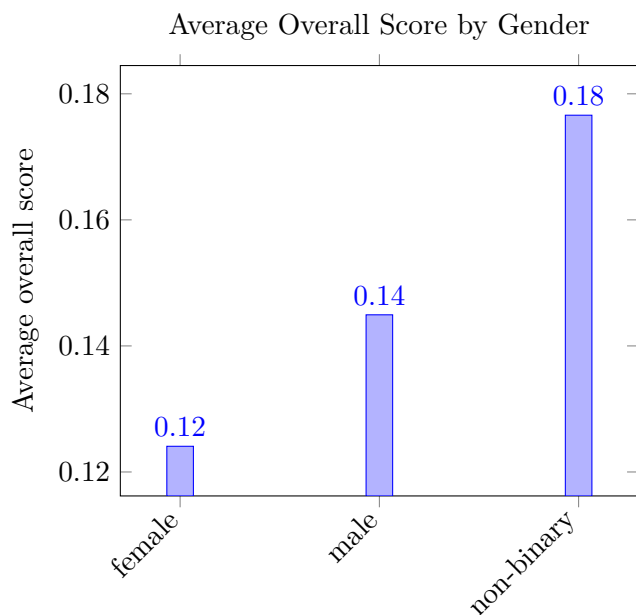
Narratives from individuals identifying as lesbian demonstrate the lowest sentiment score among the presented categories, implying that the language or experiences shared by this group are, on average, less positive than those from other sexual orientations.



5.3.2 Average overall score by gender

The bar plot displayed below this paragraph illustrates the average overall sentiment scores as analyzed by the Google Sentiment Analysis API, segmented by gender categories: female, male, and non-binary. The sentiment scores represent the aggregate positivity or negativity of language within the narrative accounts provided by individuals of different gender identities.

The visualization indicates that individuals who identify as non-binary express narratives with the highest average sentiment score of 0.176, suggesting that the content of their stories is, on average, more positive or less negative compared to the other groups. Following them are individuals identified as male with an average score of 0.144. The narratives from individuals identifying as female have the lowest average sentiment score of 0.124 amongst the three groups.



5.3.3 Average Sentiment Score by Domain and Sexual Orientation

In our sentiment analysis using the Google Sentiment API, we have dissected the overall sentiment scores derived from the narratives of individuals disclosing their sexual orientation. The scores are segmented based on the disclosed party’s identity—Family, Friend, Coworker, and Netizen—and further stratified by the storytellers’ sexual orientations—bisexual, gay, lesbian, and pansexual.

Within the domain of ‘Family’, individuals identifying as bisexual demonstrate the highest sentiment scores (0.117), suggesting more positive expressions when discussing this group. Comparatively, pansexual individuals reflect the lowest scores (0.066), indicating less positive sentiment in their family-related narratives.

In the ‘Friend’ category, pansexual individuals exhibit the highest sentiment scores (0.231), possibly implying the most positive experiences or expressions within this social sphere. Interestingly, this domain has the highest sentiment scores across all sexual orientations when compared to other contexts, suggesting that the act of disclosing to friends may be associated with more positive experiences or support.

Conversely, the ‘Coworker’ category presents a stark contrast with negative sentiment scores for lesbians (-0.013), highlighting potentially adverse experiences or challenges within professional settings. Notably, pansexual individuals score exceptionally high (0.363) in this context, which warrants further investigation into the unique experiences of pansexual individuals in the workplace.

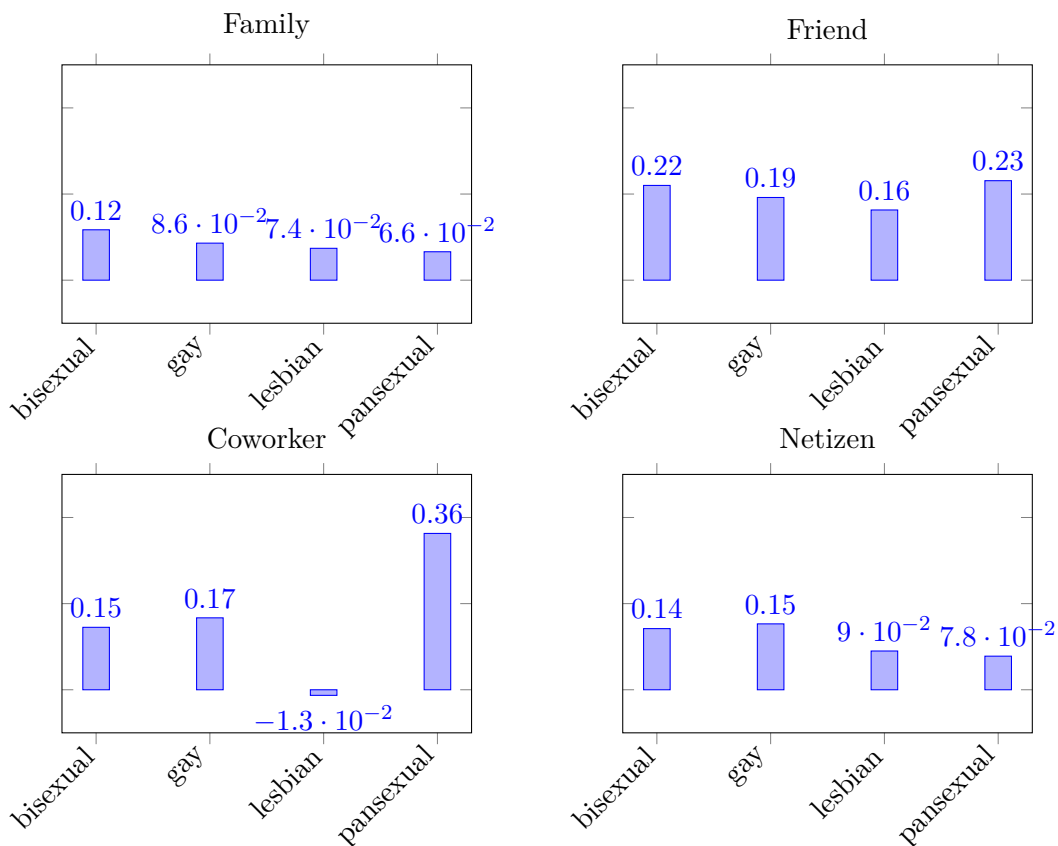
Lastly, the ‘Netizen’ category shows relatively consistent sentiment scores across all

orientations, with gay individuals scoring slightly higher (0.153). The similarity in scores suggests a level of uniformity in the experiences of online disclosure or the expression thereof.

Comparative Analysis Between Domains A cross-domain analysis reveals intriguing disparities. The ‘Friend’ domain scores are notably higher for all orientations compared to the ‘Family’ and ‘Netizen’ contexts, suggesting that coming out to friends might evoke or be met with more positive sentiment or support. The contrast is particularly apparent for bisexual and pansexual individuals, who show the greatest increase in sentiment score when moving from ‘Family’ to ‘Friend’.

The ‘Coworker’ domain is unique in its polarity; it contains both the lowest (lesbian) and highest (pansexual) scores across all contexts. This indicates a significant variance in workplace experiences related to sexual orientation disclosure, potentially reflecting the diverse cultural climates of different workplaces.

Average Sentiment Score by Domain and Sexual Orientation



5.3.4 Average Sentiment Score by Domain and Gender

In our sentiment analysis study, we have employed the Google Sentiment API to assess the overall sentiment scores across various domains of disclosure—Family, Friend, Coworker, and Netizen. These scores have been further segmented by gender: female, male, and non-binary. The sentiment scores represent the average positivity or negativity of language used in narratives shared by individuals.

Sentiment Scores Within Disclosure Domains When analyzing sentiment within each disclosure domain, we note the following:

- **Family:** The sentiment scores are relatively close, with non-binary individuals showing the highest average score (0.088), closely followed by males (0.087), and females (0.080). This suggests a relatively neutral to mildly positive sentiment across genders when discussing family disclosure.
- **Friend:** Notably higher sentiment scores are observed across all genders, with non-binary individuals expressing the highest sentiment (0.226), indicating more positive language or experiences when discussing friends. This domain appears to foster a supportive environment as seen by the positive scores.
- **Coworker:** This domain reveals a stark contrast in sentiment scores, with males showing a remarkably positive average sentiment (0.221) while non-binary individuals exhibit a negative average score (-0.111). Females also show a negative average sentiment score (-0.038), reflecting potentially challenging or less positive experiences in the workplace.
- **Netizen:** The sentiment scores for online disclosures are highest among non-binary individuals (0.296), which is a substantial increase from their sentiment scores related to coworkers. Females show a moderate positive sentiment score (0.109), and males exhibit a notably high positive sentiment score (0.210), suggesting generally positive online disclosure experiences.

A cross-domain comparison elucidates significant variances in sentiment scores. The ‘Friend’ domain is marked by higher scores for all genders, suggesting that individuals may feel more comfortable and supported when disclosing their sexual orientation to friends. Conversely, the ‘Coworker’ domain shows the most considerable divergence in sentiment scores, with male individuals reporting positive experiences, whereas non-binary individuals report negative experiences.

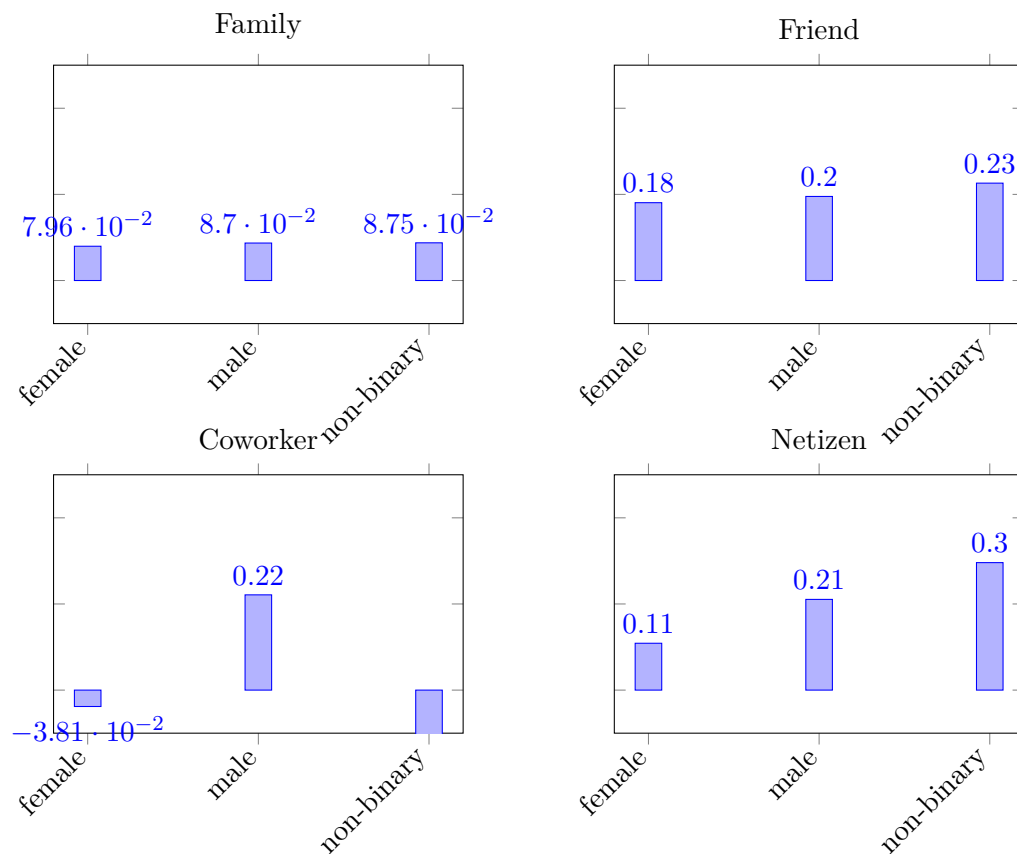
The ‘Family’ and ‘Netizen’ domains present more moderate scores, though non-binary individuals show a dramatic increase in sentiment scores when moving from ‘Family’ or

‘Coworker’ contexts to ‘Netizen’ context, possibly indicating a more accepting or empowering experience online.

The varied sentiment scores highlight the nuanced realities faced by individuals of different genders in distinct social settings. Particularly, the workplace presents a complex environment, as evidenced by the disparate sentiment scores for males and non-binary individuals.

Our findings suggest that while progress has been made in some social spheres, challenges remain, particularly in professional settings for non-binary individuals. These insights advocate for further qualitative research to understand the specific factors contributing to these experiences. Future studies may benefit from exploring the intersection of gender, social context, and disclosure experiences to support a more inclusive environment in all areas of life.

Average Sentiment Score by Domain and Gender



6 Discussion

6.1 Analysis in Logistic Regression

6.1.1 Social-Demographical Factors

To provide a comprehensive analysis of the coefficients for sociodemographic factors across different domains including family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, and netizens, and to correlate them with existing literature and research, let's break down each factor and domain:

Age

- *Family*: Older individuals are more likely to disclose their sexual orientation to family, a trend supported by research that older adults may feel more secure in their social and familial positions.
- *Friends & Netizen*: Younger individuals are more comfortable coming out to friends and online, possibly due to generational shifts in attitudes towards LGBTQ+ issues and the inherent openness of younger demographics in digital environments.

Ethnicity

- *Asian and Black*: Both ethnic groups show a trend of lower likelihood to disclose across almost all domains. This may reflect cultural stigma or less acceptance in these communities, as noted in studies highlighting the challenges faced by LGBTQ+ individuals in ethnically conservative families.
- *Hispanic*: There is a relatively positive coefficient in professional and online settings, which could be related to the increasing acceptance and advocacy within Hispanic communities.
- *White*: White individuals have higher disclosure rates, especially in family and netizen contexts, potentially indicating a greater level of acceptance or fewer cultural barriers in these groups.

Gender

- *Coworker*: The significant negative coefficient for females disclosing to coworkers may reflect ongoing gender-based discrimination or a less supportive workplace environment for women, which aligns with findings from gender studies in professional contexts.

Citizenship (U.S. Citizenship)

- Positive across most contexts, especially with family and netizens, perhaps reflecting societal and legal support structures in the U.S. that facilitate openness about one's sexual orientation.

Employment

- *Full-time and Self-Employed*: Positive coefficients indicate that stable employment or self-employment provides a platform for more openness, possibly due to financial security or a self-constructed supportive environment.
- *Military and Part-time*: The negative coefficients for military employees highlight the unique challenges in this sector, despite the repeal of policies like “Don't Ask, Don't Tell.”

Education Level

- Lower likelihood of coming out in professional and online settings with higher education may reflect the complex social dynamics in academic or highly educated circles, where professional risks might be weighed more heavily.

Financial Security (Retirement accounts, Insurance)

- Negative coefficients across domains suggest that concerns about financial security impact the willingness to disclose one's sexual orientation, aligning with research on economic vulnerabilities within the LGBTQ+ community.

Political Leaning

- Negative across all domains, suggesting that more conservative political views are associated with less disclosure, possibly reflecting internal and external conflicts about LGBTQ+ issues.

Religious Upbringing and Current Religion

- Mixed effects based on the specific religion, with some showing positive coefficients (e.g., raised Catholic) in certain settings. This aligns with literature that religious beliefs can significantly influence personal decisions about coming out, depending on the doctrine's views towards LGBTQ+ identities.

Bisexual

- *All Domains*: Shows significant negative coefficients, suggesting that bisexual individuals are less likely to disclose their sexuality across all contexts. This may reflect the unique challenges faced by bisexual people, including bisexual erasure and a lack of visible community support, which has been documented in studies such as those by Friedman et al., 2014 that highlight the complexities of bisexual identity and visibility.

Gay

- *Family, Coworker, Netizen*: Positive coefficients in these areas indicate that gay individuals may feel more comfortable disclosing their sexuality in familial settings, certain professional environments, and online. This greater likelihood could be attributed to a stronger community presence and support systems that have historically been more established for gay men, as per research by Gates, 2017.

Lesbian

- *Neighbor*: The only positive coefficient for lesbians is in the neighbor context, which might suggest a selective openness that aligns with finding supportive local communities. Literature by Patterson and D’Augelli (2012) discusses how lesbians often seek out supportive micro-communities where they feel safer expressing their identities.

Queer

- *Friend, Coworker*: Queer individuals show a higher likelihood of coming out in these domains. The term "queer" often encompasses a broader spectrum of non-normative sexual and gender identities, which might be more readily discussed in socially progressive or informal settings.

Conclusion

This analysis underscores the complexity of sociodemographic influences on the disclosure of sexual orientation across various social domains. Factors like age, ethnicity, gender, employment status, and financial security play significant roles in these decisions. The effects of political and religious affiliations further compound these dynamics, indicating that personal identity disclosure is deeply intertwined with broader societal structures and cultural norms.

The varying coefficients across different domains highlight the nuanced environments in which individuals operate. Workplaces, family settings, and online platforms each present unique challenges and supports. Understanding these patterns is crucial for developing targeted interventions and support systems to facilitate a more inclusive and accepting environment across all areas of society. Further research should continue to explore these intersections, focusing on longitudinal data to track changes over time and deeper qualitative analyses to understand the personal narratives behind these statistics.

Across different sexual orientations, the likelihood of disclosure is influenced by both the visibility of the identity and the perceived or experienced levels of support within each domain. Bisexuals consistently show lower probabilities of disclosure, possibly due to the dual stigmatization they face from both heterosexual and homosexual communities, as

discussed in the bisexual invisibility report by San Francisco Human Rights Commission (2011).

Gay and lesbian individuals often find more support and have higher visibility, which might explain their higher likelihood of coming out in more settings. However, lesbians show selective disclosure, potentially reflecting strategic choices about safety and acceptance, particularly in proximate social environments like neighborhoods.

Queer individuals appear to navigate disclosure with an awareness of social contexts that are more accepting or aligned with queer community norms, hence the higher likelihood of disclosing to friends and coworkers.

The challenges faced by those identifying with sexual orientations that fall outside the traditional categories highlight the importance of context in the coming out process. Digital platforms often serve as a critical space for expression among those with less visible or less understood identities, demonstrating the role of online environments in supporting diverse expressions of sexual orientation.

To enhance support for all individuals regardless of sexual orientation, it is crucial for research, policy, and practice to address the unique challenges and needs of each group, especially those that are less visible or less understood. Programs aimed at increasing awareness, reducing stigma, and fostering inclusivity need to be tailored to recognize the diversity within the LGBTQ+ spectrum and across different social domains.

6.1.2 Individual Psychological Factors

Connection to the LGBT Community (`con2lgbt`)

- Strong positive coefficients across all contexts indicate that individuals who feel a stronger connection to the LGBT community are more likely to disclose their sexual orientation. This connection likely provides a sense of support and belonging, reducing the perceived risks associated with coming out. Research corroborates this, Meyer, 2003 showing that community support can buffer against the stress of coming out and enhance psychological well-being.

Age When First Time Come Out to Myself (`firsttime_out`)

- The negative coefficients suggest that the younger an individual is when they first acknowledge their sexual orientation to themselves, the less likely they are to disclose this to others later. This could be interpreted through the lens of developmental psychology, where earlier self-recognition might coincide with periods of greater vulnerability and uncertainty, leading to increased caution about disclosing to others, Rosario et al., 2001.

Importance of Race or Ethnicity to One's Identity (race4identity)

- Slightly negative coefficients across all domains indicate that individuals for whom race or ethnicity is an important aspect of their identity may be less likely to disclose their sexual orientation. This might reflect the compounded stigma or discrimination faced by individuals at the intersection of racial/ethnic and sexual orientation identities, making disclosure more complex and fraught, Garnets and Kimmel, 1993.

Importance of Sexuality to One's Identity (sexuality4identity)

- Strong positive coefficients suggest that individuals who consider their sexual orientation a crucial part of their identity are more likely to disclose it across various social settings. This reflects identity theory, which posits that the more central an aspect of identity is to an individual's self-concept, the more likely they are to express it openly, Stryker and Burke, 2000.

General Health (generally_health)

- Coworker & Neighbor Domains: The positive coefficients here, particularly noticeable in workplace and neighbor contexts, imply that better general health may correlate with more disclosures, possibly due to higher overall well-being and psychological resilience. This supports findings that good physical health can enhance mental health and social confidence (Marshal et al., 2008).

Happiness Level (happiness)

- All Domains (except Coworkers): Positive coefficients in most domains except coworkers suggest that higher levels of happiness correlate with greater likelihoods of disclosure, which may reflect overall contentment and stability in one's life. However, the slight negative coefficient in the coworker domain could indicate the complexities of workplace relationships and professional risk considerations. Research by Pachankis, 2007 demonstrates that happier individuals generally possess better mental health, which facilitates openness about personal aspects such as sexual orientation.

Conclusion:

The analysis of individual psychological factors showcases varying influences on the propensity to disclose one's sexual orientation across diverse social contexts. Notably, a pronounced connection to the LGBT community significantly bolsters the likelihood of disclosure in all settings, highlighting the pivotal role of community support as a buffer against potential social stigmas and as a source of empowerment. This community connection might

provide the necessary affirmation and resilience, facilitating openness and authenticity in various social interactions.

Conversely, the data reveals that those who come to terms with their sexual orientation at an older age tend to be more hesitant about disclosing this identity to others. This delay might stem from the compounded internal conflicts and societal pressures experienced over time, which could impede their comfort and readiness to share this aspect of their identity. Such findings suggest that earlier self-recognition and acceptance of one's sexual orientation could lead to more challenges initially, but potentially result in greater ease and frequency of disclosure in the long run.

Furthermore, the importance individuals place on their sexual identity markedly influences their disclosure decisions. Those who perceive their sexuality as a core component of their identity are more inclined to share this with others, reinforcing the concept that identity salience is crucial for disclosure dynamics. This correlation underscores the need for environments that foster a positive self-conception and encourage individuals to embrace all facets of their identity without fear of judgment or rejection.

Overall, the intersection of these psychological factors with the act of coming out demonstrates the complexity of navigating one's sexual orientation within various social frameworks. These insights are crucial for developing targeted interventions aimed at supporting individuals across different stages of their identity affirmation journey. Enhancing community support structures, promoting early self-acceptance, and cultivating environments that respect and recognize the significance of sexual identity are essential steps towards a more inclusive society. This approach not only supports individuals in the LGBT community but also enriches the social contexts in which these disclosures occur, fostering a broader culture of understanding and acceptance.

6.1.3 Environmental Factors

The environmental factors that influence the disclosure of sexual orientation across various domains (family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, netizens) reveal important insights into how external conditions and societal attitudes impact individual decisions. Let's analyze each factor across all domains, integrating relevant literature for a comprehensive understanding.

Degree Mainstream LGBT Organization Addressing Issues (deg_main_issue)

- *All Domains:* Negative coefficients suggest that dissatisfaction with how mainstream LGBT organizations address key issues may lead to lower likelihoods of disclosure. This could indicate a perceived lack of support or effectiveness from these organizations, affecting individuals' willingness to come out. Research by (Swank and Fahs, 2013) highlights the critical role of advocacy organizations in shaping perceptions of

safety and empowerment among LGBT individuals.

Last Medical Experience (feelingofdocexp_*)

- *Comfortable with Identity:* Positive coefficients, particularly in friends and neighbor contexts, suggest that positive medical experiences where providers are comfortable with the patient’s identity can enhance confidence in coming out.
- *Ignore:* The negative coefficients in coworkers and neighbors indicate that being ignored by healthcare providers might discourage disclosure in professional or local community settings due to perceived stigma or lack of support.
- *Uncomfortable with Sexuality:* Similarly, negative experiences related to discomfort with one’s sexuality in healthcare settings correlate with reluctance to disclose, especially in coworker contexts.
- *Unknown Attitude:* Strong negative coefficients across all domains reflect the significant impact of uncertain or unclear attitudes from medical providers on the likelihood of disclosure.

Discomfort in Community (fredunwell4lgbtinrace, fredunwell4raceinlgbt)

- *LGBT in Racial Community:* Negative coefficients in coworkers and neighbors highlight how discomfort within one’s racial or ethnic community regarding their sexual orientation can hinder openness in these settings.
- *Race in LGBT Community:* Mixed effects, with a positive coefficient in coworkers but negative in netizens, suggest variable impacts of racial dynamics within the LGBT community on disclosure behaviors.

Legality (imp_mil_legal, imp_same_sex_legal, mil_legal, same_sex_legal)

- *Military and Same-Sex Marriage Laws:* Positive coefficients across multiple domains indicate that legal recognition of LGBT rights, including military service and marriage, significantly correlates with higher rates of disclosure. This reflects the broader societal acceptance and legal protections, which have been shown to positively affect LGBT individuals’ mental health and willingness to come out (Herek, 2009).

Involvement in LGBT Activities (lgbt_involve, lgbt_poc_involve)

- *General Involvement:* Strong positive coefficients in friends, coworkers, and netizens suggest that active participation in LGBT events enhances the likelihood of coming out, likely due to increased community bonding and support.

- *Political Involvement:* Mixed effects, with strong positive influence in family but negative in coworkers, indicating that political activism might be viewed differently across social domains.

Homophobia Perception (Homophobia_as_problem)

- Negative coefficients in coworker and neighbor domains indicate that perceiving homophobia as a non-issue might reduce the urgency or perceived necessity to disclose one's sexual orientation, particularly in environments perceived as hostile or unsupportive.

Conclusion

The analysis underscores the multifaceted impact of environmental factors on the disclosure of sexual orientation. Positive experiences with healthcare providers and legal protections are consistently linked with higher disclosure likelihoods, emphasizing the importance of supportive and inclusive environments. Conversely, negative experiences within medical settings and community discomfort due to race or sexuality significantly deter disclosure, highlighting the need for targeted interventions to address these barriers.

Active involvement in LGBT communities and events plays a crucial role in facilitating disclosure, indicating that these activities not only foster a sense of belonging but also empower individuals to share their identities more openly. The legal recognition of LGBT rights correlates with increased openness, underscoring the profound impact of societal acceptance and legal frameworks on individual lives.

Efforts to enhance the effectiveness of mainstream LGBT organizations, improve healthcare provider training on LGBT issues, and continue advocating for legal protections are essential for promoting a more inclusive society where individuals feel safe and supported in disclosing their sexual orientation across all domains.

6.1.4 Relational Factors

Analyzing the relational factors and their impact on the likelihood of disclosing one's sexual orientation across different domains provides a unique lens through which we can understand the interplay between social relationships, environmental accessibility, and community engagement. Here's a detailed breakdown of each factor:

Distance to LGBT Events (dis_lgbt_event_*)

- *General Trend:* Closer proximity to LGBT events generally correlates with increased likelihood of disclosure among friends and coworkers. This can be seen in the positive coefficients for events within 0-5 miles and 6-10 miles, particularly for friends, suggesting that easier access to LGBT spaces enhances community connection and comfort in discussing sexual orientation.

- *Farther Distances*: Negative coefficients for events over 40 miles, especially in the netizen domain, indicate that greater distances may lead to decreased engagement and subsequently lower likelihoods of online disclosure.

Frequency of Attending LGBT Events (fred_lgbt_pride)

- *All Domains*: Strong positive coefficients across all domains underscore the significant role that frequent participation in LGBT events plays in fostering a sense of community and empowerment, making individuals more likely to come out in various social settings.

Marital Status (marrieddiffsex, marriedsamesex)

- *Different-Sex Marriage*: Negative coefficients in all contexts reflect the complexities and perhaps societal pressures faced by individuals in different-sex marriages, which may discourage them from coming out.
- *Same-Sex Marriage*: Strong positive coefficients across all domains, particularly in coworkers and neighbors, highlight that being in a same-sex marriage can greatly increase visibility and likelihood of disclosure due to inherent public acknowledgment of one's sexual orientation.

Relationship Status (no_partner, partner_diffsex, partner_samesex)

- *No Partner*: Generally negative coefficients suggest that lack of a partner may reduce the likelihood of coming out, possibly due to the absence of a support system.
- *Different-Sex Partner*: Negative coefficients, especially in netizens, indicate potential challenges or reluctance in disclosing a different-sex relationship in more public or diverse settings.
- *Same-Sex Partner*: Positive coefficients across domains, particularly strong in neighbors and coworkers, suggest that having a same-sex partner may serve as a catalyst for coming out, driven by the relationship's visibility.

Involvement of People of Color (poc_involve)

- *Negative Coefficients*: Particularly strong negative impacts in friends indicate that individuals who identify both as a person of color and as LGBTQ+ may face compounded challenges, reducing their likelihood of disclosure due to intersectional stigma.

Similarity of Race Among Friends (sameraceoflgbtfri)

- **Mixed Impact:** While there is a slightly positive coefficient in friends, indicating comfort in similarity, the near-zero or negative impacts in other domains suggest that racial dynamics within social circles may not significantly influence disclosure decisions outside of close friendships.

Family Support (support_fam)

- **Strong Positive Influence:** This is the most significant positive factor across all domains. High levels of family support are crucial in enhancing the likelihood of coming out, demonstrating the foundational role of familial acceptance and support in the health and well-being of LGBTQ+ individuals.

Travel Time to LGBT Events (time_lgbt_event_*)

- **Varied Effects:** Shorter travel times (0-15 mins, 16-30 mins) show strong positive correlations in coworkers, suggesting that easy access to LGBT spaces correlates with greater openness in professional settings. Longer travel times generally show a neutral or negative effect, reflecting the potential barrier of accessibility.

Conclusion

Relational factors clearly delineate a spectrum of influences where proximity to and participation in LGBT-focused events and having supportive relationships (either familial or romantic) substantially increase the likelihood of disclosing one's sexual orientation. Marital status and the specific dynamics of one's relationships further color these experiences, with same-sex partnerships enhancing openness and different-sex or no partnerships often serving as barriers.

Support from family emerges as the most potent relational factor, underscoring the need for family acceptance initiatives within broader community support frameworks. Ensuring accessibility to LGBT spaces and events through urban planning and community development could also foster greater inclusion and openness.

Policy interventions and community programs should focus on enhancing these supportive environments and relationships to facilitate a more inclusive and open society, where individuals feel empowered and safe to express their true selves across all domains of their lives.

7 Conclusion

The exploration of the multifaceted factors influencing the decision to disclose one's sexual orientation within the LGBT+ community has provided profound insights into the complexities of sexual identity and societal interaction. Key findings from the analysis of the Social

Justice Sexuality Project (SJSP) dataset reveal significant variables that impact this deeply personal decision, including familial support, societal acceptance, and personal experiences of discrimination.

Notably, the variables associated with positive outcomes in disclosure—such as the presence of supportive family environments and accepting social circles—underscore the critical role of a nurturing environment in facilitating the disclosure process. Conversely, the persistence of societal stigmatization and familial rejection remains a formidable barrier, often exacerbating the psychological distress associated with coming out.

Strongly Influential Variables Across Domains

- *Support from Family (support_fam):* This factor has overwhelmingly strong positive coefficients across all domains, indicating that family support significantly enhances the likelihood of disclosure in all social contexts. This highlights the fundamental role of family in shaping individuals' comfort and willingness to disclose their sexual orientation, suggesting that interventions aimed at increasing family support could greatly ease the coming out process for LGBT+ individuals.
- *Support from Family (Connection to the LGBT Community (con2lgbt):)* Another variable with strong positive influence across all domains, illustrating that individuals who feel a strong connection to the LGBT community are more likely to disclose their orientation. This underscores the importance of robust community networks in providing the necessary emotional and social support to facilitate disclosure.
- *Sexuality as Core to Identity (sexuality4identity):* This variable shows that individuals who view their sexuality as a crucial part of their identity are more likely to disclose in all contexts. It underscores the importance of identity affirmation in the disclosure process and suggests that strengthening identity integration can promote openness.

Implications for Society

- **Enhanced Family Support:** Initiatives to educate and involve families in LGBT+ awareness and acceptance can have far-reaching effects on the ease with which individuals come out. This could reduce psychological stress and improve mental health outcomes for LGBT+ individuals.
- **Community Building:** Strengthening LGBT+ community networks and ensuring that individuals feel connected can significantly impact their ability to navigate the coming out process. Community support not only bolsters individual resilience but also creates a collective shield against societal stigma.

- Identity Affirmation Programs: Programs that help LGBT+ individuals integrate their sexual orientation into their broader self-concept can be pivotal. Schools, workplaces, and community centers should implement policies and programs that affirm diverse sexual identities, thereby fostering an environment where coming out is supported and respected.

This comprehensive analysis of the factors influencing the disclosure of sexual orientation reveals that family support, community connection, and personal identity integration play pivotal roles in all social contexts. By focusing on these areas, society can develop more targeted interventions that reduce the barriers to coming out, thereby contributing to the overall well-being and acceptance of LGBT+ individuals. This approach not only aids individuals in their personal journeys but also moves society towards a more inclusive and understanding future.

Appendix

Table 6: Coefficients in Five Domain by Logistic Regression

Feature Name	Fam	Friend	Coworkers	Neigh	Netizen
Age	0.261	-0.190	0.011	-0.036	-0.286
AsianatAll	-0.009	-0.034	0.025	-0.001	0.000
whiteatall	0.145	0.012	0.107	0.000	0.142
Blackatall	-0.105	-0.120	-0.041	0.000	-0.061
hispanicatall	-0.008	-0.016	0.064	0.000	0.062
female	0.000	0.000	-0.157	0.000	0.000
CisGender	0.002	0.051	0.082	0.027	0.018
citizenship_us	0.093	0.049	0.018	0.000	0.063
employ_fulltime	0.000	0.043	0.147	0.044	0.028
employ_military	0.000	-0.020	-0.123	-0.008	-0.135
employ_parttime	0.001	0.185	0.090	0.000	0.000
employ_public_assist	0.053	0.000	0.015	0.000	0.023
employ_retired	0.004	0.000	0.025	0.028	0.000
employ_self	0.056	0.056	0.125	0.023	0.030
employ_student	0.000	0.090	0.042	0.029	0.001
employ_un	0.001	0.000	-0.037	0.000	0.000
edu_level	0.000	0.012	-0.063	-0.025	-0.096
foreign_born	0.000	-0.122	-0.018	0.000	-0.066
has_retireaccount	-0.071	-0.073	-0.141	-0.149	-0.068
have_insurance	-0.062	0.000	0.008	-0.044	-0.176
have_military	0.062	0.000	-0.080	0.001	0.028
income	-0.050	0.042	-0.054	-0.024	0.031
NativeAtAll	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.037	-0.016
parent_is_us	0.089	-0.016	0.042	0.034	0.000
parents_foreign_born	-0.161	-0.054	-0.097	-0.107	-0.089
political_leaning	-0.053	-0.211	-0.154	-0.095	-0.081
raise_religion_agnostic	0.068	0.000	-0.017	0.000	0.000
raise_religion_atheist	-0.020	-0.073	0.021	-0.004	-0.023
raise_religion_catholic	0.105	0.000	0.126	0.070	0.040
raise_religion_jewish	-0.059	0.000	-0.007	-0.026	-0.019
raise_religion_muslim	0.000	0.000	0.086	0.000	0.000

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Table 6 – continued from previous page

Feature Name	Fam	Friend	Coworkers	Neigh	Netizen
raise_religion_none	0.016	0.000	0.039	0.000	0.006
raise_religion_other	0.000	-0.058	0.112	0.000	0.000
raise_religion_protestant	0.000	0.000	0.196	0.000	0.000
religion_agnostic	0.000	-0.013	-0.073	0.000	0.022
religion_atheist	0.000	0.023	-0.091	0.000	0.077
religion_catholic	-0.086	-0.091	-0.142	-0.102	-0.127
religion_deg	0.033	-0.064	-0.091	-0.032	-0.228
religion_impact2lgbt	0.000	0.090	0.000	0.018	0.004
religion_jewish	0.029	0.098	0.020	0.000	0.075
religion_muslim	-0.089	-0.110	-0.126	-0.012	-0.056
religion_none	0.000	0.001	-0.002	0.000	0.000
religion_other	0.072	0.054	-0.076	0.000	0.034
religion_protestant	-0.037	-0.099	-0.180	-0.007	-0.083
sexuality_activa	0.000	0.064	0.115	0.000	0.069
sexuality_bisexual	-0.247	-0.342	-0.299	-0.250	-0.244
sexuality_gay	0.086	0.030	0.014	0.000	0.069
sexuality_inlife	-0.067	-0.053	-0.097	-0.074	-0.007
sexuality_les	0.089	0.000	0.000	0.030	0.080
sexuality_other	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
sexuality_pasiva	0.038	0.002	-0.080	-0.019	0.037
sexuality_queer	-0.002	0.112	0.159	0.035	0.000
sexuality_sgl	-0.048	0.000	-0.126	-0.086	0.000
sexuality_twospirit	0.000	-0.055	-0.096	0.000	0.000
smoke	0.030	0.141	0.105	0.120	0.000
con2lgbt	0.061	0.252	0.204	0.180	0.275
deg_col_issue_enough	-0.071	-0.052	-0.015	-0.060	-0.135
deg_col_issue_lilover	-0.008	-0.009	0.024	0.000	-0.041
deg_col_issue_medium	-0.016	0.082	0.014	-0.051	0.010
deg_col_issue_notenough	0.012	0.057	0.043	0.009	0.004
deg_col_issue_over	0.004	0.062	0.047	0.020	0.008
deg_issue_enough	-0.039	0.000	-0.063	-0.014	-0.023
deg_issue_lilover	0.074	0.028	-0.044	-0.044	0.000
deg_issue_medium	0.035	0.000	0.026	0.009	0.000
deg_issue_notenough	-0.024	-0.033	0.049	0.000	0.070

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Table 6 – continued from previous page

Feature Name	Fam	Friend	Coworkers	Neigh	Netizen
deg_issue_over	0.001	-0.035	-0.046	0.018	0.000
deg_main_issue	-0.076	-0.188	-0.077	-0.006	-0.083
dis_lgbt_event_0-5 miles	0.000	0.051	0.040	0.000	0.007
dis_lgbt_event_11-20 miles	-0.002	0.000	-0.058	-0.021	0.000
dis_lgbt_event_21-30 miles	0.003	0.000	-0.015	-0.062	-0.049
dis_lgbt_event_31-40 miles	0.000	0.000	0.046	0.045	0.051
dis_lgbt_event_6-10 miles	0.020	0.086	0.027	0.003	0.020
dis_lgbt_event_over 40 miles	-0.034	0.000	-0.012	0.000	-0.075
feelingofdoexp_comw/identity	0.008	0.124	0.000	0.129	0.161
feelingofdoexp_ignore	0.000	0.000	-0.032	-0.010	0.000
feelingofdoexp_uncomw/sexuality	0.000	0.000	-0.033	0.023	0.004
feelingofdoexp_unknown	-0.212	-0.166	-0.258	-0.201	-0.097
firsttime_out	-0.152	-0.166	-0.172	-0.130	-0.139
fred_lgbt_pride	0.100	0.169	0.159	0.135	0.078
fred_religion_1year	0.020	0.000	0.035	0.000	-0.004
fred_religion_everyweek	0.000	0.017	0.035	-0.027	0.000
fred_religion_nearlyeveryweek	0.000	-0.037	-0.062	0.000	0.000
fred_religion_Never	0.128	0.000	0.106	0.076	0.013
fred_religion_oncemonth	-0.013	0.013	-0.026	-0.045	-0.017
fred_religion_oneyear	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.015
fred_religion_severalmonth	-0.002	0.000	-0.015	-0.010	0.000
fred_religion_severalyear	-0.043	-0.037	-0.033	0.000	0.000
fredunwell4lgbtinrace	0.000	0.000	-0.019	-0.081	-0.023
fredunwell4raceinlgbt	0.000	-0.063	0.070	0.016	-0.020
generally_health	0.009	0.000	0.109	0.062	0.049
happiness	0.051	0.068	-0.011	0.051	0.023
have_reg_doc	-0.088	-0.083	-0.107	-0.054	-0.088
health_source_family	-0.035	-0.135	-0.188	-0.030	-0.045
health_source_friends	-0.023	0.000	-0.117	-0.015	-0.062
health_source_medical	0.060	-0.085	-0.167	0.000	0.000
health_source_medical_online	0.056	0.010	-0.021	0.000	-0.005
health_source_medical_other	0.000	-0.017	-0.073	0.022	0.000
health_source_online	0.000	0.000	-0.150	-0.054	0.010
health_source_online_other	0.000	0.115	0.046	0.053	0.048

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Table 6 – continued from previous page

Feature Name	Fam	Friend	Coworkers	Neigh	Netizen
health_source_other	0.075	0.000	-0.016	0.026	-0.003
Homophobia_as_problem	0.010	0.000	-0.121	-0.128	-0.014
imp_mil_legal	0.028	0.061	0.034	0.024	0.000
imp_same_sex_legal	0.151	0.100	0.002	0.036	0.000
lgbt_involve	0.073	0.276	0.244	0.166	0.284
lgbt_poc_involve	0.064	0.006	-0.066	0.000	0.000
male	-0.054	-0.025	-0.115	0.000	0.000
marrieddiffsex	-0.051	-0.076	-0.046	-0.004	0.000
marriedsamesex	0.104	0.111	0.318	0.257	0.163
mil_legal	0.035	0.004	0.128	0.093	-0.050
no_partner	-0.161	-0.133	0.009	-0.004	0.000
non-binary	0.000	-0.129	-0.032	0.000	0.000
partner_diffsex	0.000	-0.059	-0.027	-0.012	-0.031
partner_samesex	0.000	0.046	0.117	0.167	0.128
poc_involve	-0.033	-0.251	-0.043	0.000	-0.007
race4identity	-0.015	-0.021	-0.061	-0.023	-0.037
same_sex_legal	0.049	0.064	0.037	0.057	0.090
sameraceoffgbtfri	0.078	0.081	-0.001	0.000	-0.012
sexuality4identity	0.228	0.305	0.211	0.164	0.229
support_fam	0.864	0.510	0.387	0.345	0.397
time_lgbt_event_0-15 mins	0.000	0.000	0.183	0.111	0.032
time_lgbt_event_16-30 mins	0.010	0.111	0.245	0.057	0.091
time_lgbt_event_31-45 mins	0.001	0.114	0.165	0.000	-0.036
time_lgbt_event_46-60 mins	0.000	0.010	0.110	-0.034	0.000
time_lgbt_event_61-90 mins	-0.049	0.000	0.008	-0.051	-0.048
time_lgbt_event_over 90 mins	-0.059	0.000	0.101	-0.026	0.000

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