



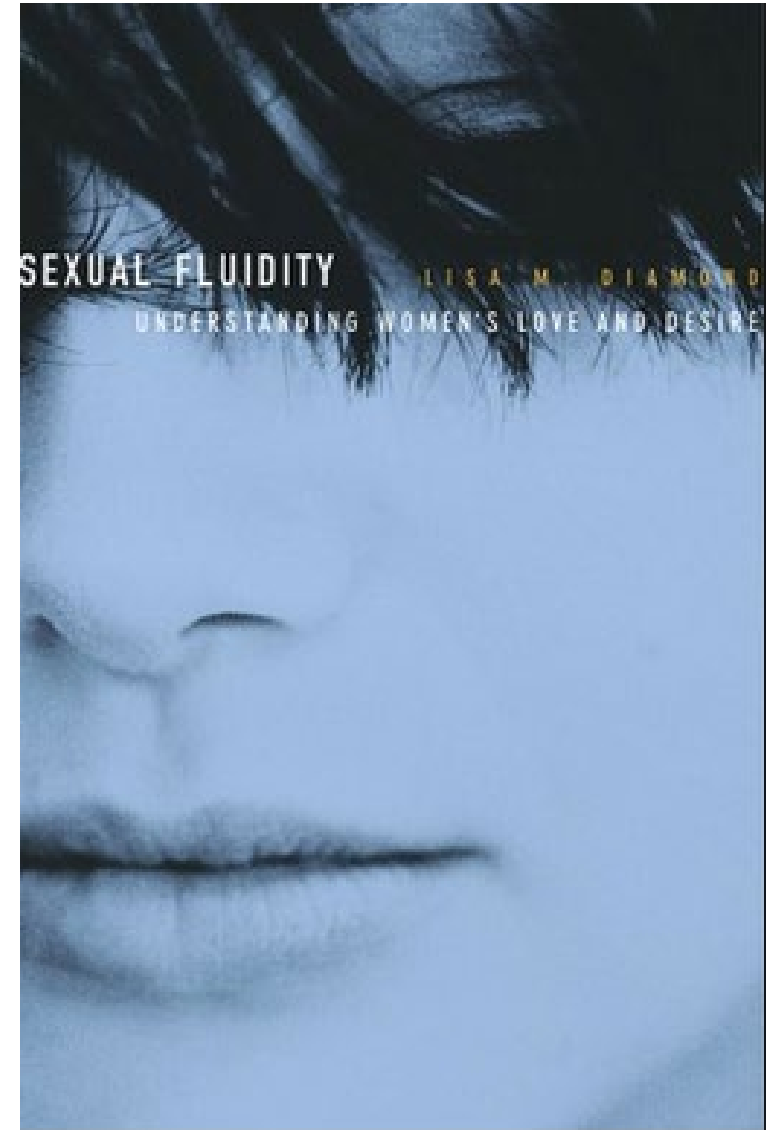
National Institute
on Minority Health
and Health Disparities

Structural Determinants of Sexual Minority Women's Perinatal and Obstetrical Outcomes


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University of Utah



- Sexual orientation is multidimensional and dynamic
 - The size of sexual minority population is growing in the US
- 20% of the general U.S. female population and 50% of the sexual minority population reports changes in sexual orientation identity over time
- National data suggests 80% of bisexual women and 25% of lesbian women have had sex with a male in the past 12 months



Do Sexual Minorities Receive Appropriate Sexual and Reproductive Health Care and Counseling?

Bethany G. Everett , Jenny A. Higgins, Sadia Haider, and Emma Carpenter

Published Online: 10 Jan 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.1089/jwh.2017.6866>

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PERSPECTIVES
on Sexual and Reproductive Health

ARTICLE

Sexual Orientation Disparities in Mistimed and Unwanted Pregnancy Among Adult Women

By [Bethany G. Everett](#) , [Katharine F. McCabe](#), [Tonda L. Hughes](#)

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Sexual Orientation Disparities in Pregnancy and Infant Outcomes


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PERSPECTIVES

Mechanism????

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Add Health

The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health

- **Sample**
 - Pregnancy roster Wave IV & Wave V
 - N = 10,526 eligible singleton, live births to 5,168 women
- **Outcome Variables:** Low birthweight (clinical cutoff), Preterm birth (clinical cutoff) ; Prenatal Care First Trimester; Maternal Health Conditions
- **Independent Variables:** Sexual identity prior to birth (gay/lesbian; bisexual; mostly heterosexual; exclusively heterosexual)
- **LGB Policies:** A supplement contextual file added in 2019 to the Add Health data set (Manning & Joyner 2019)
 - Allowed same-sex marriage
 - Allowed same-sex adoption;
 - Had an LGB nondiscrimination employment policy
 - Had an LGB-specific hate crime statute.



Add Health

The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health

- **Preconception & Perinatal Covariates:** unmet medical needs, self-rated health, sedentary behavior, BMI, tobacco use during pregnancy , prenatal care in first trimester, pregnancy intention, relationship status with pregnancy partner
- **Controls** Maternal age, nativity, education, childhood poverty, neighborhood-level characteristics, time between survey and birth
- Random effect models to adjust for clustering of multiple pregnancies to a single individual

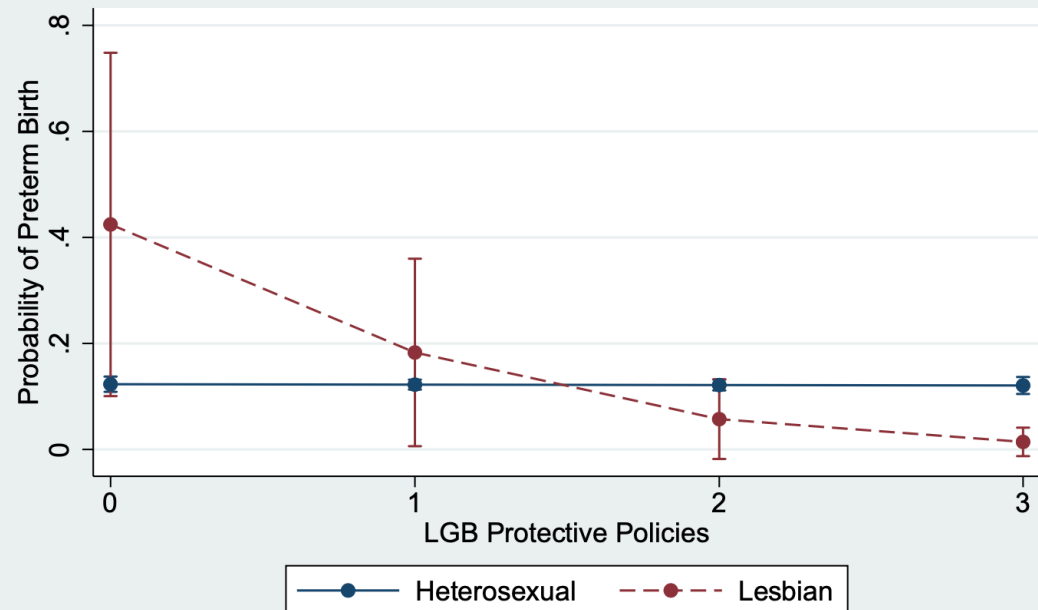
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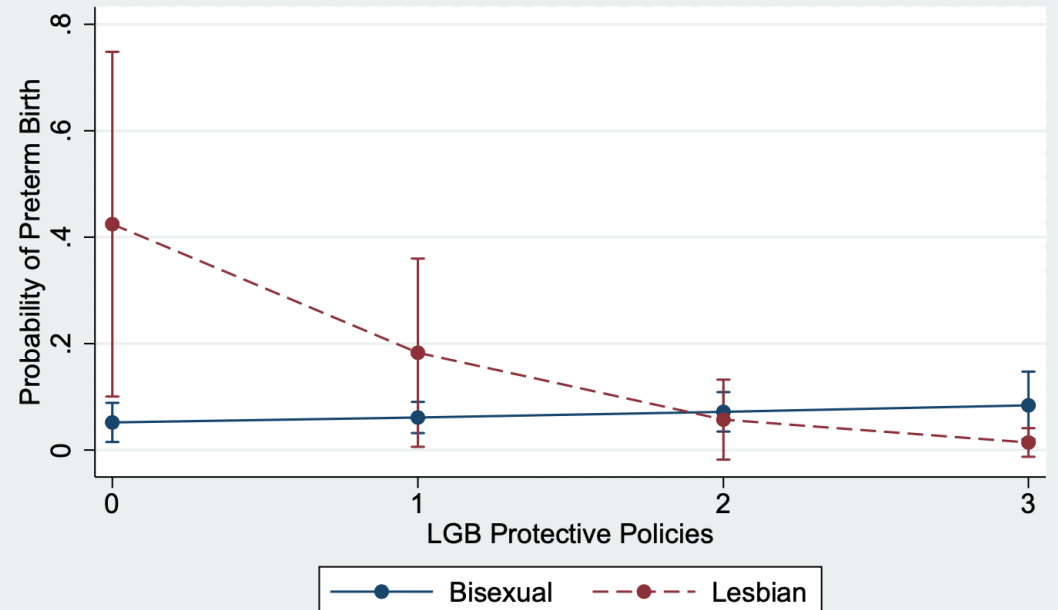
Psychosomatic Medicine 84(6):p 658-668, 7/8 2022. | DOI: 10.1097/PSY.0000000000001092

Figure 1: Model-Based Predicted Probability of Preterm Birth Heterosexual and Lesbian Women



Error Bars Represent 95% Confidence Interval

Figure 4: Model-Based Predicted Probability of Preterm Birth Bisexual and Lesbian Women



Error Bars Represent 95% Confidence Intervals

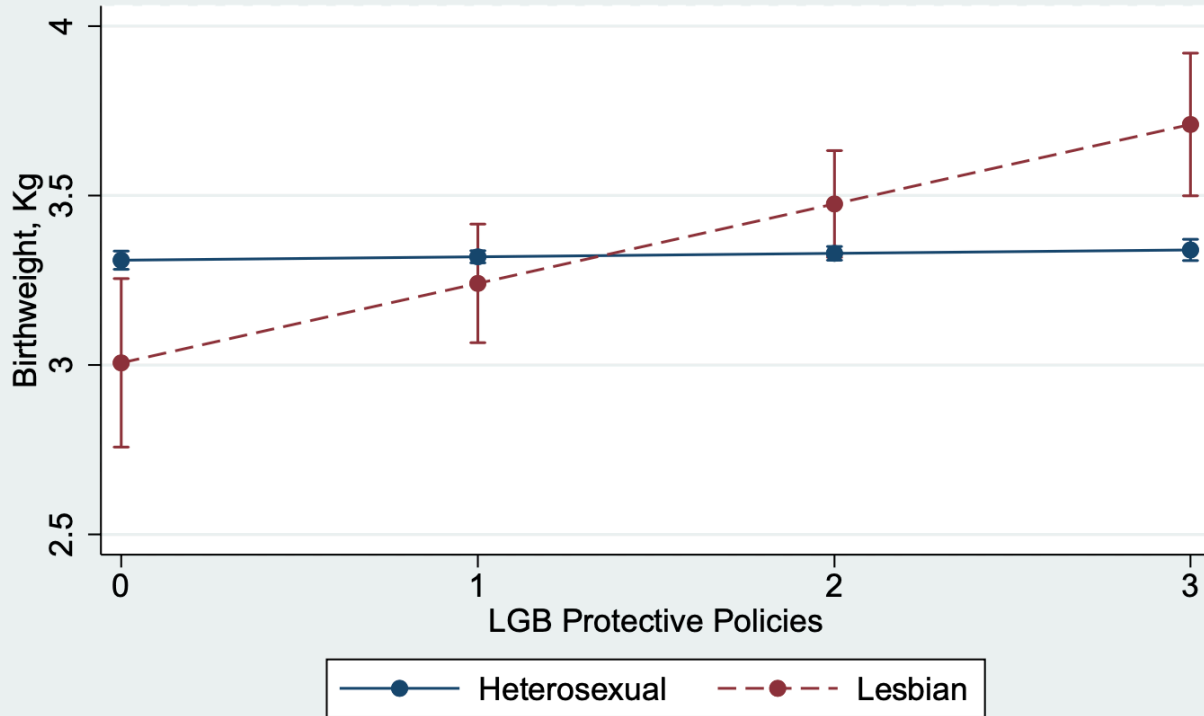
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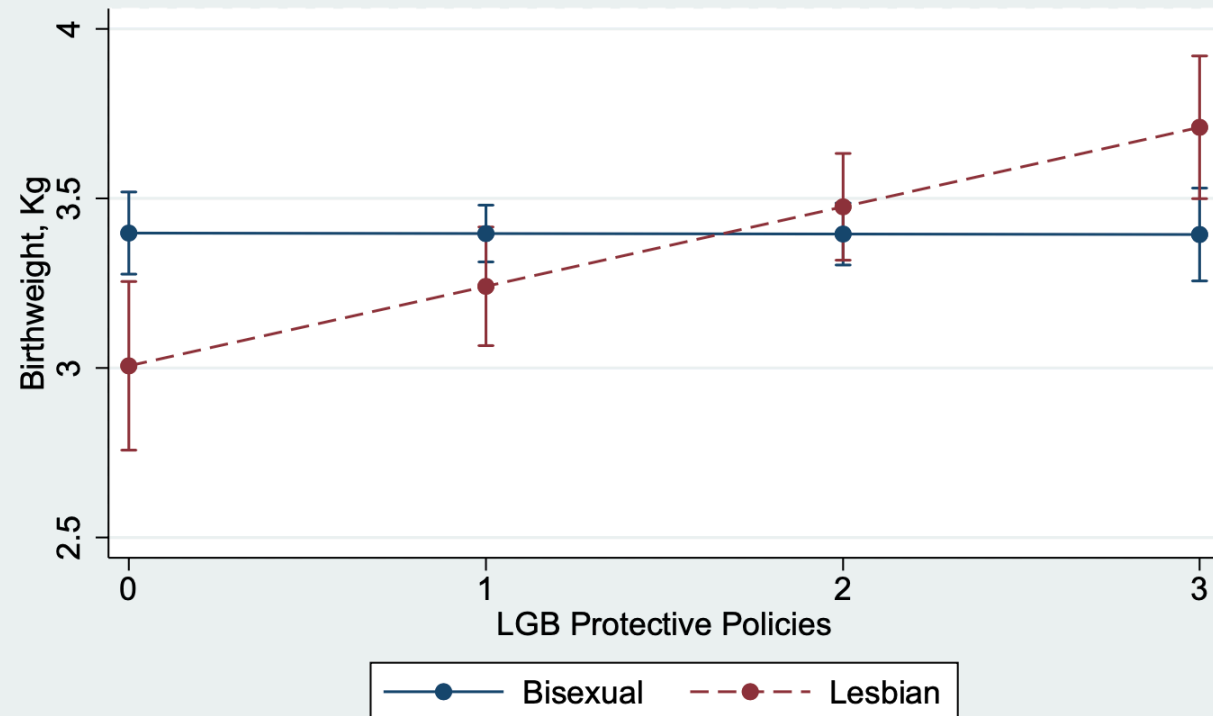
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Figure 3: Model-Based Predicted Birthweight Heterosexual and Lesbian Women



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Figure 2: Model-Based Predicted Birthweight Bisexual and Lesbian Women

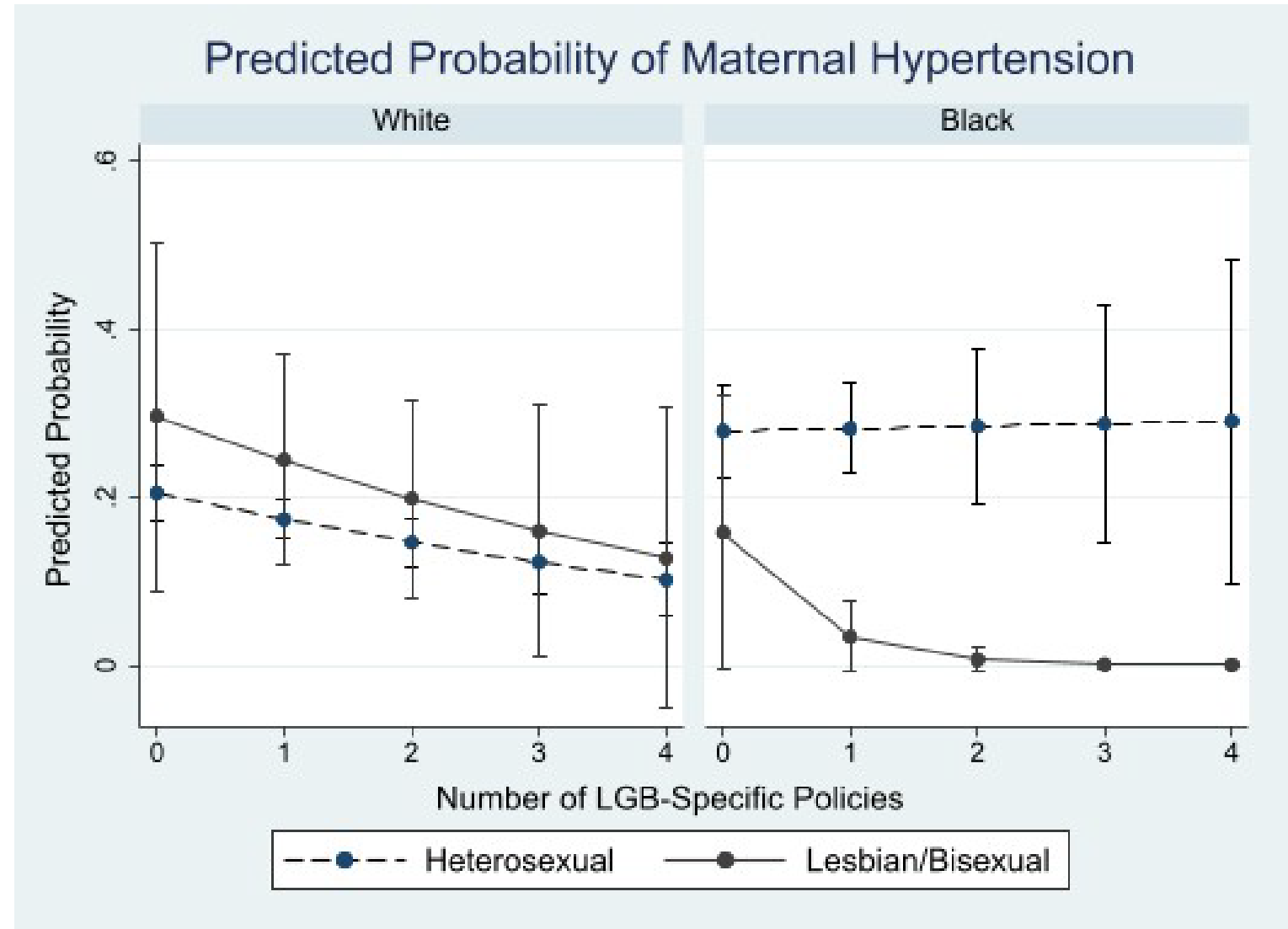


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Sexual Orientation-Related Nondiscrimination Laws and Maternal Hypertension Among Black and White U.S. Women

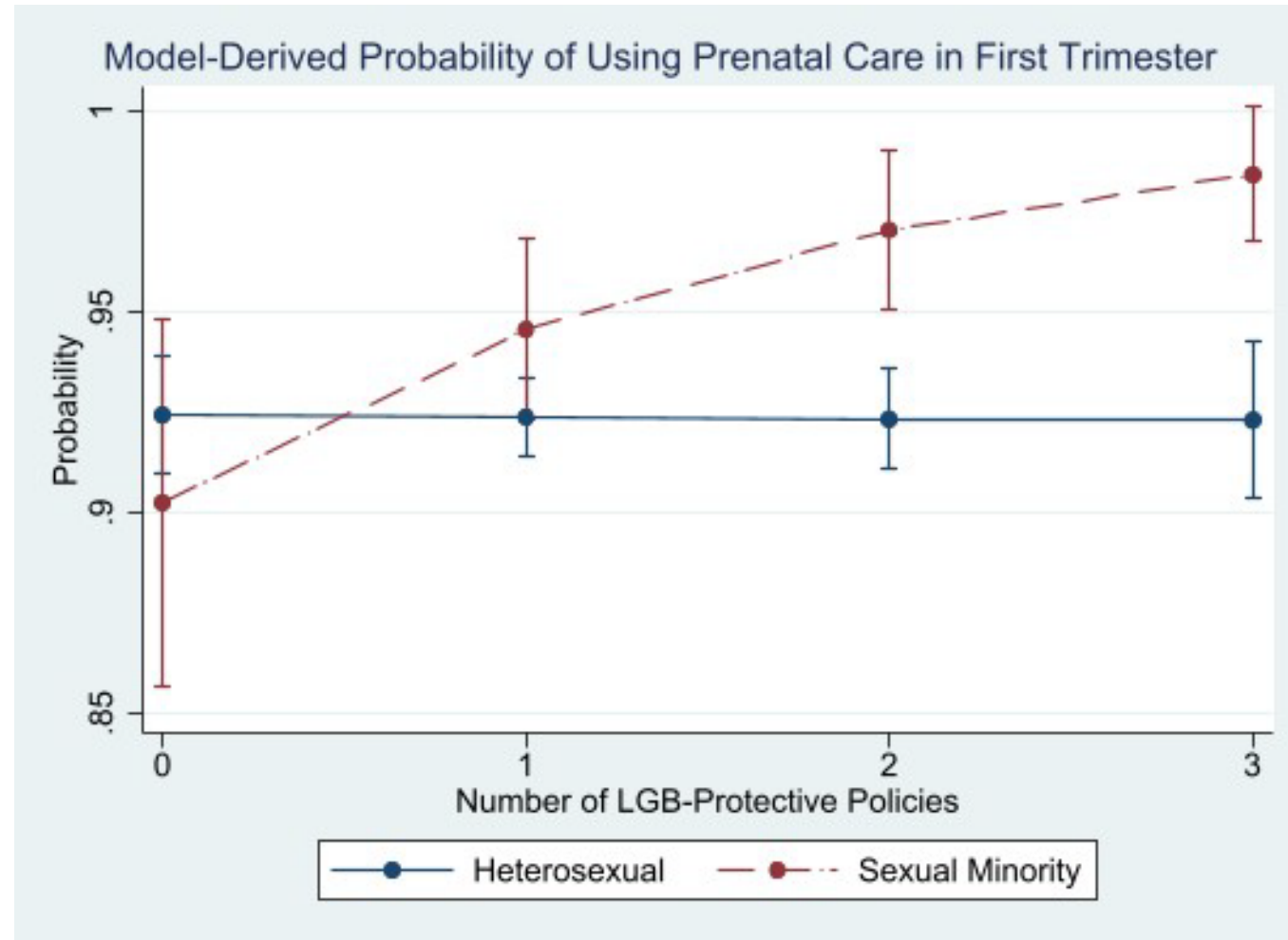
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Sexual Orientation Disparities in Prenatal Care

(Everett, Bergman, Charlton, & Barcelona, Under Review)



Discussion

- Findings contribute to evidence that macro forms of stigma and discrimination negatively impact reproductive health outcomes
 - Pregnancy is a unique state with intergenerational health impacts
- Results suggest that *modifiable* social policies can sharply reduce obstetrical risks for SMW resulting in potentially *better* outcomes than heterosexual women.
- Increasing number of political attacks on SGM populations and reproductive rights.

Limitations & Future Directions

- No policies related to gender identity included in Add Health contextual files at this time
- Gender identity only measured at Wave V (n=17 pregnancies to people with either “other” or missing gender identity)
- No reason for SGM measures to be left off any survey, including reproductive health surveys
 - PRAMS now includes SGM measures as optional
- Intersectional approaches

Thank you!

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