

Podcast Series

Collecting Data on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression in Child Welfare



LGBTQ+ children and youth are overrepresented in foster care and face a range of disparities. How can the child welfare system ensure safe and affirming care for them using data on sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression (SOGIE)?

This new series on SOGIE data collection will help this previously invisible population be seen, heard, and prioritized in child welfare. Listen now on [SoundCloud](#) or wherever you get your podcasts.

This podcast series is produced and distributed by [James Bell Associates](#) in collaboration with the [National SOGIE Center](#) on behalf of the [Children's Bureau](#), Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under contract number 47QRAA20D0008.



Episode 1: Understanding the Importance of SOGIE Data

Elliott Hinkle, B.A., P.S.S., national young adult consultant at the [Capacity Building Center for States](#), talks with Angela Weeks, D.B.A., director of the [National SOGIE Center](#), and Sonia Emerson, a consultant to the Center on racial equity, LGBTQ+ inclusion, and child welfare. They discuss what SOGIE data is and why it's important, particularly to young people involved in the child welfare system.

Recommended as an introduction to the topic.

Episode 2: Implementing Organizational Change

Angela Weeks talks with Jennifer Croessman, M.S.S.A., LISW, and Kori Sewell of the Department of Children and Family Services of Cuyahoga County, Ohio. They discuss the county's efforts to safely and effectively collect SOGIE data from young people and lessons they learned along the way.

Recommended for understanding safe SOGIE data collection and related training, coaching, and supervision at the county level.

Episode 3: Storytelling With SOGIE Data

Angela Weeks talks with Shauna Hines-Lucadamo, M.A., and Ellen Kitzerow of the Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, Department of Human Services. They describe their decade-long process to collect SOGIE data and how they used data dashboards to change the way their workforce thought about it.

Recommended for understanding SOGIE data use, data collection improvement, and practical decision making in a county or community system.

Episode 4: Moving Beyond Data Collection

Angela Weeks talks with Kamora Dawson, CNP, Lemon Pepper, and Jessie Fullenkamp, LMSW, of the [Ruth Ellis Center](#). They discuss their statewide effort to collect SOGIE data with the Michigan Children's Services Administration, how they grappled with confidentiality, and the top challenges staff identified.

Recommended for understanding SOGIE data collection in a state system and its positive impact.