Bisexuality and the Challenge to Lesbian Politics

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• Appendix A: Figures •
Figure 3.1: SEXUAL SELF-IDENTITY

- Gay or homosexual
- Multiple identities (most chose combinations of lesbian, dyke, gay and homosexual identities)
- Not sure of orientation
- Refused or preferred no label
- Hétérosexual with bisexual tendencies
- Bisexual
- Dyke
- Lesbian
Figure 3.2: EMPLOYMENT STATUS

- Employed full-time: 58.47%
- Employed part-time: 22.43%
- Unemployed: 8.36%
- Full-time student: 7.16%
- Retired: 0.72%
Figure 3.3: INCOME

- Less than $2,500: 2.86%
- $2,500-$4,999: 3.34%
- $5,000-$9,999: 3.82%
- $10,000-$19,999: 13.84%
- $20,000-$29,999: 6.68%
- $30,000-$39,999: 18.85%
- $40,000-$49,999: 7.88%
- $50,000-$59,999: 24.35%
- $60,000-$69,999: 13.13%
- $70,000 or more: 5.25%
Note: Percentages are percentages of the entire sample. Therefore, the total height of each individual column represents the proportion of the sample in that age range.

Significance: The differences in sexual self-identification between participants in different age ranges are significant, \(\chi^2 = 23, \text{df} = 12, p = .03\). Conversely, the average ages of participants with different sexual self-identities are significantly different, \(F(2,419) = 7.548, p = .0006\).
Significance: The differences in heterosexual history between participants with different sexual self-identities are significant, chi-square = 32, df = 6, p = .0001.
Figure 3.6: FEELINGS OF SEXUAL ATTRACTION TOWARD WOMEN AND MEN 
BY SEXUAL SELF-IDENTITY

- Lesbian, gay, dyke, or homosexual, mean = 90:10
- Bisexual, mean = 61:39
- Unable or unwilling to identify, mean = 57:43


Ratio of feelings of attraction toward women:men
Figure 4.1: LESBIANS' SPONTANEOUSLY MENTIONED BELIEFS ABOUT WHETHER BISEXUALITY EXISTS

Note: Lesbians who believe that everyone, or almost everyone, is potentially bisexual are not indicated in this chart because this belief is often combined with a belief in the actual nonexistence of bisexuality. The 16% of lesbians who believe in a universal bisexual potential are scattered throughout the categories indicated on the chart.
Figure 4.2: FREQUENCY OF LESBIANS' SPONTANEOUSLY MENTIONED IMAGES OF BISEXUALITY

Unflattering images 14.20%
Positive images 4.40%
Confused/indecisive (existentially invalidating belief) 11.80%
Transitional (existentially invalidating belief) 8.70%
Closed lesbians (existentially invalidating belief) 11.80%
Bisexuals are cop-outs, get best of both worlds (political belief) 6.80%
Bisexuality is inherently difficult (political belief) 4.40%
Bisexuals get worst of both worlds (political belief) 2.00%
Figure 4.3: LESBIANS' BELIEFS ABOUT BISEXUAL WOMEN'S LEVELS OF COMMITMENT AND TRUSTWORTHINESS
Figure 4.4: LESBIANS’ PERCEPTIONS OF THE RELATIVE DEGREE OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION EXPERIENCED BY BISEXUAL WOMEN AND LESBIANS
Figure 4.5: LESBIANS' PREFERENCES FOR ASSOCIATING SOCIALLY WITH BISEXUALS OR WITH OTHER LESBIANS
Figure 4.6: LESBIANS' PREFERENCES FOR ASSOCIATING POLITICALLY WITH BISEXUALS OR WITH OTHER LESBIANS

Preference for bisexual women

Neutral

Campaign coworker
Lobbyist
Substitute speaker

60.00%
50.00%
40.00%
30.00%
20.00%
10.00%
0.00%
Figure 5.1: DIFFERENCES IN BELIEFS ABOUT BISEXUALITY AMONG LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT LESBIAN ISSUES EXCLUSIVELY AND LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT GAY ISSUES GENERALLY OR WHO ARE NOT CONCERNED AT ALL

"It can be dangerous for lesbians to trust bisexuals too much, because when the going really gets rough, they are not as likely to stick around and fight it out."

Note: The four categories shown in this figure were recombined into two categories, respectively representing lesbians who mention lesbian issues and lesbians who do not, to yield the percentages given in the text.

Significance: Chi-square = 42.55, df = 18, p = .0009; F = 5.24, df = (3, 265), p = .002. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the agree-disagree scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

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Figure 5.1 (cont'd): DIFFERENCES IN BELIEFS ABOUT BISEXUALITY AMONG LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT LESBIAN ISSUES EXCLUSIVELY AND LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT GAY ISSUES GENERALLY OR WHO ARE NOT CONCERNED AT ALL

"Bisexuals are not as committed to other women as lesbians are; they are more likely to desert their female friends."

Note: These four categories shown in this figure were recombined into two categories, respectively representing lesbians who mention lesbian issues and lesbians who do not, to yield the percentages given in the text.

Significance: Chi-square = 38.03, df = 18, p = .004; F = 3.72, df = (3, 266), p = .01. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the agree-disagree scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 5.2: DIFFERENCES IN FEELINGS TOWARD BISEXUALS AMONG LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT LESBIAN ISSUES EXCLUSIVELY AND LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT GAY ISSUES GENERALLY OR WHO ARE NOT CONCERNED AT ALL

Note: Findings for the question about discussion group preferences are not presented because they are very similar to the findings for the question about general comfort, and findings for the question about the substitute speaker are not presented because they are very similar to the findings for the question about the lobbyist.

Significance: Chi-square = 7.39, df = 15, n.s.; F = 1.23, df = (3, 261), n.s. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

This figure is continued on the next page.
Are you more likely to make friends with a woman you have just met if she is a lesbian or if she is bisexual?

Significance: Chi-square = 32.38, df = 12, p = .001; F = 4.58, df = (3, 266), p = .004. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

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Figure 5.2 (cont'd): DIFFERENCES IN FEELINGS TOWARD BISEXUALS AMONG LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT LESBIAN ISSUES EXCLUSIVELY AND LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT GAY ISSUES GENERALLY OR WHO ARE NOT CONCERNED AT ALL

"Do you tend to feel more comfortable when you are in a group of lesbians or when you are in a group of bisexual women?"

Significance: Chi-square = 28.60, df = 15, p = .02; F = 3.80, df = (3, 264), p = .01. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

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Figure 5.2 (cont'd): DIFFERENCES IN FEELINGS TOWARD BISEXUALS AMONG LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT LESBIAN ISSUES EXCLUSIVELY AND LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT GAY ISSUES GENERALLY OR WHO ARE NOT CONCERNED AT ALL

"Would you rather trust a bisexual woman or a lesbian woman to represent you as a lobbyist in Washington, DC?"

Significance: Chi-square = 25.66, df = 15, p = .04; F = 5.08, df = (3, 262), p = .002. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

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Figure 5.2 (cont'd): DIFFERENCES IN FEELINGS TOWARD BISEXUALS AMONG LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT LESBIAN ISSUES EXCLUSIVELY AND LESBIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT GAY ISSUES GENERALLY OR WHO ARE NOT CONCERNED AT ALL

"Would you rather work closely on a gay rights campaign with a bisexual woman or with a lesbian?"

Significance: Chi-square = 10.38, df = 9, n.s.; F = 2.53, df = (3, 267), p = .06. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 5.3: EXCLUSIVITY OF LESBIANS' SEXUAL ATTRACTION TOWARD WOMEN AND BELIEFS ABOUT THE RELATIVE AUTHENTICITY OF BISEXUAL AND LESBIAN IDENTITIES

Significance: Chi-square = 34.77, df = 12, p = .0005; F = 9.07, df = (1, 317), p = .003. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the likelihood scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
"It can be dangerous for lesbians to trust bisexuals too much, because when the going really gets rough, they are not as likely to stick around and fight it out."

Significance: Chi-square = 35.78, df = 18, p = .008; F = 3.31, df = (3, 314), p = .02. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the agree-disagree scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 5.5: EXCLUSIVITY OF LESBIANS' SEXUAL ATTRACTION TOWARD WOMEN AND LESBIANS' FEELINGS TOWARD BISEXUALS

"(If you were not involved in a relationship now), would you prefer to date a bisexual woman or a lesbian?"

Note: Findings for the question about the gay rights campaign and the substitute speaker are not presented because they are similar to the findings for the question about the lobbyist. The substitute speaker findings are statistically insignificant.

Significance: Chi-square = 42.25, df = 15, p = .0002; F = 7.28, df = (3, 309), p = .0001. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

Note: This figure is continued on the next page.
"Are you more likely to make friends with a woman you have just met if she is a lesbian or if she is bisexual?"

Significance: Chi-square = 17.76, df = 12, p = n.s.; F = 4.35, df = (3, 314), p = .005. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

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Figure 5.5 (cont'd): EXCLUSIVITY OF LESBIANS' SEXUAL ATTRACTION TOWARD WOMEN AND LESBIANS' FEELINGS TOWARD BISEXUALS

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Significance: Chi-square = 39.47, df = 15, p = .0005; F = 6.10, df = (3, 309), p = .0005. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

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"If you were going to join a discussion group which was formed to talk about the problems people have in their relationships with friends and lovers, would you prefer..."
Figure 5.5 (cont'd): EXCLUSIVITY OF LESBIANS' SEXUAL ATTRACTION TOWARD WOMEN AND LESBIANS' FEELINGS TOWARD BISEXUALS

Significance: Chi-square = 40.33, df = 18, p = .002; F = 4.84, df = (3, 312), p = .003. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

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Figure 5.5 (cont'd): EXCLUSIVITY OF LESBIANS' SEXUAL ATTRACTION TOWARD WOMEN AND LESBIANS' FEELINGS TOWARD BISEXUALS

Significance: Chi-square = 34.64, df = 15, p = .003; F = 4.93, df = (3, 311), p = .002. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 5.6: LESBIANS' IDENTITY HISTORIES AND BELIEFS ABOUT THE DIFFERENCES IN TRUSTWORTHINESS OF BISEXUAL WOMEN COMPARED TO LESBIANS

"It can be dangerous for lesbians to trust bisexuals too much, because when the going really gets rough, they are not as likely to stick around and fight it out."

Significance: Chi-square = 19.10, df = 12, p = .09; F = 3.75, df = (2, 305), p = .025. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the agree-disagree scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Significance: Chi-square = 23.45, df = 24, n.s.; $F = 4.71$, df = (2, 306), $p = .01$. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the $F$-test because, strictly speaking, the likelihood scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 5.8: LESBIANS' IDENTITY HISTORIES AND FEELINGS ABOUT BISEXUAL WOMEN

Significance: Chi-square = 20.17, df = 10, p = .03; F = 4.70, df = (2, 288), p = .01. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

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Figure 5.8 (cont'd): LESBIANS' IDENTITY HISTORIES AND FEELINGS ABOUT BISEXUAL WOMEN

"Are you more likely to make friends with a woman you have just met if she is a lesbian or if she is bisexual?"

Significance: Chi-square = 14.22, df = 8, p = .08; F = 5.69, df = (2, 288), p = .004. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.

Note: This figure is continued on the next page.
"If you were going to make a speech to a local citizens' group about alternatives to traditional heterosexual relationships ... would you rather trust a bisexual woman or a lesbian to go in your place?"

Significance: Chi-square = 21.67, df = 12, p = .04; F = 6.59, df = (2, 288), p = .002. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the preference scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 7.1: COMPARISON BETWEEN BISEXUAL WOMEN'S AND LESBIANS' BELIEFS ABOUT THE RELATIVE AUTHENTICITY OF BISEXUAL AND LESBIAN IDENTITIES

Significance: Chi-square = 56.74, df = 12, p = .0001; F = 27.25, df = (1, 367), p = .0001. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the likelihood scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 7.2: COMPARISON BETWEEN BISEXUAL WOMEN'S AND LESBIANS' BELIEFS ABOUT THE RELATIVE LIKELIHOOD THAT BISEXUAL WOMEN'S AND LESBIANS' IDENTITIES ARE TRANSITIONAL

Significance: Chi-square = 40.62, df = 7, p = .0001; F = 40.27, df = (1, 360), p = .0001. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the likelihood scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 7.3: BISEXUAL WOMEN'S BELIEFS ABOUT BISEXUAL WOMEN'S LEVELS OF COMMITMENT AND TRUSTWORTHINESS COMPARED TO LESBIANS

Significance: Compared to lesbians (see fig. 4.3), bisexuals' responses to both measures are significantly different at p = .0001.
Figure 7.4: COMPARISON BETWEEN BISEXUAL WOMEN'S AND LESBIANS' BELIEFS ABOUT BISEXUAL WOMEN'S AND LESBIANS' RELATIVE ABILITIES TO PASS AS HETEROSEXUAL

Significance: Chi-square = 10.18, df = 7, n.s.; F = 6.70, df = (1, 364), p = .01. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the ease of passing scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 7.5: COMPARISON BETWEEN BISEXUAL WOMEN'S AND LESBIANS' BELIEFS ABOUT THE RELATIVE LIKELIHOOD THAT BISEXUAL WOMEN AND LESBIANS DESIRE TO PASS AS HETEROSEXUAL

Significance: Chi-square = 6.05, df = 7, n.s.; F = 4.11, df = (1, 364), p = .04. The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the likelihood scale is an ordinal, not an interval, scale.
Figure 7.6: BISEXUAL WOMEN'S PERCEPTIONS OF THE RELATIVE DEGREE OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION EXPERIENCED BY BISEXUAL WOMEN AND LESBIANS

Significance, perceptions of prejudice compared to lesbians' (see fig. 4.4): Chi-square = 26.81, df = 7, p = .0004; F = 17.25, df = (1, 366), p = .0001.

Significance, perceptions of discrimination compared to lesbians' (see fig. 4.4): Chi-square = 45.08, df = 7, p = .0001; F = 35.77, df = (1, 363), p = .0001.

The chi-square significance test is given in addition to the F-test because, strictly speaking, the prejudice and discrimination perception scales are ordinal, not interval, scales.
Figure 7.7: BISEXUAL WOMEN'S PREFERENCES FOR ASSOCIATING SOCIALLY WITH OTHER BISEXUALS OR WITH LESBIANS

Significance: All comparisons to lesbians (see fig. 4.5) are significant at p = .0001.
Significance: All comparisons to lesbians (see fig. 4.6) are significant at $p = .0001$. 
Figure 7.9: STRENGTH OF BISEXUAL WOMEN'S HETEROSEXUAL FEELINGS AND THEIR FEELINGS TOWARD OTHER BISEXUAL WOMEN

"(If you were not involved in a relationship now), would you prefer to date a bisexual woman or a lesbian?"

Significance: $F = 1.03$, df = (3, 39), n.s.

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Figure 7.9 (cont'd): STRENGTH OF BISEXUAL WOMEN’S HETEROSEXUAL FEELINGS AND THEIR FEELINGS TOWARD OTHER BISEXUAL WOMEN

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Figure 7.9 (cont'd): STRENGTH OF BISEXUAL WOMEN'S HETEROSEXUAL FEELINGS AND THEIR FEELINGS TOWARD OTHER BISEXUAL WOMEN

"Do you tend to feel more comfortable when you are in a group of lesbians or when you are in a group of bisexual women?"

Significance: $F = 1.2, \text{df} = (3, 39), \text{n.s.}$

"Would you rather trust a bisexual woman or a lesbian woman to represent you as a lobbyist in Washington, DC?"

Significance: $F = 3.23, \text{df} = (3, 40), p = .03.$
"(If you were not involved in a relationship now), would you prefer to date a bisexual woman or a lesbian?"

Significance: $F = 1.81$, $df = (3, 40)$, n.s.

"Are you more likely to make friends with a woman you have just met if she is a lesbian or if she is bisexual?"

Significance: $F = 2.59$, $df = (3, 41)$, $p = .07$.

Note: This figure is continued on the next page.
Figure 7.10 (cont'd): GENDER OF BISEXUAL WOMEN'S CURRENT PARTNERS AND THEIR FEELINGS TOWARD OTHER BISEXUAL WOMEN

"If you were going to join a discussion group which was formed to talk about the problems people have in their relationships with friends and lovers, would you prefer... "

Significance: $F = 3.27$, $df = (3, 41)$, $p = .03$.

"Do you tend to feel more comfortable when you are in a group of lesbians or when you are in a group of bisexual women?"

Significance: $F = 3.17$, $df = (3, 41)$, $p = .03$.

Note: This figure is continued on the next page.
Figure 7.10 (cont'd): GENDER OF BISEXUAL WOMEN'S CURRENT PARTNERS AND THEIR FEELINGS TOWARD OTHER BISEXUAL WOMEN

"Would you rather work closely on a gay rights campaign with a bisexual woman or with a lesbian?"

Significance: $F = 7.54$, $df = (3, 40)$, $p = .0004$.

"Would you rather trust a bisexual woman or a lesbian woman to represent you as a lobbyist in Washington, DC?"

Significance: $F = 9.85$, $df = (3, 41)$, $p = .0001$.

Legend:
- Bisexuals who are not romantically involved
- Bisexuals who are involved with a woman/women
- Bisexuals who are involved with a man/men
- Bisexuals who are involved with both women and men
Figure 7.11: GENDER OF BISEXUAL WOMEN'S CURRENT PARTNERS AND THEIR PERCEPTIONS OF THE RELATIVE DEGREE OF PREJUDICE EXPERIENCED BY BISEXUAL WOMEN AND LESBIANS

Significance: $F = 3.24, \text{df} = (3, 39), p = .03$. 

- ■ Bisexuals who are not romantically involved
- □ Bisexuals who are involved with a woman/women
- ● Bisexuals who are involved with a man/men
- ○ Bisexuals who are involved with both women and men