

Project Title: Development of a Psychometric Tool for the Assessment of Visibility Management

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Project summary: Many lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals manage the degree to which their sexual orientation is known to others. Visibility management, the process of regulating the exposure of one's orientation, is an important part of the lesbian/gay/bisexual experience in community, family, and virtually all other social settings. The degree to which one allows his/her sexual orientation to be visible can have a profound impact on stress, health, self-esteem, interpersonal relationships, and quality of life. The purpose of this project was to develop a valid and reliable measure of visibility management. The LGB Visibility Management Scale was constructed and completed by a small sample of LGB adults. Initial results suggest good potential for this measure.