

Utilizing a practical, culturally responsive tool to support service providers to better engage Black gay, bi, queer, same gender loving (SGL) men to achieve improved health outcomes



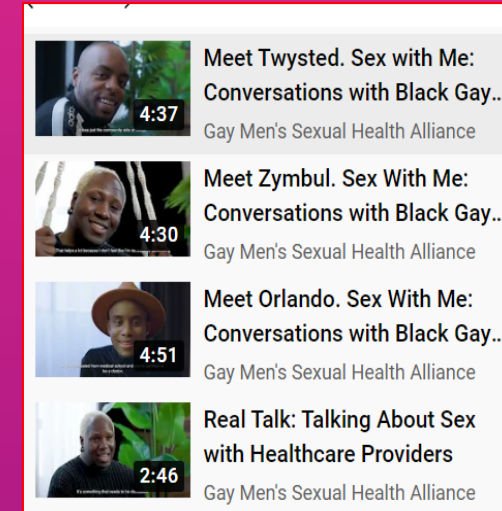
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1. *Gay Men's Sexual Health Alliance*, 2. *Roaring River Films*

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Background

- Overall, positive HIV tests are declining among white gay, bi MSM (gbMSM), while increasing among Black gbMSM in Ontario.¹
- GMSH partnered with Black-CAP and ACCHO and hosted two facilitated community dialogues with 40 Black gbMSM from academia, research, arts, culture, and the HIV sector, from which emerged recommendations:
 - One was to develop a storytelling narrative to honor and acknowledge Black gbMSM community wisdom and lived experiences.
 - The storytelling was developed to support service providers better understand and respond to Black gbMSM's HIV prevention needs in a culturally safe and responsive way.



Methods

From the recommendations, GMSH produced:

- Profile and Public Service Announcement (PSA) videos featuring three Black gbMSM (30 – 37years) recruited from the community who spoke on their shared experiences navigating healthcare systems
- Key messages were identified to help bridge knowledge gaps in service provision, and improve health outcomes

Results

Videos (storytelling) is a powerful tool to engage with Black gbMSM's lived experiences:

- It creates a medium that amplifies authentic community voices to reach a broader audience.

The narratives produced salient points on:

- effective engagement strategies
- the intersectionalities of Black gbMSM's identities, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, and social location for improved service provision.

Conclusion

The videos were developed by and for Black gbMSM to provide context to the narratives of their lived experiences in navigating healthcare. The PSAs revealed cultural behaviors and attitudes towards HIV/STBBIs testing, PrEP, sex, sexuality, navigating assimilation, and settlement as a newcomer.

These messages provide:

- Context and critical factors in Black gbMSM lives.
- Providing background and awareness of how they want to be approached and engaged for inclusion.
- Affirming.
- Validating health care as Black gbMSM.

**All the videos are accessible on YouTube

[Sex with me: Conversations with Black gay men about their sexual health](#)

SEX WITH ME:
CONVERSATIONS WITH BLACK GAY MEN
ABOUT SEXUAL HEALTH



Meet Twysted



Meet Zymbul



Meet Orlando

Reference & Acknowledgements

1.HIV epidemiology update for gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM) in Ontario. (2019). Retrieved from <https://www.ohesi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/GBMSM-Factsheet-ENGLISH-2021OCT12.pdf>

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