



# Zone by Zone

## A New Model for 2SGBTQ+ Guys who Party n' Play

Authors: Yasser Ismail<sup>1</sup>, Dane Griffiths<sup>2</sup>, Jordan Bond-Gorr<sup>2</sup>

1. Casey House, 2. Gay Men's Sexual Health Alliance, Toronto, ON



# BACKGROUND

- PnP is often viewed as a high-risk behaviour, strongly associated with increased risk of acquiring or transmitting HIV and other STBBI (Edmundson et al., 2018; Maxwell et al., 2019; OHTN, 2019)”.  
*“This is the “status quo” view of PnP shared by the general public, as well as by those who shape interventions and responses to PnP (e.g. clinicians, public health). It has been shaped by:*
  1. *The criminalizing and stigmatizing effects of how Canadian Drug Policy has evolved over the last century*
  2. *The historic criminalization of 2SGBTQ+ communities and the ongoing stigmatization of 2SGBTQ+ sexuality.*
  3. *The role of public health & the impacts HIV/STBBI surveillance in perpetuating disempowering narratives about PnP.*
- As a result, men who practice PnP face stigma from both the community and from service providers

***This presents a significant barrier at many points along the cascade of care.***

- There has been little consideration that PnP has a positive function as a strategy for social connection, sexual pleasure, and liberation for 2SGBTQ + men.
- The end result is a disconnect between service providers, clinicians etc., and 2SGBTQ+ men who PnP.

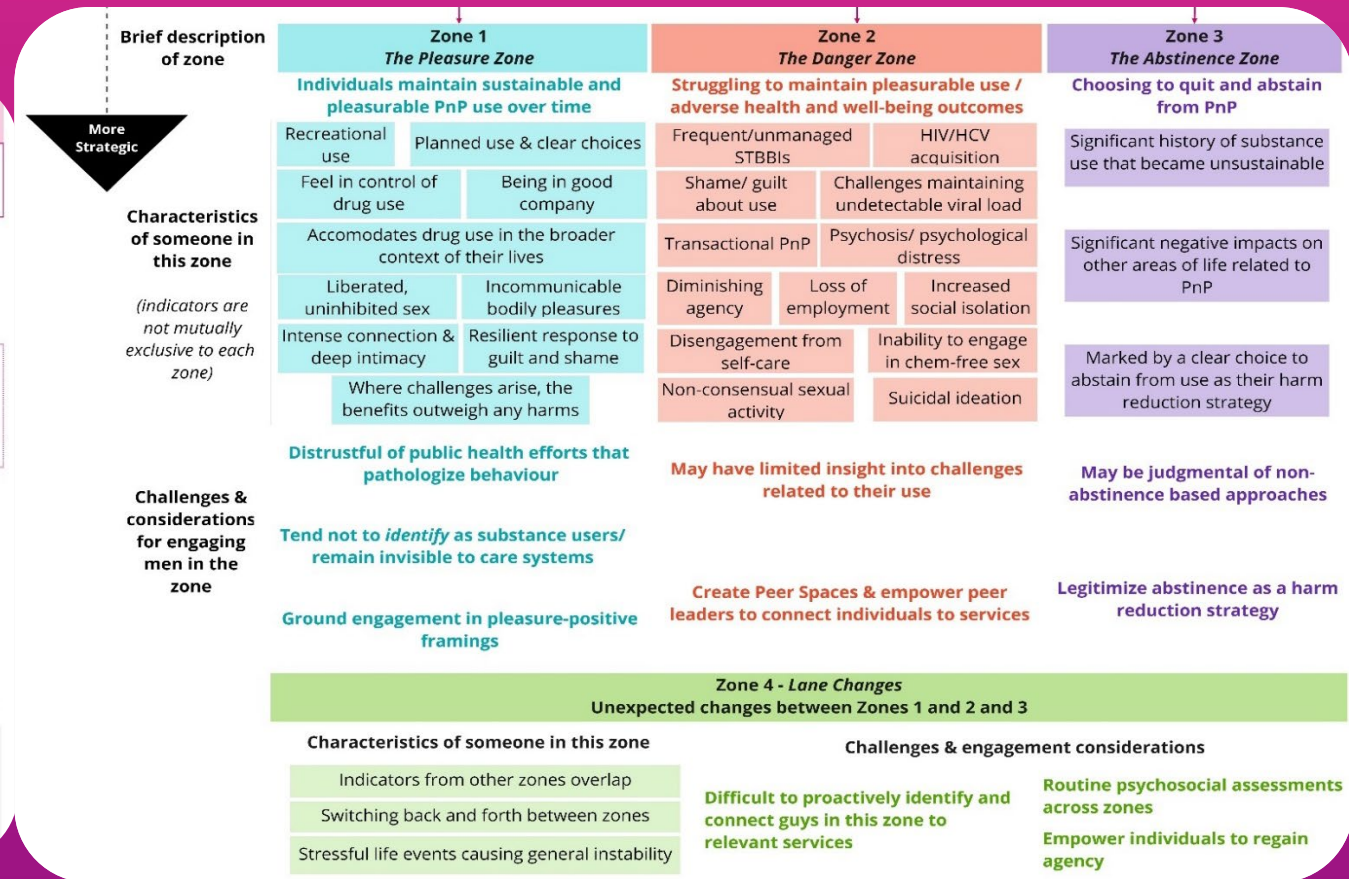
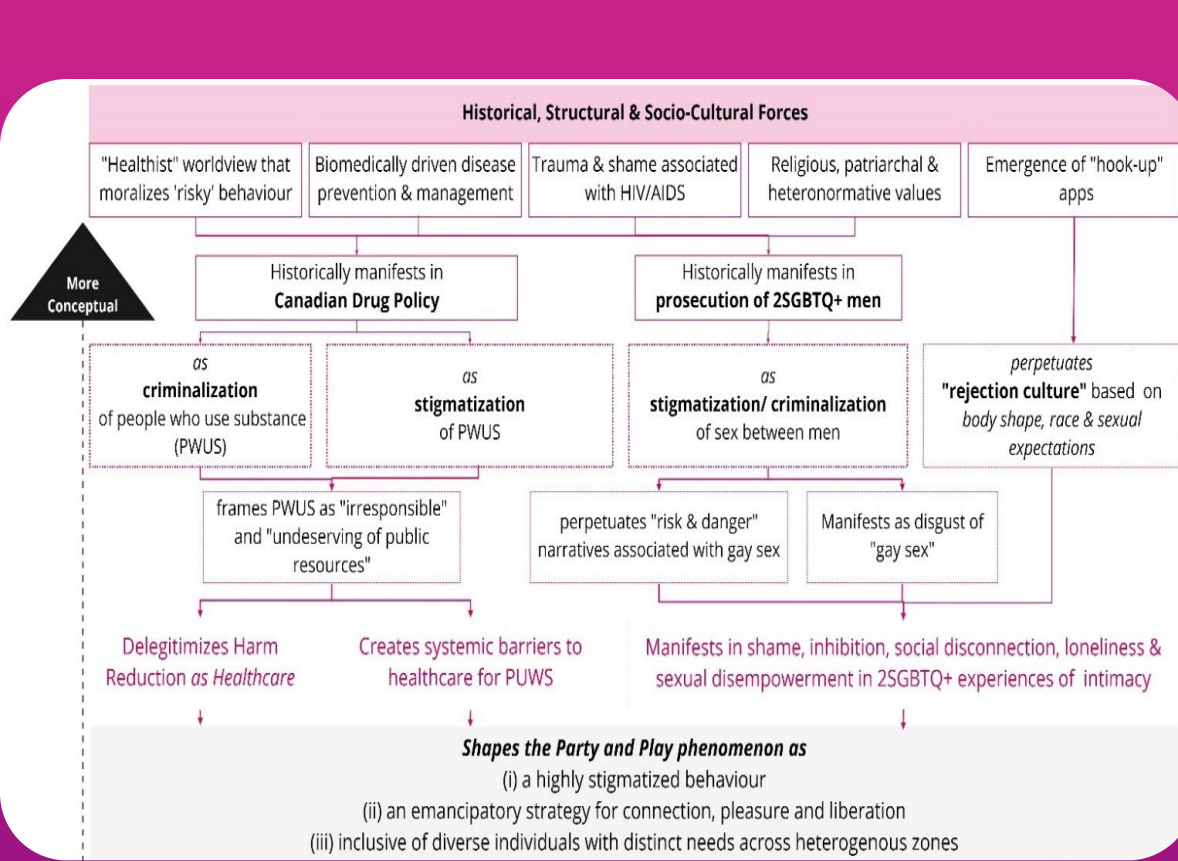


# METHODS

The *PnP Zones Map* was the product of community consultations, internal reflection & a wide-ranging literature review conducted by Campaign Evaluation Consultant Yasser Ismail & the GMSH's provincial office for the GMSH's Party N' Play Campaign.

# RESULTS

The *PnP Zones Map* is a conceptual and strategic framework for identifying & contextualizing the wide range of individual PnP experiences that functions as a practical self-identification tool, and as a theoretical framework underpinning the GMSH's Party n' Play campaign.





## RESULTS (Contd)

The PnP Zones Map links the socio-structural factors that shape PnP to 4 distinct zones within which individual PnP narratives can be mapped onto.

For each of the 4 Zones (*Pleasure/Danger/Abstinence/Lane Change*) the map provides:

- A brief description of the Zone
- Indicators to suggest someone may be in that Zone
- Considerations for engaging individuals in that Zone
- Challenges in engaging individual's in that Zone



## CONCLUSIONS

The PnP Zones Map articulates an inclusive understanding of PnP that is informed by pleasure, and by 2SGBTQ's men's resilience & insight and provides a framework that is adaptable and flexible to individuals needs.

**Interventions for PnP need to be sensitive to the historical and socio-structural factors shaping PnP *and* the heterogeneity of the zones within which PnP occurs.**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## Works Cited

Platteau, T., Pebody, R., Dunbar, N., Lebacqz, T., & Collins, B. (2019).

The problematic chemsex journey: A resource for prevention and harm reduction. *Drugs and Alcohol Today*, 19(1), 49-54. doi:10.1108/dat-11-2018-0066

Maxwell, S., Shahmanesh, M., & Gafos, M. (2019). Chemsex behaviours among men who have sex with men: a systematic review of the literature. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 63, 74-89.

Edmundson, C., Heinsbroek, E., Glass, R., Hope, V., Mohammed, H., White, M., & Desai, M.

(2018). Sexualised drug use in the United Kingdom (UK): A review of the literature. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 55, 131-148.

Questions about this poster? Contact:  
Jordan Bond-Gorr, GMSH Provincial Office  
[jbondgorr@gmsh.ca](mailto:jbondgorr@gmsh.ca)

We wish to thank community members who participated in interviews, focus groups, consultations and other activities whose voices and insights led to the development of the PnP Zones Map.

**We wish to thank the following for their time and contributions.**

Yasser Ismail

Casey House

The GMSH Provincial Office