Exploring the catalysts that cause youth homelessness in the LGBTQ+ community

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Chloe is very passionate about homelessness and how this affects wider society. This has evolved from work experience in homeless shelters and working in a housing centre while studying Health and Social Wellbeing. Chloe's degree has led her to become a Support Worker with Emmaus which is her dream job. The BSc (Hons) Health and Social Wellbeing degree at EHU helped Chloe foster an interest in social and housing policy leading to a realisation that policy and legislation is one of, if not the key influence in social issues. This thesis collated a varied literature about LGBTQ youth homelessness and the causes of this issue. LGBTQ youth homelessness was chosen as this topic to show how a change of attitudes and understanding of LGBTQ people could prevent future groups of young people becoming homeless. The aim was to draw awareness to this issue and hopefully inspire those who read this to research more.

<u>Abstract</u>

Introduction - Homelessness is a wider political and social issue which should be non-existent. Within young people the risks of homelessness are higher than other age groups, especially within LGBTQ+ communities. This thesis explores the catalysts that cause LGBTQ+ youth homelessness. The main aims focused on are understanding the needs of LGBTQ+ young people, determining the causes of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness to hopefully through further research could prevent homeless for this group in future. Establishing gaps within the literature surrounding this issue is also a main aim covered by this thesis which will help direct further research.

Methods – Qualitative secondary data over the past five years was used in this thesis to understand existing research. For PubMed database, the key terms were set to "LGBT*" AND "Youth homeless*". Other databases used were Emerald Insight and Scopus, the key terms were set to "Youth homeless*" AND "lesbian*" OR "bisex*" OR "gay" OR "transgender". All three databases generated 685 studies there were no duplicates. After the articles were assessed using the inclusion and exclusion criteria this was narrowed to six studies which were analysed using a spreadsheet. Key themes and subthemes emerged from this spreadsheet identifying the various causes of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness. Conclusions were drawn based on the strength of the findings in these studies which were synthesised to fully understand how these themes relate to this thesis' question.

Results – Six of the articles analysed states rejection as one of the main catalysts of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness. Within these six articles, subthemes emerged these are: social rejection, family rejection and intersectionality. Other themes identified are legislative blindness, this emerged in three of the articles and mental health was identified as a cause within three articles as well. All of these

themes were identified as main catalysts of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness and were seen as resulting in higher risks of becoming homeless within this age range and grouping.

Conclusion – The core catalysts of LGBTQ+ young people becoming homeless are social rejection, family rejection, intersectionality, legislative blindness, and mental health. Through exploring these results, it can be established that often in cases of youth homelessness within the LGBTQ+ community, these causes intersect leading to a higher risk of homelessness. This reveals that research should be furthered to establish how these catalysts could be preventable. This thesis has identified gaps in the research such as a lack of statistics and more research needed into how youth homelessness specifically could be preventable if there were more support structures and provision. Also, this thesis contributes to the health and social care sector by revealing the experiences of LGBTQ+ youth and how young people can be identified through the various risk factors of homelessness especially within the LGBTQ+ community.

<u>Introduction and Overview of the Thesis</u>

This thesis will concentrate on the causes of youth homelessness within the LGBTQ+ community. The significant gap within LGBTQ+ youth homelessness research has resulted in the aim of this thesis being to examine the catalysts that cause LGBTQ+ youth homelessness, focusing on the population of 18 to 24. The reason for focusing on this specific area of homelessness is to understand the needs of this population and to identify gaps and areas for future research.

Chapter 1: Context

This chapter will explore various definitions of homelessness and how expansive this issue is within the United Kingdom and the United States. Statistics of the homeless population including youth homelessness will be examined, explaining how LGBTQ+ people could be seen as a minority group. Furthermore, existing knowledge and the context of this issue will be discussed.

Chapter 2: Methodology

The second chapter will discuss the methods used to complete this thesis including what a systematic literature review is, why this was the chosen method for the thesis and other alternative methods which were not used. Following this, the databases used to systematically search literature are explained in context with the search terms used to discover the various reliable articles. The inclusion and exclusion criteria of this thesis is shown within this chapter including justification for these different criteria; to ensure all literature found is relevant to the question being answered. Several tables and diagrams within this section help to understand the method of screening the articles, for example the use of the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses – PRISMA statement.

Chapter 3: Results

This chapter will examine the various themes from within the literature that were found using the search strategy discussed within Chapter 2. A summary of the various themes and subthemes is

collated to better understand how this literature links to the question being explored. Several tables are used to help understand which articles had common themes and how these themes link together.

Chapter 4: Discussion

Chapter four explores how the results relate to existing research and critically analyses these in relation to how these impact the health and social care sector. This chapter includes identifying the gaps within the research topic and how these can be used to recommend further research ideas.

Chapter 5: Limitations

This chapter focuses on how this thesis could be improved and any challenges which came from the research question. It critically analyses how in future research this could be improved.

Chapter 6: Conclusion

This chapter concludes the whole thesis and sets out what was found and how these findings could shape further research.

Chapter 1: Context

Introduction:

Homelessness is a significant public health concern due to the strain on health care infrastructure and overall population health. As homelessness increases, population health is impacted directly due to homeless individuals experiencing avoidable heath issues. These avoidable health issues increase the cost of health care, indirectly impacting population health of all. The Homeless Link (2014) 'Health Needs Audit' revealed that within the United Kingdom 73% of those experiencing homelessness had dealt with a physical health issue and 80% of homeless people had experienced a mental health issue. Increasingly, homeless individuals are not receiving the primary care they need and instead accessing acute, short term NHS services. On average per homeless individual, the rates of accessing Accident and Emergency Services and hospital admissions and are four times higher than those not homeless; costing the NHS an estimated £85 million per year (Homeless Link, 2014).

History of research and youth homelessness

Since the 2000s, research into global homelessness has decreased considerably; the last global homelessness survey was conducted by the United Nations in 2005 (United Nations Human Rights, 2021) which exposed that 1.6 billion people had inadequate housing and 100 million people were defined as homeless (Homeless World Cup Foundation, 2022). Within this growing global multifaceted issue one of the main age groups impacted by homelessness are those aged 16 to 24 which fall into the category of youth homelessness. Centre Point (2020), a youth homelessness charity, have created a data bank to collate the results of youth homelessness research due to needing to understand the data to solve the systemic issue. Youth homelessness is defined by Centre Point (2020) as 'not having a safe place to call home' which includes all areas of homelessness that youth may face. Between 2019 and 2020, Centre Point (2020) established that 121,000 young people in the United Kingdom were at risk of homelessness and accessed support from their local authority. However, only 72% of young people got the support they were entitled to when presenting themselves

to the council as being at risk of homelessness. These statistics reveal that young people are at an increased risk of becoming homeless while also gaining limited support.

Definitions of homelessness vary depending on country and subgroups of homelessness, nevertheless the main legal definition of homelessness is having no accommodation, place to stay or adequate housing (Shelter, 2021). Shelter's (2021) definition of legal homelessness is viable with Centre Point's perspective, yet this does not include 'hidden homelessness' which is in the form of staying with friends, family or strangers rather than sleeping outwardly on the streets.

Challenges of LGBTQ+ homeless youth

The utmost current data bank report uncovered that 121,000 young people aged 16 to 24 from 2019 to 2020 were homeless or at risk of being homeless in the United Kingdom (Centre Point, 2020). Furthermore, one specific subgroup of young people who make up 24% of young homeless individuals in the United Kingdom and 40% of youth homelessness in the United States are those who identify as LGBTQ+ (Albert Kennedy Trust, 2021). LGBTQ+ individuals are those who identify with being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or any other non-heterosexual identity (Stonewall, 2022). The concept of heteronormative society results in LGBTQ+ people living as a minority group due to society encouraging heterosexuality as the desired sexuality (Pollitt et al. 2019). Adolescents who identify as LGBTQ+ face many adversities while developing into a young adult.

Stonewall (2017) an LGBTQ+ charity which fronted the original campaign for gay rights, found that almost half of LGBTQ+ young people are bullied for being homosexual or transgender. Bullying at a young age can lead to suicidal ideation, mental health disorders or issues resulting in LGBTQ+ youth experiencing a higher rate of mental health issues (McCann and Brown, 2019). The Stonewall School Report (2017) discovered that three in five young LGBTQ+ people have harmed themselves deliberately including 84% of these people being transgender. Specifically, LGBTQ+ youth who

experience homelessness are discounted among research due to being a hidden population of homelessness (Robinson, 2018). As discussed above, youth homelessness is mainly 'hidden homelessness', which is not included in government statistics, meaning there is not an official figure within government research which shows how far-reaching this issue is (Homeless Link, 2021).

Contemporary, primary research within the subgroup of LGBTQ+ homeless youth In the United Kingdom has not been conducted within the last ten years resulting in many articles being out of date. Additionally, initial research into this thesis found that within the United Kingdom there was research into youth homelessness but LGBTQ+ specific research was very minimal. Porchlight (2011) a youth homelessness foundation, found that 30% of homeless youth in the UK identified as LGBTQ+. Although this research was conducted over a decade ago, this is relevant because it shows how the issue of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness has increased. Also, this was the first research where youth homelessness was realised as being a sexuality issue as well, this set the foundations for further research in the last 5 years. Politically, 2011 was a time when language around LGBTQ+ people was evolving and gay marriage was not legal yet, therefore policy and research was more focused on youth homelessness rather than the LGBTQ+ factor within this

This has resulted in a lack of primary research into this issue which denotes that further research is needed.

The United States of America within the past five years have directed specific primary research into LGBTQ+ youth homelessness yet there is a lack of literature review articles (Page, 2017). Existing research found the main themes of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness was stigma, mental health issues, substance abuse and social exclusion (McCann and Brown, 2019). Over 40% of LGBTQ+ youth failed to complete high school due to being LGBTQ+ and experiencing harassment and bullying from their peers (McCann and Brown, 2019).

Overall, youth homelessness can be caused by an assortment of issues and reasons such as exclusion from education, substance abuse, mental and physical health issues, leaving care and crime (Centre Point, 2022). Yet being LGBTQ+ can lead to similar issues but with a different experience which cause homelessness such as family rejection (Albert Kennedy Trust, 2021).

<u>Chapter 2: Methodology</u>

<u>Introduction:</u>

Choosing the research method for this dissertation and any alternative methods which could have been used, will be discussed within this chapter. For this thesis a literature review was chosen, this will be explained and discussed throughout this chapter. Furthermore, the search strategy of how relevant articles will be examined, and the search terms used within the databases chosen will be established.

<u>What is a literature review?</u>

Hart (2018) describes reviewing literature as an academically elevating experience with the main purpose of making changes to a plan, circumstance, or course of action within a subject. Moreover, a systematic literature review is defined concisely by Fink (2019) as a reproducible, systematic method for synthesising, identifying, and evaluating existing literature produced by researchers and practitioners. Being systematic within a literature review results in a scientific 'system' which helps explore the limitations of the research and creates a non-bias theme throughout literature searching and writing (Booth et al. 2021). Basic literature reviews are used to research a specific topic, produce a hypothesis, and understand profound research but can be bias to a specific argument (Hart, 2018).

<u>Why conduct a literature review?</u>

Advanced literature reviews also focus on producing a hypothesis and researching further yet, in contrast, advanced literature reviews can be implemented to find gaps within a topic which have been neglected from research and should be further explored (Aveyard, 2018). Foremost, advanced literature reviews are increasingly valuable for practitioners and professional research. Both basic and advanced approaches of a literature review have differing purposes, nevertheless any type of literature review research is essential since literature reviews are able to narrow the focus of research within a

high variety of articles found; ensuring only relevant material is included (Bettany – Saltikov and McSherry, 2016).

Alternative methods

An alternative method of conducting research is primary research which involves collecting original direct data from one's own research which has not been previously found (O'Leary, 2021). The benefits of primary research include discovering new data and questioning subjects of interest. Conversely, literature reviews use systematic processes and enable critical analysis through the use of reviewing previous knowledge (Creswell and Creswell, 2018). Systematic literature reviews, therefore, are able to reveal new areas of a topic through researching areas of a topic which have not been studied previously. Primary research was not appropriate for this dissertation as LGBTQ+ homeless youth can be an inaccessible population because many of these people experience 'hidden homelessness'. Therefore, this dissertation will use an advanced systematic literature review to critically analyse existing research and contemplate specific research gaps which could be used for further studies in the future.

Search Strategy

When beginning the initial search for research within youth homelessness the main under-researched subgroup was LGBTQ+ young people. Edge Hill's Discover More Database was used for this initial search, although this is deemed as a search engine rather than a Database. Discover More is used to access journals and books within the library database, meaning this was restrictive in finding relevant research. Search terms were identified through reading various articles which emerged from Discover More; these were collated to find specific ways to find the most relevant existing research.

<u>Databases</u>

Following this, PubMed, Scopus, and Emerald Insight were used to discover a variety of research which has been utilised within the main body of this review. The PubMed database is helpful when researching health related issues and detecting the causes which can improve health. In addition, Scopus is known for being used for finding scientific research which led to many of the statistics found to be from the Scopus database. Furthermore, Emerald Insight was recommended by the Social Sciences department due to being a database which helps find articles about health and social care, psychology, and social sciences. This search began with using the key terms "relationship between lgbt*" AND "youth homeless*" within the PubMed database. The Boolean operator of AND was used to find articles which included both of these search terms. Using the * icon was implemented to discover articles which used extended versions of these terms for example "youth homeless*" could be extended within the search to "youth homelessness"- this generated 6 studies. Search terms for the Emerald Insight database were "youth homeless" AND "lesbian*" OR "bisex*" OR "gay" OR "transgender*". Once again, the * icon was used to find extra terms within the database and the Boolean operator of OR to reveal studies which included youth homelessness and specific part of the LGBT abbreviation such as bisexual women – 662 studies were found. Finally, 17 articles were found using the Scopus database using the same key terms as was used within the Emerald Insight search. Existing research surrounding the LGBTQ+ community groups all the different sexualities into this abbreviation to ensure all sexualities and genders are represented (Haymer et al. 2020).

Table 1: Search strategies and Boolean operators

As presented below, table 1 illustrates the searches that were made using each database including the Boolean operators implemented to find relevant studies.

Databas e	Key Terms	Boolea n Operat or	Key terms	Boole an Opera tor	Key terms	Boole an Opera tor	Key ter ms	Boole an Opera tor	Key terms
PubMe d	Lgbt*	AND	Youth homeless *						
Emeral d Insight	Youth homeless *	AND	Lesbian*	OR	Bisex*	OR	Gay	OR	transgende r
Scopus	Youth homeless *	AND	Lesbian*	OR	Bisex*	OR	Gay	OR	transgende r

Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

Out of these searches 685 articles were identified then streamlined using the exclusion criteria as explained below (Table 2). 3 articles were excluded from the PubMed search; 660 articles were excluded from Emerald Insight and 16 articles were excluded from the Scopus search ensuing 6 articles met the inclusion criteria. Furthermore, inclusion criteria (Table 3) consisted of the articles being only academic journals; this includes articles less than five years old as this is contemporary research. The articles included all used a population aged 18 to 25 due to this age range being the legal definition of youth, and all articles were included if they were either a British or American study. This criteria ensured all articles were relevant to answer the question of this dissertation and were contemporary sources focusing on two main geographical locations. The United Kingdom and the United States were focused on for this study due to both countries being highly developed, where homosexuality is accepted, and gay marriage is legal (Matthews, 2019). Refining 685 articles down

to 6 was possible due to the exclusion criteria of this study which excluded any studies on age groups either below 18 or over 25, studies over five years old and any geographical location except the United Kingdom or the United States.
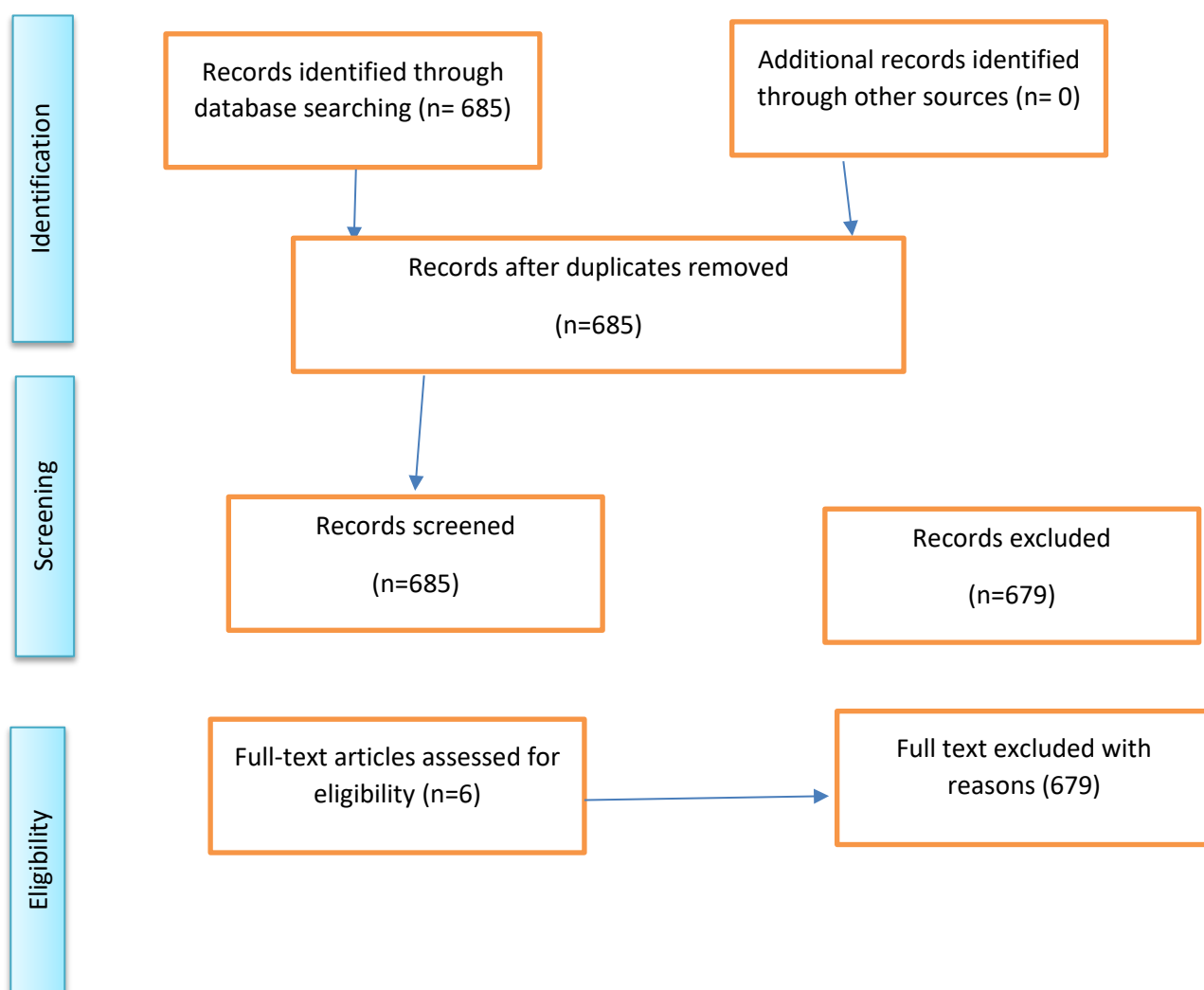
Table 2: These are the inclusion characteristics and the reasons for this theses criteria to ensure academic search bases could be narrowed to the only relevant articles needed for this research.

INCLUSION CHARACTERISTICS	JUSTIFICATION
Study population 18 to 25	**According to government research young adulthood is defined as 18 to 25**
Studies between 2016 and 2021	**Literature within the last 5 years, more relevant**
Articles in the UK and USA	**These are two similar developed countries, where homosexuality is accepted, legal and there is an existing significant issue of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness**
Only Academic Journals	**Books aren't relevant because they are not contemporary enough**

Table 3: List of exclusion criteria to help narrow the number of articles found and the justification for these characteristics.

EXCLUSION CHARACTERISTICS	JUSTIFICATION
Less than 18 and older than 25	**WHO define young adults as being 18 to 25**
Studies over 5 years old	**Less relevance to this contemporary research question**
Any countries which are not in the United Kingdom or the United States	**The United Kingdom and United States experience a similar problem with LGBTQ+ youth homelessness and have produced the most research into this subject.**

Figure 1: Flow diagram of the selection articles to be used for this literature review according to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) statement.

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Identification

    Records identified through          Additional records identified
    database searching (n= 685)         through other sources (n= 0)

                    Records after duplicates removed
                                (n=685)

Screening

            Records screened                    Records excluded
               (n=685)                              (n=679)

Eligibility

    Full-text articles assessed for          Full text excluded with
        eligibility (n=6)                        reasons (679)
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Method of screening literature

Screening journals was approached by analysing the title of each article and reading the abstract to decipher whether this was relevant. Once the articles had been screened and identified as relevant for this study, each of the six articles was read thoroughly and data was extracted by taking notes on the relevant content. This information was extracted into a spreadsheet table on Microsoft Excel which included sections for: authors, year of publication, articles title, age, gender, sexuality, socioeconomic

status, ethnicity, research design, main findings, and themes to establish the main causes of LGBTQ+

youth homelessness (see Appendix A). Psychological, physical, and familial factors were identified

and analysed through this table which reflected four main themes which emerged through the process.

Data was synthesised using narrative review resulting in conclusions being drawn. Overall, using the

methods discussed above, relevant, and significant themes were found which have helped uncover

further issues within LGBTQ+ youth homelessness.

Chapter 3: Results

Introduction:

This chapter sets out the results of the research and also the discussion of how this relates to the thesis question. Described below are the articles which have been analysed in the research (Table 3) and the themes identified within the literature review (Table 4). These themes are known to cause LGBTQ+ youth to become homeless according to this systematic literature review that has been conducted. Every article found using the search strategy explained above can be found in Table 1. Out of the 6 studies found, 1 was a nationwide sample, 1 was an ethnographic study, 2 were commentary and 2 were qualitative interview research. Results of the literature and the discussion of what this means for this theses question will be within the same chapter. Sub-headings have made this the most logical way to talk through the results and then discuss these further.

Table 4: All articles found from search strategy

This table sets out the 6 articles that were found in the research, providing basic information in relation to data, type of article, participants, and the main key findings

Author	Year of Publication	Article type	Participant information	Key findings
Rhoades	2018	Nationwide Sample	657 young people aged 12 – 24	Family rejection mental health issues
Ream and Peters	2021			

		Commentary Case Study	Transgender female aged 21	Mental health issues
Schmitz and Tyler	2018	Qualitative Interview	46 young adults aged 18 -29	Family rejection, intersectionality
Page	2017	Commentary of legislation	N/A	Social rejection, intersectionality
Robinson	2018	Multisite Ethnography	40 young people aged 17-24	Family rejection, mental health issues
Matthews, Poyner and Kjellgren	2018	Qualitative Interviews	20 people aged 18+	Family rejection, social rejection

Table 4: Summary of themes identified from common findings within articles found

Table 4 consists of the themes and subthemes that emerged through the research and how these overlap between articles found. Subthemes have been identified and categorised into overall themes such as rejection including social rejection, family rejection and intersectionality because these are all issues of being excluded and rejected from society and family. Another theme which emerged in this research was legislative blindness due to legislation and law being a key driver of how some LGBTQ+ youth are excluded from this. Finally, the last theme that has emerged is mental health and how this impacts LGBTQ+ young people.

Themes and Subthemes	Authors
3.1 Rejection:	
● Social Rejection	Page, 2017; Matthews, Poyner and Kjellgren, 2018
● Family rejection	Rhoades, 2021; Schmitz and Tyler, 2018; Robinson, 2018; Matthews, Poyner and Kjellgren, 2018
● Intersectionality	Schmitz and Tyler, 2018; Page, 2017;
3.2 Legislative blindness	Ream and Peters, 2021; Page, 2017; Robinson, 2018
3.3 Mental health	Rhoades, 2018; Ream and Peters, 2021; Robinson, 2018

Results

3.1: Rejection

Rejection was a key theme which emerged through the analysis of the articles due to the LGBTQ+ community being both a non-normative group and a minority within society. Within this theme, subthemes emerged consisting how society as a whole is heteronormative meaning homosexual people are sometimes not accepted due to heterosexual relationships being seen as the normal social expression. Furthermore, family rejection has also emerged within this theme because of the significance of family when an LGBTQ+ person reveals their sexuality. If the family rejects the LGBTQ family member, daughter, or son this leads to many LGBTQ+ youth becoming homeless. Finally, intersectionality has emerged within this research due to higher risks of homelessness associated with a young person being LGBTQ+ and Black, Ethnic, Asian or any other minority group. Hence the themes of rejection have been divided into three categories: (i) social rejection, (ii) family rejection and (iii) intersectionality.

3.1.1 –Social rejection

Social rejection happens when an individual or group is excluded from social interaction and social relationships because of prejudice or bias (Sebastian, 2015). As being LGBTQ+ is not a social norm, young LGBTQ+ people are more likely to be socially rejected due to lack of acceptance within society and overall lack of understanding. For young people, social rejection consists of being rejected by peers and friends for different reasons such as being economically disadvantaged, being LGBTQ, having a different appearance and various other reasons (Mulvey, Boswell and Zheng, 2017). The Government Equalities Office (2018) conducted a survey which found that homophobic and transphobic bullying in 2018 was prevalent within education settings. This bullying can have profound effect on a young person's self-esteem and mental health and has been seen to link with homelessness (Ream and Peters, 2021).

Social rejection as a reoccurring theme for LGBTQ+ youth homelessness was revealed within two of the six articles found. The first article was a commentary on legislation within America, specifically the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (2017) and how this could be improved (Page, 2017). This was included due to recent statistics in 2021 which found that 40% of youth homelessness is LGBTQ+ to experience homelessness (True Colors United, 2021). Page (2017) found that LGBTQ+ youth were not only rejected by parents but by peers and general society due to the heteronormative culture ingrained into society (Matthew, Poyner, Kjellgren, 2018). LGBTQ+ youth experienced social rejection leading to leaving education because of bullying and discrimination. People of colour and LGBTQ+ contributed to over half of the 3.5 million people in America who were homeless. For the second article qualitative interviews were conducted within Scotland to establish the experiences of LGBTQ+ homeless youth (Matthews, Poyner, Kjellgren, 2018). The interviews found that LGBTQ+ youth are more at risk of homelessness compared with heterosexual youth.

3.1.2 – Family Rejection

Being rejected by family can consist of abandonment, neglect, abuse or suppression of affection and love. Family rejection is a term to describe how a family or parent disowns someone for making a choice, decision or revealing something which the family does not agree with (DeChants et al. 2022). A few reasons a parent might disown their child could be for being LGBTQ+ or their gender identity, disability, or religion. Family rejection happens to all different groups of people yet LGBTQ+ youth are more likely to experience family rejection (Katz-Wise, Rosario and Tsappis, 2017). Being disowned by family can have a significant impact on an individual's self-esteem and mental health. Rejection can cause abandonment issues, anxiety, depression, and issues developing secure attachments or relationships (Meanley et al. 2021). Therefore, this theme is relevant because family rejection can lead to some young people becoming homeless (Ream and Peter, 2021). Four out of six of the articles researched revealed that family rejection is the reason for LGBTQ+ youth homelessness. Schmitz and Tyler (2018) study found that 52% of full-time college students who were

LGBTQ+ were rejected and therefore at risk of homelessness and 48% of homeless youth experienced family rejection due to their sexuality. One of the articles found was a nationwide sample involving surveys from an LGBTQ+ helpline which found that 49% of participants had been rejected after revealing their sexuality (Rhoades, 2018). Finally, the fourth article was an observational ethnography of specific youth homeless shelters and charities (Robinson, 2018). Observing homeless shelters and overnight shelters within Texas and San Antonia discovered that all 40 of the participants had been rejected from their family home because of their sexuality (Robinson, 2018). As has been discussed all four of these research studies concluded that family rejection led to a large majority of LGBTQ+ youth being homeless (Rhoades, 2021; Schmitz and Tyler, 2018; Robinson, 2018; Matthews, Poyner and Kjellgren).

3.1.3 – Intersectionality

Intersectionality is a concept which acknowledges that all different types of oppression are connected. For instance, a transgender black woman is not only a person of colour or a transgender woman, but they are also both a black woman and a transgender woman, these identities overlap which can result in unique experiences of discrimination. (Collins and Bilge, 2020). When sexuality and race intersect through a person identifying as LGBTQ+ and also being a person of colour, this can lead to systemic discrimination and disadvantage. Intersectionality is important because this concept helps to understand how social identities connect and what barriers could be stopping discrimination from effectively being tackled. Furthermore, intersectionality for the LGBTQ+ community is important because those who are LGBTQ+ and a different race or ethnicity are at a higher disadvantage than white LGBTQ+ people (Page, 2017).

The intersectionality of being LGBTQ+ youth and a person of colour is a rare theme found within this research. This area of LGBTQ+ youth homeless is highly under-researched yet does appear within two of the articles found (Schmitz and Tyler, 2018; Page, 2017) One qualitative interview

paper focused on the complexity of family and whether socioeconomic status and developing within an economically challenged family has led to LGBTQ+ youth homelessness. These interviews found that 50% of homeless youths identified themselves as working class yet 5% of these participants had parents with higher education degrees (Schmitz and Tyler, 2018). It is typically assumed within society that an individual who is academically educated would be understanding of all different theories, genders, and sexualities yet, some parents with degrees were rejecting a family member because of their identity. Higher education and socioeconomic context were seen as the main reason for homelessness within LGBTQ+ youth however this is not true for every family which is exampled within the commentary on Black, Asian, Minority Ethnicities and American legislation (Page, 2017). Page's (2017) study found that there are limited studies on racial minorities and LGBTQ+ youth, despite the fact that 3.5 million people in the United States experience homelessness and at least 50% of this figure are racial minorities. People of colour who are also LGBTQ+ are more likely according to Page (2017) to live in poverty and gain less education leading to homelessness. Intersectionality combining with legislative blindness, as discussed below leads to many young people within both minority groups being forgotten within policy (Page, 2017).

3.2 – Legislative Blindness

Legislation is another way to describe the creation of an act or making of a new law. When an act or law does not mention specific people or groups, these can be missed from legal protection or standing (Social Care Institute for Excellence, 2020). Therefore,
 legislative blindness is the term to describe this, this was found as being a cause of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness within the majority of these articles due to a system of mediocre welfare provisions for young people over 18. When legislation does not specifically mention communities such as LGBTQ+ groups, this can lead to discrimination and confusion about how these different groups have legal rights. Legislative blindness is one of the main themes within LGBTQ+ youth homelessness.

Ream and Peters (2021), Page (2017) and Robinson (2018) all discuss how legislative blindness causes LGBTQ+ youth to become homeless. Legislative blindness is the concept of not specifically naming groups within legislation, leading to certain vulnerable people not being able to be helped (Page, 2017). Ream and Peters (2021) case study and the commentary produced by Page (2017) found that youth welfare is lacking in areas within the care system; anyone aged 18 and over does not having specific provisions to support them once leaving care. Furthermore, Page's (2017) article discovered that American discrimination laws only include the two main sexes of male and female not the different genders present within the LGBTQ+ community. When addressing LGBTQ+ youth homelessness, accessibility to free counselling and health care through housing charities is not possible due to laws not specifically stating LGBTQ+ people are entitled to this (Ream and Peters, 2021; Page, 2017). Within the fourth study found relating to this theme, the ethnographic observation found that out of 40 homeless youth, 26 experienced abuse and 21 had contact in their childhood with the Child Protection Services (Robinson, 2018). Youth welfare provision stopping at 18 meant many of these 40 homeless youths were not given the right tools to progress and become an adult leading to becoming homeless regardless of sexuality or gender.

3.3 – Mental health issues

Mental health by definition according to the World Health Organization (2018) is a state of wellbeing where an individual realises their potential and capabilities of coping with the normal stresses of every-day life, meaning they can work productively, are able to look after themselves and their community. When this does not happen, someone may be experiencing mental health issues such as depression, low mood, anxiety, panic or being overwhelmed; this can impact a person's quality of life significantly. Discrimination, social rejection, and difficult experiences when revealing a different sexuality or gender identity, can cause worsened mental health within LGBTQ+ young people (Mental Health Foundation, 2021). Hence, mental health is an issue which can cause LGBTQ+ youth homelessness.

The first article discovered within this search strategy was a nationwide sample of LGBTQ+ youth who used a crisis line designed to support LGBTQ+ individuals in crisis. This study found that transgender youth have higher rates of homelessness due to parental rejection of their gender expression and anyone within the LGBTQ+ community had higher rates of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and depression (Rhoades, 2018). The Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder civilian checklist was used to assess symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder within participants (Rhoades, 2018). The Centre for Epidemiology Studies Depression Scale Short form was used to identify levels of depression within participants. These forms are both typically used when assessing mental health disorders. Suicidality was measured using the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale and the Suicide Behaviours Questionnaire to establish that suicide rates within LGBTQ+ young people were four times higher than for heterosexual cis-gendered youth (Rhoades, 2018). Ream and Peters (2021) case study shows how true these statistics about suicide are through discovering that the odds of being bullied as an LGBTQ+ young person were 4.9 times higher than for heterosexual youth leading to damaged self-image and mental health issues. Linking between themes this paper found that family rejection was the key reason for suicide ideation according to the National Violent Death Reporting System within America which establishes that 11% of deaths by suicide were due to family rejection (Ream and Peters, 2021). Page's (2017) commentary of America's LGBTQ+ youth found that 53% of LGBTQ+ youth have attempted suicide due to not being accepted, family rejection or bullying. Family rejection can worsen mental health and cause low self-esteem for all youth, however since LGBTQ+ youth can be rejected by their family for an unchangeable reason this is a different impact compared with heterosexual youth (Rhoades, 2018).

Chapter 4: Discussion

Introduction:

This discussion chapter will critically analyse all main themes and subthemes that have emerged throughout the synthesis of the main findings from the articles used in this thesis. Furthermore, the discussion chapter focuses on how the findings from the literature within this thesis can be applied to other sectors such as the health and social care sector and government policy. Additionally, all gaps found within the literature used in this thesis will be explained and any further recommendations for future research will be made.

4.1 Rejection

Rejection was the most common theme throughout this literature review due to extensive research into how LGBTQ+ people are rejected more commonly than heterosexual people. The Albert Kennedy Trust (2021) revealed that 69% of LGBTQ+ homeless youth have experienced family rejection, violence, and abuse. In relation to this theses question, these statistics show that family rejection is one of the main causes of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness. Correspondingly, this report found that 77% of young people believed their sexuality was the reason that family had rejected them, causing homelessness (Albert Kennedy Trust, 2021).

4.1.1 Social Rejection

Social rejection as a theme was found widely within this thesis for the cause of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness. Being rejected socially can lead to loneliness, bullying and low self-esteem. Bullying is a central part of social rejection which can impact an LGBTQ+ person's life. LGBTQ+ youth have a higher risk of developing depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation because of being bullied by peers (Garcia et al. 2019).

Mental health problems and bullying can cause significant impact to young people due to their brains still developing leading to impact on their mental health. This could cause substance abuse to be used as a coping mechanism due to the continued stress of bullying and abuse at home or in education (Fish and Russell, 2019b). The California Healthy Kids Survey explored the patterns within an LGBTQ+ person's life and how mental health, being LGBTQ+ and substance abuse link. Gender identity and sexuality are present by age 10 within a child's life which can then develop into awareness of being different causing unhealthy coping mechanisms (Fish and Russell, 2019a). Fish and Russell's (2019a) research found that issues with peers and bullying can start for LGBTQ+ youth as early as age nine and continue through to fifteen years of age. Between childhood to being a teenager this can be damaging to self-esteem and cause depression, anxiety and some traits of PTSD depending how severe the bullying is (Rhoades et al. 2018). Links between mental health, being LGBTQ+ and substance abuse are important because worsened mental health can lead to substance abuse, which can cause many LGBTQ+ youth to not being able to find a way back home and deal with their addiction once homeless (Fish and Russell, 2019b).

Although substance abuse was not identified as a key theme within this research, there were references to it. These were however, mainly either in relation to LGBTQ+ adults rather than just youth or to papers which didn't discuss homelessness. Therefore, this was not a relevant theme. However, for the overall homeless community disregarding sexuality, substance abuse is frequently the main cause of homelessness (Pleace and Bretherton, 2017). Nevertheless, for LGBTQ+ people this is usually a side effect of becoming homeless rather than the cause.

4.1.2 Family Rejection

Being evicted by one's family can cause significant harm to an individual's mental health, but also physically being rejected can result in being displaced leading to homelessness. A study focusing on family connections and how this impacts young LGBTQ+ people found that family support and an

understanding of young LGBTQ+ people can result in higher levels of self-esteem (Meanley et al. 2021). This is significant because having healthy family relationships for someone in the LGBTQ+ community could prevent youth homelessness within this group. If a family is able to accept, there could be less youth who end up homeless because of disclosing their sexuality.

One piece of literature used within the literature review of this thesis, explored how the concept of 'conditional families' links with LGBTQ+ youth. According to Robinson (2018) 'conditional families' are those which express a specific type of person they expect their children or family member to be, such as being heterosexual, obtaining a specific career or being a specific type of person. Also, 'conditional families' could accept their LGBTQ+ children or family member but only if they do not act on their gender or sexual identity. For some young LGBTQ+ people this can be demoralising and traumatic due to them not being able to live openly (Fish, 2020). During adolescence, peer support and acceptance is highly important to someone especially if an individual is rejected by peers for having a different sexuality. The main recommendation to prevent family rejection from becoming a substantial cause of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness is through education (Meyer and Leonardi, 2017). If society as a whole was able to be educated and become more accepting of people regardless of sexuality, gender, race, or ethnicity then this cause could be prevented. Education could take place within parenting classes, schools, and workplaces which could help generations who have been convinced by various propaganda that being any sexuality, but heterosexual is wrong. A previous study has found that trainee teachers are not fully prepared for homophobia, racism, and other types of discrimination once within the classroom environment (Butler et al. 2016). These findings resulted in exploring how teaching training programs could include LGBTQ+ education and anti-discrimination training to help a teacher handle any discrimination within their future classes (Mitton and Tomkins, 2021). The study found that when educated effectively, teachers who attended this training were able to support their classes more

effectively and bring their full personality and self into the classroom (Meyer and Leonardi, 2017; Mitton and Tompkins, 2021).

4.1.3 Intersectionality

Intersectionality is the final subtheme under the broader theme of rejection. It was identified as a cause of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness due to the disadvantages experienced through being a person of colour and LGBTQ+. Black transgender women are more likely to become homeless due to lack of understanding from their families, collating that intersectionality is heavily linked with family rejection (Richard, Gateri and Massaquoi, 2018). Intersectionality must be included as a theme due to it being a cause for some communities of family rejection. The intersectionality of being for example Asian and homosexual often leads to homelessness within youth because of the traditional societal views within this continent (Tamagawa, 2017).

However, this is an area of LGBTQ+ research that is lacking, the article that was used within the literature review focused solely on youth of colour and how being LGBTQ+ can cause issues and discrimination within a young person's life. Those part of the Black, Asian, Ethnic and Minority community, due to racism and discrimination, are disproportionately affected by poverty and a lack of opportunities. Pender's (2018) article explains how within the black community there is homophobia due to black activism being headed by black heterosexual people and queer voices being lost within this (Pender, Hope and Riddick, 2018). This thesis did not use Pender's (2018) paper because it did not specifically focus on homeless youth therefore, it was irrelevant for the literature review but, nevertheless, important within the context of this study.

Homophobia is the term for discriminating against an individual or group solely for the reason of their sexuality not being heterosexual (Fraïssé and Barrientos, 2016). Discrimination of any type can cause lasting effects on an individual or groups mental health. Intersectionality, results in some

LGBTQ+ people of colour dealing with both homophobia and racism. Accordingly, intersectionality links with mental health causing an intersect of causes of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness within people who both identity as a person of colour and LGBTQ+ (Martin and Hartmann, 2019). Intersectionality and racism can show how and why LGBTQ+ youth who are also black, ethnic, or Asian could be rejected both socially and within the family home.

To summarise, rejection is one of the main causes of LGBTQ+ homelessness and is especially a reason which heterosexual youth do not face (Page, 2017). This does raise the question of what this means for social policy, health care, individuals, and groups within this subject? The subthemes of family rejection and social rejection highlights how LGBTQ+ youth homelessness can be prevented through educating parents, family members and reconciling families where it is safe to do so. Intersectionality shows how LGBTQ+ youth who are also a different ethnic minority group, could be helped through being mentioned specifically within homelessness support charities and overall, more research is needed into this issue. Continuing this point, more research into intersectionality of being young and LGBTQ+ would help to understand how discrimination impacts on a young person's mental health. Thus, the gaps within research into rejection are mainly about adolescent ethnic minorities who are also LGBTQ+ and how these groups could be helped to prevent homelessness.

4.2 Legislative Blindness

As explained within the results chapter of this thesis, legislative blindness is one of the catalysts of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness. When LGBTQ+ youth are missed from being specifically mentioned in legislation, this can cause issues with accessing free health and social care services (Ream and Peter, 2021; Page, 2017). LGBTQ+ youth are missed from legislation through either the law stating the legal protection is for male and female which excludes transgender people or not mentioning anything about sexuality and gender. For housing charities especially in the United States, this creates

a multitude of legal barriers as to whether free support can be accessed by an individual (McCann and Brown, 2019).

Referring to the context of this issue, legislative blindness, does not only occur within LGBTQ+ communities, but it also affects a variety of minority groups, including all youth. Government statistics of the youth homelessness issue are lacking as many young people experience 'hidden' homelessness as discussed in Chapter 1, thus these youths are not counted within statistics (Homeless Link, 2021). Not only are some young people excluded in statistics they also legally do not have considerable legal protection within legislation, especially within homelessness. This shows how legislative blindness does affect LGBTQ+ youth but also impacts all youth including heterosexual youth who find themselves homeless (Pleace and Bretherton, 2017). Furthermore, young people leaving care once they are 18 years of age, can find themselves without support once they have grown out of care. Overall, for all young people regardless of sexuality or gender there is a lack of legal protection, unless a parent or guardian gives permission. If a young LGBTQ+ person needs their own accommodation due to problems at home, they can only move out legally if the parent agrees (Flores, 2020). This causes issues for the young person because the parent may not agree, meaning they have to keep living in a hostile environment until they are old enough to leave. For social policy, this means reforming current laws and policy, and acknowledging that legislative blindness is an issues within not only LGBTQ+ youth homelessness but also all youth homelessness (Pattinson et al. 2021). Legislative blindness, as a whole concept is highly under researched, this is a gap found within this thesis which should be further explored to fully understand how all policy and laws can include every majority and minority of groups and individuals.

4.3 Mental health

LGBTQ+ youth are four times more at risk of suicidal ideation and the odds of being bullied for LGBTQ+ youth are up to five times higher than for heterosexual people (Mental Health Foundation,

2021). Mental health problems as a theme for LGBTQ+ youth homelessness was found throughout this thesis, yet it could be argued that mental health problems within LGBTQ+ youth are both a cause of homelessness and a side effect of homelessness. According to Homeless Link's (2014) Audit on homelessness, 80% of all homeless people reported experiencing mental health problems. This statistic shows that it is not only LGBTQ+ youth who experience mental health issues causing homelessness, but a large majority of homeless people experience prior or current mental health issues.

In addition, mental health is heavily linked to family rejection. Within the context of this issue, many LGBTQ+ young people experience worsened mental health issues after experiencing rejection either socially or within the family. LGBTQ+ youth find assimilating in society harder than heterosexual young people because of feeling different and sometimes feeling inadequate and immoral. This may be due to family because of wider society's harmful opinions of homosexual life. For clinical settings, an increased prevalence of LGBTQ+ young people seeking support has led to more specific services and support to tackle this issue. Overall, this has significantly impacted how services work with LGBTQ+ people not only youth. Reports from the Albert Kennedy Trust (2021) on this issue have found that inclusive language is needed within these services and making sure the service user feels comfortable and heard within the support they are being given. Linking with the context chapter of this thesis, mental health was expected as a cause of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness because of the essential findings of the Stonewall School Report (2017). Knowing that 3 in 5 young LGBTQ+ people have harmed themselves and 84 of these people being transgender shows that, mental health is a pre-existing issue within this community because of a heteronormative society.

To conclude this discussion chapter, each of the above themes are not stand alone, many intersect and play a role in how an LGBTQ+ young person is more at risk of homeless. Through, reading the literature found within this thesis and current less relevant research about young people and not only

LGBTQ+ young people, it is apparent that all the identified themes are also found within various literature. The main gaps within the research of this topic, consist of how to prevent these various themes from occurring within an LGBTQ+ young person's life. Family reconciliation has been meagrely researched; however, this should be further explored due to the impact the concept of family has on an individual's self-esteem and mental health. Within the themes of this thesis, rejection and mental health were the two causes of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness with the researcher expected, yet legislative blindness was something this researcher had not thought about. It is significant how much impact legislation and policy has in preventing homelessness and supporting young homeless LGBTQ+ people.

Chapter 5: Limitations of this thesis

As with all research, this thesis although well researched, is not perfect. Indeed, no research is perfect there are always areas to improve, Therefore, this chapter will discuss the limitations of this thesis and how this research could be furthered and improved.

Edge Hill University has a breadth of access to a variety of literature within several databases, although the limitation of this is only being able to access databases which Edge Hill has access to. Unintentionally excluding certain databases from this thesis could have caused some information to be missed within the systematic searching process. Additionally, articles included within this thesis excluded any language except English because of how time-consuming translation could have been. Furthermore, this thesis used three databases: PubMed, Emerald Insight and Scopus, although these are reputable sources there could have been more databases searched to find more information on this thesis subject.

When starting the planning for this thesis, a qualitative primary research piece was the preferred study design and method despite this, a systematic secondary research method was chosen. It was discussed with the researcher's supervisor that a primary research piece was not preferable on this topic, this was better as a master's thesis and therefore was a limitation of this research. Also, researching young LGBTQ+ homeless people meant gaining access through various gatekeepers to this group which was not possible in the time period set. In further research, as this thesis focused on specifically LGBTQ+ homeless youth, it would be beneficial for future researchers to focus more specifically on one part of the LGBTQ+ youth community. For instance, young transgender people are rarely researched in the causes of homelessness and more should be collected on how youth homelessness could be prevented.

Bias is a further limitation of this thesis; the inclusion and exclusion criteria are crucial however the opinions of what should be included and excluded could be argued depending on who was conducting this research overall. One limitation which has emerged from this research is the lack of focus on black, Asian, ethnic, minority experience. This was caused by a lack of literature within this subject, yet also through the unintentional bias of the researcher being a white woman. Significantly, this led to the inclusion and exclusion criteria mainly focusing on geographical location rather than race or ethnicity of the countries. Further research existing on this subject could have helped this thesis find a wide range of articles not only on white, young LGBTQ+ people but other races and ethnicities as well. This was included however there could have been more literature found with more specific key terms and Boolean operators.

A further limitation was the location, the United Kingdom and the United States were chosen as the geographical location for this thesis however this could have excluded various studies in other countries which could have been implemented in this thesis. In future, if researchers focused on a specific place within a country with high prevalence of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness.

Chapter 6: Conclusion

This chapter will conclude the research findings from this thesis and how this relates to meeting the aim of this research and the research question. Also, these key findings will be discussed in the context of what this research means for professionals, government, society and the overall health and social care sector. Finally, this chapter will discuss any parts of this research which have been unanswered and recommendations for future research on this topic.

The aim of this thesis was to explore the catalysts which cause youth homelessness within the LGBTQ+ community and understand the needs and areas for future research within this group. Based on secondary research into this topic and the analysis of qualitative data, the themes which have emerged throughout this thesis as being the causes of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness are social rejection, family rejection, intersectionality, legislative blindness, and mental health. Although, these are all separate themes, this research has shown that the different themes often combine within an individual's case.

For housing and social care professionals, these findings are significant to how housing charities and other services could improve their service provision through preventing youth homelessness within the LGBTQ+ community due to a deeper understanding of the causes. Prevention is imperative to therefore ensure young people who are LGBTQ+ do not end up becoming homeless. Furthermore, prevention can help services not be overwhelmed by the prevalence of this issue within their services which could result in better person-centred care for the individual.

Understanding the catalysts of LGBTQ+ youth homelessness is also useful for government and social policy. This thesis has shone a light on the issues of legislative blindness and how this impacts

minority groups. These findings are not only significant for LGBTQ+ young people but all minority groups which are missed from being specifically named in policy. Therefore, this is an area which should be further changed within future social policy to ensure every individual and group has the same legal protection and access to services.

For society, this research has shown how family rejection occurs frequently and should be further researched within the context of LGBTQ+ people as this was one of the main reasons for youth homelessness within this group. Also, the theme of rejection shows how society overall is openly heteronormative and sometimes homophobia, yet with this research it is hoped that the discrimination and needs of LGBTQ+ youth have been further understood.

However, there are areas within this thesis which still remain unanswered these include the experiences specifically of transgender people, in relation to how homelessness interacts with sex work and further research on their experiences.

Future studies should focus on a specific identity within the LGBTQ+ community to understand lesser researched perspectives, for example transgender women or bisexual men. It would be interesting to understand how the causes of youth homelessness differ depending on different sexualities. Similarly, a specific primary research project on LGBTQ+ youth homelessness could be conducted, not only focusing on openly homeless people, but also 'hidden' homeless groups would be beneficial to this topic.

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APPENDIX

Appendix A:

Excel spreadsheet detailing the findings and information within the literature found for this thesis.

(Spreadsheet screenshot — partial content readable below)

First spreadsheet view

Article Details			Participant Details					Study Design	Measurement Tools	
Lead author	Year of Publication	Article title	Age	Gender	Socioeconomic status	Ethnicity	Sexuality Grouping (number of participants)	Research Design (Methods, type, analysis, collection)	Reasons for homelessness	Main findings / Specific factors
Harmony Rhoades	2018	Homelessness, Mental Health and Suicidality Among LGBTQ Youth Accessing Crisis Services	Average age 17.6	34% cisgender women, 22% cisgender men, 23% trans youth, 21% other gender identity	32% low socioeconomic status	63% White (mostly White)	36% gay or lesbian, 17% bisexual, 18% pansexual, 8% questioning, 21% other	Nationwide Sample of LGBTQ youth online survey from a crisis line for LGBTQ people	49% participants rejected by parents for being LGBT - family rejection	Trans youth have higher rates of homelessness, Being LGBT higher risk of parental rejection, increased rates of homelessness within LGBT, homeless LGBT higher rates of PTSD, depression... Family rejection
Schmitz and Tyler	2018	The complexity of family reactions to identity among homeless and college lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer young adults	18-29	52% women, 39% men, 4 outside of gender binary (gender fluid, queer, bigender) 8 transgender youths	63% college students and 5% of homeless youths - parents had university education, 29% college students and 50% of homeless youths said they were working class	70% White, 11% African-American, 24% Asian American, 15% Biracial or multiracial	7 identified as Lesbian, 11 as gay, 20 as bisexual, 8 outside of LGBT (Asexual, pansexual...)	Interviews 1 hour, tape recorded, $20 for their time, homeless youth recruited through non probability method of convenience and snowball sampling. Analysed using MAXQDA, used coding to find themes, member checking	Family rejection	Early family history, socioeconomic factors predict family reaction to a child coming out as LGBT... Family rejection, lack of support for those without good socioeconomic context, higher risk of substance abuse when getting less family support

Second spreadsheet view

Article Details			Participant Details					Study Design	Measurement Tools	
Lead author	Year of Publication	Article title	Age	Gender	Socioeconomic status	Ethnicity	Sexuality Grouping (number of participants)	Research Design (Methods, type, analysis, collection)	Reasons for homelessness	Main findings / Specific factors
Page	2017	Forgotten Youth: Homeless LGBT Youth of Colour and the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act	5-10% of youth identify as LGBT in American but 20-40% of homeless youth are LGBT - underreported		3.5 million people in US experiences homelessness each year 42% black, 20% hispanic, BAME half of homeless population	Few studies on racial minorities who are also LGBT - homeless LGBT youth tend to be POC. More likley to become homeless if POC and LGBT because of higher risks of living in poverty, less education	N/A this is a comment on LGBT homeless as a whole lots of stats	Family rejection - 20% of youth leave home because of not being accepted, some run away without disclosing their identity because of fear of rejection, other reasons: substance abuse, physical, sexual abuse, mental health, early signs of sexual orientation, family poverty, aging out of foster care or the system, financial or emotional neglect from family members	1.6 million children in 2017 aged 12-17 homeless each year, Being both poc and lgbt means higher risk of homelessness, LGBT youth can experience more issues in schooling - bullying, poor grades, high drop out rates, 53% of LGBT youth have attempted suicide, LGBT people more likely to use drugs more often than heteros, STDS higher due to exploring sex earlier and having more parters than hetero youth sometimes due to not being accepted / LGBT and POC youth become homeless because of family rejection...
Robinson	2018	Conditional Families and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Youth homelessness: gender sexuality, family instability and rejection	1 participant was 17, 2 were 25 and rest were 18-24	10 transgender, 2 gender fluid, 15 gender expansive		30/40 identified as POC	Lesbian, gay, bisexual	Multisite ethnography - conducted at two organizations - youth homelessness service Texas and youth homelessness service in San Antonio nightly, observing in this environment and then recruiting - interviews - digitally recorded, qual data, semi structured interviews, used MAXQDA anaysis	Family instability experienced by a 40 youths, 26 of the 40 experienced abuse, growing out of care	'gender policing' some families accept their child if they show the relevant cis gender traits while being LGBT not 'loudly', 1/2 of transgender people have experienced abuse at home. Main way to end homelessness for youth is through parenting reunification if healthy to do so. Stopping idea of conditional families... Family rejection, substance abuse, growing out of care

- See next page for final part of this spreadsheet.

		Article Details		Participant Details					Study Design	Measurement Tools		
Lead author	Year of Publication	Article title	Age	Gender	Socioeconomic status	Ethnicity	Sexuality Grouping (number of participants)		Research Design (Methods, type, analysis, collection	Reasons for homelessness	Main findings	Specific factors
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Matthews, Poyner and Kjellgren	2018	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer experiences of homelessness and identity: insecurity and home(o) normativity	18+	every gender	20 people varying experiences of homelessness some not homeless anymore or been recently homeless	N/A	All LGBT identifying people		Interviews, explaining how someone became homeless or housing insecure, interviews transcribed coded in vivo - homeless and LGBT organisations contacted to recruit participants	Not being comfortable identifying as LGBT within the home - family rejection	change and be developed through support, supported housing most common provision for homeless UK youth, sofa surfing not included in legal homeless definition some don't realise they are homeless or entitled to help, queer theory leads up to realise how	Family Rejection and heteronormative culture not making space for LGBT people

Data Extraction