

**EYE OF THE RAINBOW: LOOKING THROUGH THE BEAUTY STANDARDS
AMONG LGBTQIA+ COLLEGE STUDENTS**

A Thesis Presented to the
Faculty of the Department of Social Sciences
Central Luzon State University

In partial fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences

by

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2023

THESIS ABSTRACT

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4. Type of Publication: Unpublished

5. Accrediting Institution: Central Luzon State University

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is called the concept of beauty standard mostly came from the evolution, historical perspective, racism, and the current influence of social media.

7.2 Summary

This study aimed to look thoroughly at what the beauty standards are among LGBTQIA+ college students.

Specifically, this study tried to find out:

1. What is the socio-demographic profile of the respondents in terms of their age, family's monthly income, parent's educational attainment, parent's occupation, and gender identity?
2. What are the social factors that contribute to the concept of beauty among LGBTQIA+ college students?
3. What are the physical attributes that contribute to the concept of beauty among LGBTQIA+ college students?
4. Is there a relationship between the socio-demographic characteristics and the social factors that influence LGBTQIA+ college students?
5. Is there an association between the socio-demographic profile and the preference of beauty standards of the LGBTQIA+ college students in terms of the physical attributes?
6. Is there an association between the social factors and the preference of beauty standards of the LGBTQIA+ college students in terms of the physical attributes?
7. What are the inner characteristics preferred by the LGBTQIA+ college students when it comes to beauty standards?

The researcher used a random sampling method. The sample of the study were 60 college students who are currently enrolled in a college or university. They should voluntarily be identified as rightful members of the LGBTQIA+ group. A survey questionnaire developed by the researcher was utilized as a data-gathering instrument. As part of the standardization process, the survey questionnaire undergoes a pre-testing procedure through reliability analysis that determines the final list of statements in the survey questionnaire used in the conduct of this study. Thus, the instrument was revised based on the results of the pre-test. The data gathered were analyzed using the Jamovi statistical software and the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the data that characterized the respondents of the study. Frequency counts, percentages, and means were utilized in answering objectives one, two, three and seven. Spearman Correlation Coefficient, Pearson Correlation Coefficient and Chi-square were used to answer the relationship between variables in objectives four and five. Pearson Correlation Coefficient (r) was used for the analysis of the relationship of the social factors and the physical attributes as stated in objective six.

7.3 Major Findings

The study found that peers and social media have significant relationships when it comes to their beauty standards. However, family and culture have no significant relationship when it comes to their concept of beauty. Also, this study revealed that

most statements in areas such as facial features, hairstyle, and fashion style strongly contributed to the respondents' standard of beauty when it comes to physical attributes. In terms of the relationship between the socio-demographic profile, age, monthly family income, and mother's educational attainment were associated with skin color, facial features, and fashion style. It is concluded that the social factors are significantly related to the physical attributes that contribute to the LGBTQIA+ concept of beauty.

Likewise, this study showed that the sample of this study indeed prefers that they believe that the inner characteristic of an individual is more important than physical beauty. Likewise, they also believed that inner characteristics are also part of their standard concept of beauty. Furthermore, they preferred the top four inner characteristics of kind, caring, loving, and God-fearing individuals.

7.4 Conclusions

The findings from this study provided valuable insights looking through the beauty standards among LGBTQIA+ college students. It also presented results of the socio-demographic profile, the social factors, physical attributes and the inner characteristics of the students. The following results were concluded as follows.

The socio-demographic profile of the respondents revealed that the majority of participants were in their early twenties. The highest educational attainment of their father is college and high school graduates while their mothers are high school graduates. They have a monthly family income ranging from ten thousand to fifteen

thousand pesos. In terms of their parent's occupation, the majority of the respondent's fathers are self-employed while their mothers are mostly housewives/unemployed.

Regarding gender identity distribution, the results highlighted the presence of diverse gender identities within the LGBTQIA+ college student population. The majority of respondents identified as bisexuals, followed by transgenders and gays.

The survey also explored the relationship of social factors on the perception of beauty among LGBTQIA+ college students. This study concluded that most of the respondents were associated by their peers and social media when it comes to beauty standards. However, the family and cultural factors do not have a relationship with their concept of beauty.

Peer emerged as a strong factor when it comes to beauty standards among LGBTQIA+ college students. The respondents are strongly associated with the statements regarding peers and have a significant impact on shaping their perceptions of beauty. This finding highlights the importance of social connections and the role of peer groups in reinforcing or challenging beauty norms within the LGBTQIA+ community. It also suggests that peer support and acceptance play a crucial role in shaping individuals' self-perception and confidence in their appearance.

Media was also recognized as contributing factors to the perception of beauty. The participants strongly believed that social media plays an important role in shaping beauty standards.

The survey delved into the importance of physical attributes in determining beauty as part of this study. Participants generally are moderately associated with societal beauty standards when it comes to their beauty standards. They also

expressed a moderate association with the importance of physical attributes. Findings in this area revealed that most statements in areas such as facial features, hairstyle, and fashion style strongly contributed to the respondents' standard of beauty when it comes to physical attributes. In areas such as skin color, chest size, body type, size of stomach and make-up are moderately contributed to the respondents' beauty standards.

Findings also suggested that age, monthly family income and mother's educational attainment have direct relationship when it comes to the social factors such as culture, peer and social media. The social factor regarding family was not directly associated with the socio-demographic profile.

In terms of the relationship between the socio-demographic profile and the physical attributes, the following conclusions were derived. Age, monthly family income and mother's educational attainment were associated with skin color, facial features and fashion style.

Consistent with the findings, the social factors such as culture, peer and social media were directly associated to the physical attributes such as skin color, chest size, body type, facial feature, hair style, size of stomach and make-up. It is concluded that the social factors directly have a significant relationship to the physical attributes that contributed to the LGBTQIA+ concept of beauty.

The respondents in this study were also asked about the inner characteristics and personality traits that they prefer to an individual. The findings showed that it is indeed preferred by the sample of this study that they believed that the inner characteristic of an individual is more important than the physical beauty. Likewise,

they also believed that inner characteristics are also part of their standard concept of beauty. Furthermore, the top four inner characteristics that they preferred are kind, caring, loving, and God-fearing individuals.

In conclusion, this study provided valuable insights into the complex interplay of social actors in shaping and identifying the concept of beauty among LGBTQIA+ college students. The results highlighted the significance of culture, peer and social media relationships in defining beauty standards. While societal beauty norms and pressure to conform exist, the participants emphasized the importance of inner characteristics and exhibited a broader and more inclusive perspective on beauty compared to mainstream standards. These findings underscore the need for a more inclusive and diverse understanding of beauty standards, one that acknowledges and values the unique experiences and expressions of LGBTQIA+ individuals. By promoting inclusive beauty ideals, challenging societal norms, and valuing inner characteristics, we can foster a more accepting and affirming environment for LGBTQIA+ individuals and contribute to a more diverse and inclusive beauty landscape.

7.5 Recommendations

Based on the findings of the survey, several recommendations can be made to promote a more inclusive and diverse understanding of beauty standards among LGBTQIA+ college students.

1. Recognizing the influence of media on shaping beauty ideals
2. Educational institutions should incorporate discussions and workshops on beauty standards and body positivity into their curriculum. Educational

institutions can help promote a more inclusive and accepting environment.

3. Creating supportive and inclusive peer networks is crucial for LGBTQIA+ college students.
 4. Emphasize the value of inner characteristics and personality traits in beauty.
 5. Recognize the mental health impact of beauty standards on LGBTQIA+ college students. Offer counseling and support services that address body image concerns, self-esteem issues, and the pressure to conform.
 6. Lastly, this study recommends creating more research pertaining to the diverse group of the LGBTQIA+ since the researcher found very limited scholarly work regarding the said group. Since this study covered the entire community of the LGBTQIA+ it is also recommended to establish a more specific research that will create a more inclusive and comprehensive approach to this particular topic.
8. Translated Abstract (Filipino):

8.1 Rasyonale

Ang mga pamantayan sa kagandahan ay labis na nangingibabaw sa mga nakaraang taon at hanggang sa kasalukuyan, malaki ang epekto nito sa pang-araw-araw na pakikipag-ugnayan ng mga tao, kasama ang mga impluwensya ng media at komersyal na mundo. Sinusubukan ng maraming mga iskolar na gawa na makilala kung ano ang tila maganda, mula sa hugis ng katawan, proporsyon ng mukha, hanggang sa taas at bigat ng isang indibidwal. Ang pagkakaroon ng maraming impluwensya ng tinatawag na konsepto ng pamantayan ng kagandahan ay

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ANOVA: One-way Analysis of Variance

LGBTQIA+: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer/Questioning, Asexual
Plus

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