

# Impact

## Landmark LGBTQ Supreme Court Decisions, Federal Legislation, and Executive Actions

- **President Biden's First Executive Orders and Actions (2021)**

Williams Institute research was cited in four Executive Orders that President Biden issued in his first week in office, including those prohibiting discrimination, protecting LGBTQ youth, and calling for federal data collection that includes LGBTQ people.

- **Equality Act (2021)**

The Equality Act would ensure that LGBT people are protected from discrimination in a variety of areas of public life. The bill cites Williams Institute research showing same-sex couples are seven times more likely to foster or adopt than their different-sex counterparts.

- **Household Pulse Survey (2021)**

Nearly two decades of collaboration between the Census Bureau and the Williams Institute contributed to the first time the Census Bureau directly asked questions about sexual orientation and gender identity on a survey.

- **Bostock v. Clayton County (2020)**

In holding that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act protects LGBT people under its prohibition of sex discrimination, Justice Gorsuch cited Williams Institute Faculty Chair Cary Franklin's scholarship.

- **Obergefell v. Hodges (2015)**

In ruling for marriage equality, Justice Anthony Kennedy cited Williams Institute estimates on the number of same-sex couples raising children as a deciding factor in the landmark decision.

- **Federal Contractor Executive Order (2014)**

President Obama signed Executive Order 13672 to prohibit federal contractors from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. In honor of the Williams Institute's research support, President Obama gives the Institute one of the signing pens.

- **Employment Non-Discrimination Act (2009)**

The Williams Institute presented a 1,500-page report to Congress documenting ongoing discrimination against LGBTQ people. This report became the basis for the first full committee hearing on ENDA in the House of Representatives.