

Learning Network & Knowledge Hub | Webinar Series

# Gender-Based Violence Against Two Spirit/Indigiqueer People

Presented by Dr. Percy Lezard

October 18, 2022  
1:00 to 2:30 pm ET

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# Gender-Based Violence Against Two-Spirit/Indigiqueer People

Dr. Percy Lezard (They, Them, Theirs)

OCTOBER 18, 2022

wlu.ca

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## Learning Outcomes

1. You will be able to differentiate the experiences of 2SLGBTQQIA+ from cisgender Indigenous women/girls
2. You will get direction from family members of Indigenous folks who went missing or later found murdered.
3. You have a blueprint on how to center the lives and experiences of 2SLGBTQQIA+ who have experienced GBV from the recommendations.



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## Who am I?

Positionality & Accountability Statement

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## 1. What is Gender Based Violence (GBV)?



Image retrieved from <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/ogr/article/760348>

In their testimonies, Indigenous women, girls, & 2SLGBTQQIA people argued that oppression against them is primarily based on colonialism, racism, and gender, with other factors, such as education, income, and ability, sometimes coming into play. In particular, families and survivors consistently referred to four general ways that their experiences were rooted in colonialism across First Nations, Métis and Inuit perspectives, as well as from the perspective of 2SLGBTQQIA people. These four pathways that maintain colonial violence are:

- historical, multigenerational and intergenerational trauma;
- social and economic marginalization;
- maintaining the status quo and institutional lack of will; and
- ignoring the agency and expertise of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people.

(pp.11) retrieved from [https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Executive\\_Summary.pdf](https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Executive_Summary.pdf)



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## 2. Why have an intersectional lens?

- Often, 2SLGBTQQIA+ and kin are erased from mainstream Gender Based Analysis (GBA).
- Dr. Kimberlé Crenshaw coined the term and concept 'intersectionality' in the late 1980s.
- Intersectionality takes into account the impact of diverse factors such as race, class, sex, gender, residency, geography, disability and age.
- The relationship between Indigeneity and Intersectionality has also been documented in the work of Dr. Sarah Hunt (Kwakwulth, Kwakwaka'wakw Nation).



Image retrieved from <https://www.facebook.com/MNSask/photos/a.444119712685628/1427061891058067/?type=3>



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### 3. When Indigeneity & Gender intersect with GBV!



- Using fire as a metaphor, the 2S Sub-Working group has designed a user-friendly diagram to represent a 2SLGBTQIA+ approach to GBA.

Lezard et al., (2021)

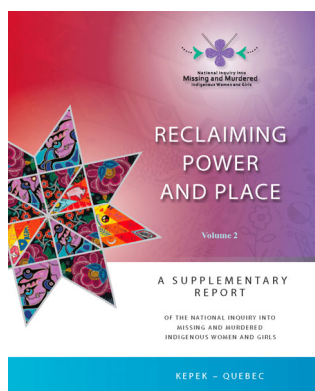


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### 4. 2SLGBTQIA+ response to #MMIWG

Why did there need to be a 2S response to #MMIWG?

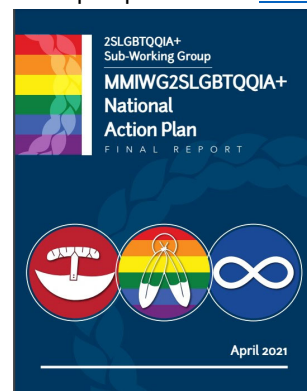
1. National Inquiry [here](#)



2. Red Women Rising report found [here](#)



3. 2 Spirit Sub-Working Group report found [here](#)



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# Another future is possible

## Recommendations / Actions (p. 36-51)

1. Right to culture
2. Health and Wellness
3. Right to Safety and Security
4. Right to Justice

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## Moving forward – what you do?

- Stop engaging in trauma porn – learning off our traumas and back!
- Report after report has been written – what more does the nation state of Canada need?
- The blueprint of recommendations have written – activate them!  
(personally, professionally and your communities)
- TRC Calls to Action – *take one action and make it your life's work!*  
(Justice Murray Sinclair)

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**2SLGBTQIA+ Sub-Working Group MMIWG2SLGBTQIA+ National Action Plan FINAL REPORT**

The 2 spirit sub-working groups National Action Plan:

[https://scholars.wlu.ca/indg\\_faculty/1/](https://scholars.wlu.ca/indg_faculty/1/)

Here is the three page at a glance:

[https://mmiwg2splusnationalactionplan.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/2SLGBTQIA\\_EN.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2vuDgKj-UOvCzQSMMevBKGLq-QJWrA2xp8ZA1sxILNOVyIOTjLikAIq9Q](https://mmiwg2splusnationalactionplan.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/2SLGBTQIA_EN.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2vuDgKj-UOvCzQSMMevBKGLq-QJWrA2xp8ZA1sxILNOVyIOTjLikAIq9Q)

**In text citation**

Lezard et al. (April 2021)

**Reference page**

Lezard, P., Prefontaine, N., Cederwall, D-M., Sparrow, C., Maracle, S., Beck, A., & McLeod, A (April 2021). 2SLGBTQIA+ Sub-Working Group. MMIWG2SLGBTQIA+ National Action: Final Report. OFIFC: Toronto



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# Questions

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