

Supplement to:

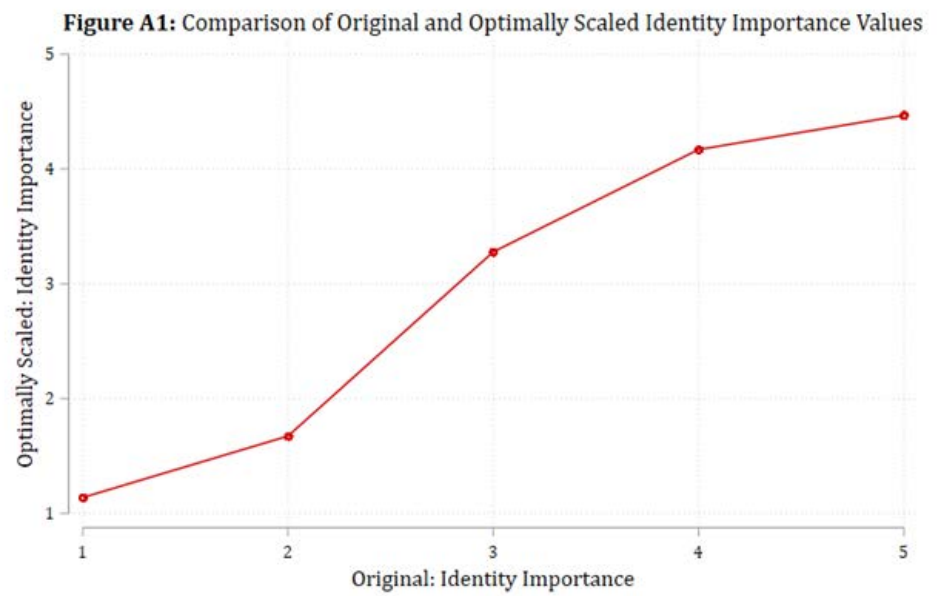
Doan, Long, and Trenton D. Mize. 2020. “Sexual Identity Disclosure among Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Individuals.” *Sociological Science* 7: 504-527.

Supplement A: Scaling Importance of Identity

The *importance of sexual identity* variable is measured on an ordinal scale from 1 (“not at all”) to 5 (“extremely”).¹ We use this measure as both a dependent and an independent variable in various models. In order to treat the variable as continuous in both cases, we use a method of assigning meaning values and spacing among the categories. This method is preferred over using the original ordinal values (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)—which are arbitrary in their spacing and meaningful only in their order. Specifically, we use alternating least squares optimal scaling (ALSOS; Young 1981; Jacoby 1999), an empirical technique for determining—given all model variables considered—what the best category values of the variable should be. ALSOS preserves the ordering of the categories, the mean, and the standard deviation of the original measure but allows the spacing of the categories to change based on an empirical algorithm (see Jacoby 1999).

Figure A1 shows the original measure (x-axis) plotted against the optimally scaled measure (y-axis). The largest change is that “not too important” and “somewhat important” are further apart in the optimally scaled version than in the original. In addition, extreme categories are closer together than the original arbitrary scaling would suggest (e.g. “very important” and “extremely important”).

¹All five categories were asked as: (1) not at all important, (2) not too important, (3) somewhat important, (4) very important, and (5) extremely important.



Supplement B: Robustness Checks for Mediation Analyses

Scholars such as Breen and colleagues (2013) have documented the difficulties of using logistic regression coefficients to test for cross-model differences of effects. Some have proposed solutions in terms of the coefficients (Breen, Karlson, and Holm 2013), while others have proposed using predicted probabilities—and the marginal effects calculated based on them—as a solution (Long and Mustillo 2018; Mize 2019; Mize, Doan, and Long 2019). We use the latter solution for the analyses presented in the main text. As a robustness check, we fit linear probability models (Breen, Karlson, and Holm 2018) with robust standard errors and used the methods described in Weesie (1999) and Mize, Doan, and Long (2019) to test for the equality of the coefficients across the base and mediation models. We present these results in Table B1 which can be compared directly to Table 6 in the main text as both present the effects in terms of the effects on the predicted probabilities.

In terms of the substantive size of the findings, the reduction in the size of the effect across models is all but identical across the two approaches (comparing Table B1 and Table 6). In terms of statistical significance, six of the seven significant reductions in the effect presented in the main text (Table 6) are also statistically significant in our robustness check (Table B1). The one exception is the 13% reduction due to adding relationship status to the model for women reported in the main text—which is only a 9% reduction in the linear probability models and is not statistically significant at the $p < .05$ (two-tailed) level.

Tables (Supplement B)

Table B1: Coefficients from linear probability models of sexual identity disclosure on sexual orientation identity before (Panel A) and after (Panel B) accounting for various mediating variables

Panel A: Base model

	<u>Lesbian vs. Bisexual Woman</u>	<u>Gay vs. Bisexual Man</u>
	0.260** (0.047)	0.548** (0.065)

Panel B: Mediation models

Mediating Variable	<u>Lesbian vs. Bisexual Woman</u>		<u>Gay vs. Bisexual Man</u>	
	Coef.	% Reduction in Coef. ^a	Coef.	% Reduction in Coef. ^a
LGBT Involvement.....	—	—	0.364** (0.075)	33% **
Importance of Identity.....	0.212** (0.045)	18% **	0.541** (0.070)	1%
Social Integration.....	—	—	0.446** (0.075)	18% *
Relationship Status.....	0.237** (0.045)	9%	0.408** (0.090)	26% *
Perceived social Acceptance.....	—	—	0.545** (0.066)	<1%
All mediators.....	0.071* (0.035)	27% *	0.240* (0.108)	56% **

Notes: ^a Significance test shown is from a test of the marginal effects across models (Coef._{base model} – Coef._{mediation model}). All models include controls for age, education, household income, race, marital status, parental status, employment status, urbanicity, and political ideology. Standard errors in parentheses. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$ (two-tailed tests).