

Running head: QUEER YOUTUBE COMING OUT THEORY

Understanding Queer YouTube Coming Narratives: A Grounded Theory

Ryan Conti

Final Capstone Project

Master of Arts in Professional Communication

Southern Utah University

Abstract

This research project seeks to discover insight in regard to the understanding the use of the social media platform, YouTube, as a way of publically announcing one's sexual identity, or coming out, within the LGBTQ+ community. A Grounded Theory of LGBTQ+ coming out YouTube videos produced three themes that can be used by LGBTQ+ organizations and LGBTQ+ youth to better understand the LGBTQ+ coming out process. Videos were selected based upon the search results from "LGBTQ coming out". Each LGBTQ+ individual states that they are a part of the LGBTQ+ community in each coming out video, which ensures that the sexual identity of each individual is valid for this study. Research results showed that, while each LGBTQ+ individual has a unique coming out story, a shared purpose of LGBTQ+ coming out videos is to provide helpful and hopeful information to those that have not yet revealed their LGBTQ+ identity to others. Three popular overarching narrative themes were discovered; *queer inner resilience, timing, and identity boxing*.

Keywords: LGBTQ+ community, coming out, YouTube

Acknowledgements

As this incredible chapter of my life ends, I cannot help but recall upon the amazing journey I have had and also remember the life-changing people I have met along the way. After finishing high school, I was sure that I would never be attending a University to get a bachelor's degree. As a first generation college student, I sometimes felt hopeless in my efforts to have a successful education without any guidance or family members with college experience. Southern Utah University has given me so much more than I could have ever asked for and is the reason I am able to submit this final capstone paper today.

The friends that I have made at SUU have been the strongest acts of support for me to not only receive my bachelor's degree, but also strive to obtain my master's degree. I am especially thankful for Ryan Max Bailey who has acted as my mentor, role model, and big brother all five years of college. Ryan taught me to always be true to myself and to share my inner strength with others; to invoke positive change in the lives of others through service and empathy. I am also incredibly thankful for Madison Maynard who has been my foundation throughout my time at school. Madi is my other half; the analytical to my messy and creative. These two have positively impacted my life forever.

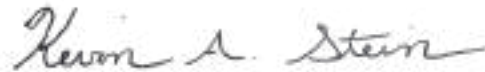
I am also so grateful for the professors in the Communication Department I have had the honor of knowing. I have learned so much of the career I want to achieve from what I have learned in multiple classes. I know that these dreams of mine are obtainable because my professors have believed in me since my first day as a Communication major. A huge thank you to Kevin Stein for agreeing to be my capstone chair (I'm sure he regrets saying yes to me!)

Lastly, the biggest thank you goes to my family. Mom, Dad, and Sam; thank you for loving me for every ounce of who I am.

Signature Page

I certify that I have read this thesis and that, in my opinion, it is satisfactory in scope and quality
as a

thesis for the degree of Master of Professional Communication

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin A. Stein".

(Kevin Stein), Capstone Chair

Table of Contents

Title Page	pg. 1
Abstract	pg. 2
Acknowledgements	pg. 3-4
Signature Page	pg. 5
Table of Contents	pg. 6
Introduction	pg. 7
Literature Review	pgs. 8-13
Method	pgs. 13-16
Analysis/Results	pgs. 16-28
Discussion	pgs. 28-30
Conclusion	pgs. 30-31
Reference List	pgs. 32-34
Appendix A (YouTube Video Table)	pgs. 35-36
Appendix B (YouTube Video Category)	pgs. 37-39

Introduction

The importance of knowing who we are acts as a foundation of our development as a person. Our individual experiences, moments, relationships, values, morals, thoughts; answers to the question of, “Who am I,” all intertwine to create what is called our identity (Bailey, 2003). An individual is not limited to just one identity; there can be many, to the extent of having one identity for each relationship one has or having multiple identities with one person that changes gradually throughout life (Winters, 2013). An identity that over 4.5% of Americans within the United States share is the sexual identity of being LGBTQ+, or Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transexual, Queer, and more (Gallup, 2017). That percent equates to just about 14 million people. While the idea of same-sex identity is becoming societally more accepted than in previous generations, social pressure of friends, family members, and the surrounding world can prevent that identity from ever existing (Florida, 2014).

The LGBTQ+ community has undergone many odds against them; unequal rights, low population representation, and both violent rhetoric and violent actions in connection with homophobia. LGBTQ+ individuals have to individually decide quickly whether or not another individual is going to accept or reject the LGBTQ+ identity that they are choosing to express to others; and quite often, that decision is to keep it hidden. With the social pressures from friends and family members, LGBTQ+ individuals have begun utilizing social media as an outlet to further express their LGBTQ+ identity with others; and without the fear of ever having to tell friends or family members. Social media platforms, such as YouTube, are becoming frequent uses of LGBTQ+ individuals to share their personal stories with others from all around the world. But how useful is social media as a coming out tool? Research can show you.

Literature Review

LGBTQ+ Identity Formation

The discovery and management of LGBTQ+ identity, as shown above, plays a core role in the expression of sexual identity to others. This identity formation begins with youth in developmental ages. LGBTQ+ youth may find their sexual identity halted in development due to “developmental alienation in identity formation” (Goltz, 2013, p. 137). This alienation may come from government policies, disapproving family members, and homophobic-driven interactions; including friends, family, and the media. With such alienation, LGBTQ+ youth utilize computer-mediated-communication to discover sexual identities from those that have also experienced similar living environments. As suggested by Bradly Bond and Andrea Figueroa-Caballero (2016), “LGB youth may be motivated to seek out CMC (computer-mediated-communication) to help them better understand how their sexualities fit into their identities” (p. 290). CMC provides the opportunity for LGBTQ+ youth to discover identities that they may see in others and explore the identities based on what they have seen. Research shows that people are able to learn by observing the behaviors of others and conceptualizing what those behaviors mean within the self (Gillig and Murphy, 2016). With the fast-track expansion of social media within society, LGBTQ+ youth are now able to expand their communicative outreach to those around the world and are no longer as limited to the town they live in.

Having to hide an identity confines a person of the LGBTQ+ community from them being able to be themselves. Being able to identify as gay or lesbian provided a positive impact on the development of LGBTQ+ identity (King, Reilly and Hebl, 2008). Researchers have also been able to provide results that “disclosure of one’s sexual identity with psychological well-being” (King, Reilly, and Hebl, 2008). LGBTQ+ community members can progressively combat

mental health issues through the announcement, discovery and/or realization of LGBTQ+ identities.

LGBTQ+ Coming Out

For those that may view the term ‘coming out’ as foreign to them, Eden King, Clare Reilly and Michelle Hebl (2008) define “coming out of the closet” as, “People who are gay but have not yet disclosed that information to others” (p. 568). They continue to explain that, “A person can be ‘out of the closet’ in one setting but very much ‘in the closet’ in another, typically depending on an individual’s assessment of the risks and benefits of disclosure in a given context” (King, Reilly, and Hebl, 2008, p. 568). Sometimes, it may be safer for an LGBTQ+ individual to continue to have their LGBTQ+ hidden. “Coming out” as an LGBTQ+ individual can be a more difficult experience than the revealing of personal information about oneself that fits in with the societal norm (King, Reilly, and Hebl, 2008). This process is exclusive to those of the LGBTQ+ community.

There are various groups that an LGBTQ+ individual may “come out to;” one group being family. Parents’ reactions to their children “coming out” can redefine how the LGBTQ+ individual chooses to begin the coming out process. In certain circumstances, parents may deny the acceptance of their child being LGBTQ+. Amanda Denes (2008) suggests that, “If a positive message approach is used in the first coming out, then the parent is more likely to acknowledge the message” (p. 8). This can become difficult, as the fear of non-acceptance by LGBTQ+ individuals can drastically influence the coming out process that is chosen. If a parent or parents deny the LGBTQ+ identity of their child, that child may continue to withhold from the coming out process until a later date. This is to ensure that parents are able to further evaluate the situation, rather than the parents’ initial reaction of having a negative expectancy violation of

their heterosexual vision of their child being crushed (Denes, 2008). However, this does not always mean that the child views the disapproval of their parents as a negative “coming out” experience. Denes continues to suggest that, “Children may feel that their parent’s denial of the revelation is not necessarily negative, and perhaps even positive in comparison to the reactions they may have predicted” (Denes, 2008, p. 15). Because of these expectations, LGBTQ+ individual may find themselves having the courage to express their sexual identity to others that may not be within their immediate family; such as school friends.

LGBTQ+ Hardships

School has become both a hardship and safety concern for students of all ages within the LGBTQ+ community. Ingrid Dahl (2008) formulated a study that found that more than 25% of LGBTQ+ youth withdrew from a school-system, while an averaged 33% of the sample attempted self-harm and/or suicide within the span of a year, suggesting both verbal and physical harassment as the prominent factor. In addition, 96% of LGB students experience homophobic and/or harassment remarks in constancy, half experience homophobic verbal abuse, and 16% experience physical abuse, all within the school system (Stauntson, 2016). LGBTQ+ students are also less protected by state public policies and protections than non-LGBTQ+ students, according to Shinsuke Eguchi (2006). This unprotecting both state- and school-wide allows for homophobia to continue to affect LGBTQ+ students and their identities.

With an influx of difficulties and hardships, LGBTQ+ identities are prevented from being revealed in the school-system. Identities are found to be hidden, or even invisible, within the school system (Stauntson, 2016). LGBTQ+ students begin to feel illegitimated due to hidden identities and an absence of safety causes a continuation of identities to further become ignored (Stauntson, 2016). LGBTQ+ students are pressured to make the decision of whether or not their

LGBTQ+ identity is one that is to be shared with others; or that the risk of sharing that identity is of worth.

Homophobia acts as a terminating factor of LGBTQ+ identity growth. Homophobia is defined by Jeffrey Hall and Betty La France (2007) as, “Global negative attitudes about homosexuality and homosexuals” (p. 41). Eden King, Clare Reilly, and Michelle Hebl (2008) state that, “Gay and lesbian individuals often face discrimination and prejudice” (p. 567). Extending, “Openly gay individuals, and even those persons who are merely suspected of being gay, may notice that heterosexuals give them less respect, engage in less eye contact with them, and speak fewer words to them in dialogue” (King, Reilly, and Hebl, 2008, p. 576). LGBTQ+ identity is unable to be a prevalent identity in an LGBTQ+ individual, as the lack of safety that an environment holds provides un-comfortability in visibly showing said identity. To a greater extent, homophobia directly impacts how LGBTQ+ individuals may view their own homosexuality (Eguchi, 2006). This impact directly correlates to hidden identity.

In regard to bullying, homophobia has the ability to cause self-harm and suicidal tendencies. According to Rob Cover (2013), “Bullying has a detrimental causal relationship with suicidality when it newly occurs if the subject does not have the capacity to adapt and incorporate it into everyday life” (p. 1). Through homophobic bullying, identity continues to be hidden for LGBTQ+ in unsafe environments. Mental health is a focus of concern within the LGBTQ+ community. Research has shown that LGBTQ+ youth have a higher rate of both self-harm and suicide compared to non-LGBTQ+ youth (Cover, 2013).

YouTube and the LGBTQ+ Community

YouTube is a multi-media social media platform where users can upload and watch videos of almost any topic that comes to mind (Phrasee, 2016). Users are encouraged to generate

creative content that can also generate a following for an individual user (Phrasee, 2016).

Because this platform has sky-rocketed in popularity as the second-most popular website in the world, LGBTQ+ youth have begun to utilize the social media platform to express their sexual identity (Hills, 2018; Alexa, 2018).

LGBTQ+ youth are taking the opportunity of a visible platform to tell their story to others as coming out videos begin to rise in popularity. According to Jessica Bateman (2017), “The popularity of these videos is due to audiences looking for information and support that they can’t find elsewhere” (p. 1). These videos begin to act as an outlet for LGBTQ+ individuals to talk about their coming out experiences; however, the heavy weight that LGBTQ+ individuals have felt during their coming out experiences are sometimes relived during the telling of those experiences (Bateman, 2017). Vulnerability plays an important role in this digital coming out-channel due to the authentic and open communication held between someone who makes a YouTube video, or a YouTuber, and viewers. According to Michael Humphrey (2018), “With such acts of vulnerability, amid perceptually high stakes and murky contexts, comes a need to shape discourse that the community can quickly and easily understand . . .” (p. 226). While each coming out story is unique to the one whom experienced it, a conversation can begin between others that may have experienced similar within their lives.

While coming out on YouTube seems to be growing in popularity, the researcher was not able to discover any “coming out” specific channels on YouTube that post only tips and tricks about coming out. By searching “LGBTQ coming out” in the YouTube search bar, two distinct LGBTQ+ channel themes were seen. First, queer individuals interweave LGBTQ+-focused content with other YouTube content, such as do-it-yourself videos, karaoke, story-times, and

more. Second, there are LGBTQ+ YouTube channels focused on directly talking about the LGBTQ+ experience; however, these videos are not only focused on the coming out process.

Within the literature review, I discovered the importance of LGBTQ+ identity as it relates to the coming out process, as well as how disruption during identity development may influence the readiness of an LGBTQ+ individual, both positively and negatively, to come out to others. With LGBTQ+ identity becoming accessible during developmental stages of youth, many influences in the world can cause this identity disruption; such as family, friends, teachers, and the media. Without acceptance, the coming out process can be impacted negatively in ways that would prevent an individual to come out. However, this may be combated with the utilization of social media as an outlet to further express sexual identity. Social media, as fast as it has grown societally, has acted as a core tool for LGBTQ+ individuals to explore sexual identities and reveal sexual identities to those outside of their immediate family and friends. YouTube has provided a platform for LGBTQ+ individuals to come out with very little risk of those whom they might know face-to-face to ever know. Research has shown that coming out videos have become increasingly popular.

Method

The primary method used for this final capstone thesis is a Grounded Theory Analysis. This Grounded Theory Analysis was used to discover three distinct themes of Queer YouTube Coming Out Theory. In addition to this Grounded Theory Analysis, resource tables were created to better categorize the selected YouTube videos. The first table (Appendix A) is sorted by YouTube upload date and contains the following information: YouTube user name, date, views, and length (minutes). The second table (Appendix B) is sorted alphabetically by YouTube user

name and contains the following information: YouTube username, category, and direct YouTube video URL. These additional resources can be found in the appendices section of this paper.

While the research discovered within the literature review covers a broad foundation of the coming out process for LGBTQ+ individuals and a focus of the use of YouTube as a platform to share those experiences, research was limited in the area in regard to overarching narratives found in LGBTQ+ coming out videos. Only one article discovered focused on the sharing of coming out experiences of YouTube social media influencers. This article studies a very few amount of popular YouTube creators with subscribers surpassing 1 million and are considered popular YouTube content creators.

A Grounded Theory Analysis was chosen for this paper due to a lack of theory that strictly focuses on analyzing YouTube coming out videos and the themes that follow. Grounded Theory, according to Strauss and Corbin (1990), is “a qualitative research method that uses a systematic set of procedures to develop an inductively derived grounded theory about a phenomenon” (p. 12). Grounded Theory begins with first asking a question (or more) that lead to the development of a theory. This was done by asking the original question: why do LGBTQ+ individuals post their coming out stories on YouTube? After modifying the direction of the research question, narrowing the selection of selected YouTube videos was the first step. Open coding began while viewing each of the selected videos. During this process, all discovered themes were placed on a list until no additional themes emerged. Axial coding was the following step performed. This step allowed for the condensing of similarly-relating themes categories. After multiple themes were condensed, three major theme categories encompassed the information discovered by analysis of each selected YouTube video. Queer YouTube Coming Out Theory was created as a result.

50 LGBTQ+ YouTube coming out videos were analyzed. For the purpose of this research study, a mix of both popular YouTube content creators (having 300,000 or more subscribers) and smaller population YouTube content creators (having 299,999 or less subscribers) were chosen. As per limitations, there is one area of focus regarding LGBTQ+ individuals coming out that were not discovered in research: are there any narrative themes shared between LGBTQ+ individuals when comparing queer coming out videos? A research question was created in attempt to further understand this lack of research:

RQ 1: What narrative themes regarding LGBTQ+ coming out were found amongst coming out videos on YouTube?

By discovering research to answer this research question, themes may be discovered that may potentially be used to guide further understand the utilization of YouTube as a social media platform and its connection with the LGBTQ+ community. Moving forward, I believed the best way to both discover and understand the answer to this question was to observe selected LGBTQ+ coming out YouTube videos. The coming out videos that were selected for this research were based on two criteria: the video can be found by searching “LGBTQ+ coming out” and each individual mentions that they are LGBTQ+ within their coming out video. As these videos act as testimonials, this provides enough insurance that all researched material comes from a member of the LGBTQ+ community; someone that has experienced coming out to others. Individuals within the videos of popular YouTube channels will be named by their official YouTube username; this is to ensure that each video can be found and used potentially in future research. While videos were being selected, it was made a priority to select videos uploaded

from a range of years; 2012-2019. A total of 50 coming out videos were analyzed for this research study with additional information regarding each video provided in the table below:

	User name	Date	Views	Length (minutes)
1.	MarkE Miller	November 15, 2012	826,946	5:31
2.	Mark Raimondo	July 9th, 2014	465,033	6:41
3.	Austin Wallis	August 6, 2014	51,410	8:09
4.	Justice F.	August 10, 2014	25,341	14:46
5.	Connor Franta	December 8, 2014	12,212,423	6:27
6.	Aaron Rhodes	January 14, 2015	27,037,159	8:36
7.	Ingrid Nilsen	June 9, 2015	17,663,540	19:12
8.	Andrew Neighbors	August 12, 2015	255,275	11:51
9.	Alex Passarello	December 31, 2015	408,453	15:50
10.	Adventures of Zach and B	April 13, 2016	892,616	9:19

****Additional information in Appendix A.**

Analysis/Results

Queer YouTube Coming Out Theory focuses on the personalized story-telling of LGBTQ+ coming out stories posted publicly on the social media platform, YouTube. This newfound theory provided new information on both specific pieces of advice given by the LGBTQ+ individual and the overarching narrative of coming out videos: to help others. This theory can be beneficial for queer individuals that have not yet revealed their sexual orientation publicly. This theory can also be beneficial for LGBTQ+ organizations to utilize this information and potentially create a better coming out experience for LGBTQ+ youth. Three major themes were discovered while analyzing each LGBTQ+ coming out YouTube video: *queer inner resilience, identity boxing, and timing.*

Queer Inner Resilience

The first theme found amongst the advice given within LGBTQ+ coming out videos on YouTube focused on the concept of “queer inner resilience.” For the purpose of this research study, a simple definition can be known as the natural acting of an individual as according to their inner character (Dictionary, 2019). However, the concept of being yourself extends further than this distinct definition for members of the LGBTQ+ community. Being yourself, for queer individuals, means surpassing all fear and potential odds that may be against you so that you may feel as if you belong, are meant to exist, and can continue to live on loving yourself in the case of family, friends, or society fighting against you. There is a certain resilience that occurs in the process of the personal understanding of queer identity to an LGBTQ+ individual and in the courage to tell others of an identity that is not always socially accepted. This resilience occurs further when contemplating potential risks that may occur to the individual after that identity is revealed to others; such as homophobia, hate crimes, violence, harassment, and possibly death.

Queer Inner Resilience begins, in most of the selected YouTube videos, as an expression of positive realization of self-worth. After having to navigate the acceptance of homosexual sexual identity, LGBTQ+ individuals may experience either positive or negative self-worth growth. This is based on both the acceptance of one’s own identity and the acceptance of other’s based on that same identity. Ingrid Nilsen, a popular YouTuber whom had come out to her viewers, provides a positive example of her self-worth in her coming out video:

“I have been asked, ‘How do I know that this isn’t just a phase?’ and I think that is actually a really great and important question. For me, it’s pretty simple: this is me. Sitting right here, right now. This is me, and the fact that I am gay is a part of me. I am proud to be who I am. You should be so proud to be who you are” (Nilsen, 2015).

Sam Cushing also expresses the positives of his coming out experience. Growing up, he felt incredibly lucky to have had supportive friends and family and allowed him to be authentically himself. He has since used his LGBTQ+ identity to make a career out of social media. When telling his story, he says:

“I’ve learned that being gay can be a huge asset for me. Having a support network, connections, being...an ambassador for diversity; that’s pretty freaking cool. To those of you who find yourselves in a situation that is...circumstantially different than mine, I just want you to know that you can always find strength in darkness. Love yourselves and be you because there is nobody else in this world who can be you better than you can be you.” (Cushing, 2019)

This positive self-worth can also be seen in Adventure of Zach and B’s video, “COMING OUT STORY – I WAS OUTED.” Zach, being a member of the U.S. Army, has had to readjust the revealing of his sexual orientation multiple times in his life. After finally coming to terms with his sexual orientation, he has begun living life authentically:

“As of now, I’m happy and healthy. I’m out and I’m happy to be out. I don’t have to hide anymore. I’m in a better place in general. I think everybody needs to consider that their own happiness is important than the persona that they try to give off to everybody. You can be a much happier person. I am happier out of the closet than I ever was in the closet; I think that says a lot.” (Zach, 2016)

Taylor Phillips mentions his negative coming out experience in full detail. Throughout his coming out process, he began to feel more comfortable and positive of his sexual orientation and has since strived to make a positive impact in the queer community. He mentions:

“I am very comfortable with who I am and I’m very happy with where my life is and where I’m going and what I’m contributing to the world. Every day I learn a little bit more about myself and I just become a more free version of myself. To me, being gay is the most special thing because I made it through; I’m here and I’m living a great, happy life as a gay man.” (Phillips, 2019)

Phoenix’s Life changed his entire mindset from negative to positive in regard to queer inner resilience. At the beginning of his coming out process, he did not believe he had the strength to be his authentic self. After many months, he came to the realization that whatever is going to make him happy is going to make him happy:

“I have kind of really grown to love myself and accept myself for who I am. I have come to realize that you can have a totally normal life and a totally happy life if you just follow your heart. I love being gay just for the simple fact that it makes me happy. I know that living my life as a gay person is living my true self.” (Phoenix’s Life, 2019)

While Queer Inner Resilience focuses on the inner expression of LGBTQ+ individuals, those individuals may also choose to fight for the Queer Inner Resilience of others. YouTube user Salice Rose produces an emotionally and passionately invoked message within her coming out video:

*“There are so many kids, teenagers, adults, older people, elderly people that get killed or commit suicide because they are so tired of being bullied. Why are they bullied? Because they’re weird? Because they’re gay? Because some guys wear make-up? Because some girls like other girls? People get killed nowadays in our generation or they commit suicide because they’re so afraid to be themselves and I f***ing hate that because society is the number one place . . . where people say “BE YOURSELF,” “LOVE YOURSELF;”*

*But whenever you be yourself, they don't like it. They judge you, they hate it. So, I encourage you guys. I f***ing encourage one hundred and 50% to always be yourself"*
(Rose, 2017)

Rylee Drake also mentions a few pieces of advice in her video, "My Coming Out Story | Rylee Drake," that fall into this category. Drake experienced hard times that negatively impacted her coming out experience. By being true to herself, she was able to move forward with the revealing of her sexual orientation and discovered what is most important to her:

"Don't let the haters get to you because they're not worth it. They are not worth it. The only thing that should matter to you is the person you are and the people you love and the things you love to do because I'm telling you right now; if you follow those three things in life and spend your time and put your energy into those three things, at the end, you're going to be happy. I hope that's what matters to you." (Drake, 2019)

Queer Inner Resilience, as a theme, is broad enough to allow for multiple interpretations of inner resilience while also having an underlying foundation: feeling strong enough being true to oneself. When inner resilience is at high levels, LGBTQ+ individuals (like Salice Rose) can begin to fight for other's right to be true to oneself.

Timing

The second theme of advice discovered within the LGBTQ+ coming out videos on YouTube expressed the great importance of having the right "timing." Timing, in this sense, is to be used by an LGBTQ+ individual whom has not yet come out. Multiple coming out videos explained the frequent asking of when the right timing is to come out; to friends, family, or others. The coming out videos that were categorized into this section provide similar advice as

the answer to this question; there is no one-size-fit-all time that works for each LGBTQ+ individual. Right timing is unique to the individual.

Casey Journeys provides in depth insight on the timing of coming out and how important it is for LGBTQ+ individuals to come out when they feel they are ready. Journeys provides this advice after he himself waited months for the “right time” during his coming out experience:

“When’s the right time? It kind of makes me laugh because there isn’t a right time. It’s never going to be the right time in this world right now. There’s always going to be someone to tell you this is wrong; there’s always going to be somebody to tell you that this is right...Honestly, the answer is it’s whenever you would feel as if you’re ready; then you are. You don’t need a date, you don’t need a timeline; you don’t need any of that. You do it whenever you’re ready. You do it when you’re believing that it’s true.”

(Journeys, 2019)

It is important to listen to the inner telling of one’s heart and mind when personally deciding the right time to come out. Some LGBTQ+ individuals believe that it all comes down to what feels right; the environment surrounding a person, how family and friends will react, if the individual is alone or in a group of people, or location: school, at home, on YouTube.

Similar advice can be found in Sean Sil’s coming out video titled “COMING OUT STORY (THE HARDEST PART).” Sil had experienced conflicting feelings about when to come out for years before deciding to reveal his sexuality to others:

“The important thing that I want to stress here is that if you’re afraid, if you’re scared, if you’re worried, just listen to what your heart is telling you and then think about where you want to go next. You can keep it to yourself for a bit, you can tell everyone in a minute, or you can keep some people in the know and some people out for a little bit;

because this is your secret. This is your gift. Until you're ready, no one else has to know.

If you feel it's right to tell people at a certain time, then do it." (Sil, 2019)

Revealing a sexual orientation can be an emotionally taxing and investing process for LGBTQ+ individuals. Suicide rates are especially high for queer youth. Because of this, there are some LGBTQ+ individuals that do believe that there is a specific window of time that one should reveal their sexual orientation. Connor White mentions in his coming out video, "Coming Out..." the importance of waiting until an older age to reveal one's sexuality:

"I am 18 years old, so I feel like the time right now is the best to come out. I feel like 12-year old's shouldn't really come out as a sexuality. They're still experimenting, they're kids; you don't need to put a label on yourself even if you're 15 or 14; I feel like that's still too young. I feel like when you're 16 or 17, it's a better time to come out because you are turning into an adult." (White, 2019)

MarkE Miller suggests the opposite in his coming out video, "MY COMING OUT STORY":

"For me, personally, it doesn't matter to me what age you come out. It doesn't matter if you're 15, 50; it's all about personal choice and what you feel at the time.

Safety plays a massive role for a queer individual deciding to come out. As per the research in the literature review, there can be negative consequences associated with the coming out process: losing friends, being disowned by family, experiencing homophobia, and violence. Daniel Beckman provides an example of this in his video, "My Coming Out Story." Beckman shares details of not feeling safe enough to tell his friends or family members about his sexuality and shares advice about coming out safety:

"The most important thing I can say is to make sure you are in a safe place when you do decide to come out and make sure you are surrounded by a good group of people who

are very understanding and make you feel safe. That is probably the most important thing.” (Beckman, 2019)

Similar advice was given from Michael Waters. His unique experience focused on the relationship between himself and his family after having gone through forced conversion therapy:

“Timing was everything for me. I said, ‘Mom and Dad, I am gay again. And this time, I don’t want to change. I’m very happy with me and through this whole process, I’ve learned who I am. And yeah, I failed, and I couldn’t be the guy who you wanted me to be. But I’m happy with myself and I am proud of who I am’” (Waters, 2019)

Safety was also a concern for Mickey Nucci. Nucci experienced familial hardships throughout his coming out process. Finding the right time to reveal his sexual orientation took years, but he came out after he felt safe in his environment. He gives specific safety advice in his video:

“If you really do feel like your Mom or Dad or whoever your guardian is, isn’t going to accept you for it or you fear for your life or you fear they’re going to kick you out, don’t do it. You can wait until you’re 18 or financially stable and then, you know, hit them with it.” (Nucci, 2018)

From a different perspective, timing can also refer and relate to the families and friends of LGBTQ+ individuals. During the coming out process, a change of dynamics can occur in family relationships and friendships. The reaction of others of the revealing of sexual orientation is different per person. During this adjustment period, friends and family of the queer individual may need their own time and space to figure out the change in relational dynamics. Andrew Neighbors shares advice about his family’s experiences with his coming out process. He

expresses the importance of supporting queer individuals even if it feels uncomfortable at the beginning:

“All I can really say is...if you have a friend or a brother or a sister that’s gay, just support them. Tell them that you support them, tell them that you love them. Don’t force them to come out, let them come out on their own time. Just make sure that they know you love them and support them no matter what. And if you have a family that is supportive and you are gay, let them know how much that means to you. Don’t take it for granted.”
(Neighbors, 2015)

A similar suggestion can be found in Gabe Varn’s coming out video:

*“If you have a gay family member, just recognize that coming out is scary as s*** and can be traumatic and sometimes goes really awfully. If someone comes out to you, you should embrace them and be supportive and loving.”*

Timing is incredibly important to the coming out process for both queer individuals, their family members, and their friends. There is no “right time” for a queer individual to reveal their sexuality; it is subjective. When an LGBTQ+ individual decides that they are ready to come out, then they may feel free to come out.

Identity Boxing

The third theme discovered through research of LGBTQ+ coming out videos was the concept of identity boxing; LGBTQ+ individuals being put in a box. This idea focuses on the stereotypes within society, that have also almost become societal norms, that entrap LGBTQ+ individuals into one essence of being gay. For example, an LGBTQ+ individual not being considered gay for not “talking” in a gay way; or to a further extent, for not “dressing” in a gay

way. Dylan Geick provides a personal example occurring between him and his best friend after first coming out to him:

“It was the funniest and saddest experience for me; the first thing my best friend said to me after coming out to him was, ‘What do you mean you’re gay? You don’t sound gay at all.’ I had to tell him right then and there that there was no specific way to be gay; I just like dudes!” (Geick, 2018).

While this was spoken in a joking matter, Geick also provides insight on why it is important to not categorize yourself as just being LGBTQ+:

“Your sexuality doesn’t determine who you are . . . but I do think the media is doing a better job at representing all kinds of people. But, that is still something we all need to work on; seeing people as individuals and not putting them into categories. Don’t try to fit into a category, just be yourself” (Geick, 2018)

Queer stereotypes still exist in society today. For example, some people may still believe that being gay is a choice. Other people may believe that, since a queer individual enjoys sports, that they are and should be straight. Matt Goertzen experienced this same event during his coming out process. Goertzen experienced many homophobic comments from his friends that caused him to put a pause in his efforts to reveal his sexuality. After revealing his sexuality to others, his friends made stereotypical comments to him about who he should be as a person:

“There’s nothing wrong with the stereotype, ‘everybody is themselves.’ That’s who they are and that’s who they were born to be. My friends call me the most straight gay person they know but that’s just who I am. I’m not the straight gay person, I’m a gay man. I hunt, I fish, I love the outdoors; but there’s lots of other gay guys that do as well. Sure, I may not be the most well dressed gay man in the world but you know what, there’s plenty

of other ones out there just like me. I don't like the stereotype where everybody thinks all gay guys are this way or that way. Stereotyping hurts." (Goertzen, 2019)

Being gay is just one piece of a large puzzle; or so is said by some of the queer individuals in these coming out videos. Identity does not have to be limited to only one; a person can have many identities. This theme is continued within Connor Franta's coming out video. He expresses the importance of how he is made up of so many important things and that being gay is only one of them:

"Being gay is such an important identity to me, and a strong one, too; but it is not my only one. I really hate stereotypes. I don't fit them at all, which doesn't bother me, but it seems to bother everyone else. I will never fit into the box of just being gay. I am a powerful woman, sister, friend, girlfriend, and I am ALSO gay. I am not just gay"
(Franta, 2014)

Matthew Crawford, a Twitter social media influencer, suggested similar advice in his coming out video. Crawford had to not only come out to his friends and family, but to also the social media world. Through his experiences, he has been able to manage his queer identity so that it is a small part of him and not all of who he is:

"I really think that it's such a small thing about us. Me being gay is this little pixel right here. It is not even a fraction of who I am. Don't let it be. Don't let it run your life. I'm proud of who I am, and I'm proud of every piece of me. I don't need to exploit the fact that I'm gay to be proud. I'm proud of me because I'm who I am as a person. I just encourage all of you to love every piece in the puzzle box."

While Identity Boxing can come from an outside source, it can also occur internally within an LGBTQ+ individual. An LGBTQ+ individual may find themselves feeling pressured to have

their queer identity as their biggest self-defining characteristic due to it being hidden for a long period of time. As such, an LGBTQ+ individual may also feel the opposite and may be afraid to commit to their LGBTQ+ identity. Dash-and Amman talks about the fear he has felt and still feels about committing to his queer identity after trying to navigate being bisexual and also being religious. He says:

“I like guys and girls. Since about a week ago, I didn’t understand that. I’m not going to put a name to it because that could change. I don’t want to name it and then have to change that name. I pushed this down for so many years that even the concept of a crush is really weird and awkward to me. I’ve always just pushed it down which is so much easier than confronting it.” (Dash-and Amman, 2019)

There can be a middle ground to queer identity. Queer identity can be a major identity for an LGBTQ+ individual while not being the only defining characteristic of the individual. Instagram model, Sam Cushing, talks about his LGBTQ+ identity development. Cushing was able to understand the importance of his queer identity, going so far as to make a professional career based upon it, while also having it not be his one defining characteristic:

“While I don’t let being gay define me holistically as a human being, it’s certainly a huge component of who I am and it’s something that I’ve learned to become proud of.” (Cushing, 2019)

Identity boxing tackles three things: stereotypes, outer influence, and inner influence. Queer stereotypes can potentially cause a queer individual to feel uncomfortable with their sexual orientation; especially if those individuals do not fit a specific stereotype. Outside influences, such as media, can also provide a negative perception of queer life that could cause discomfort

with one's sexual orientation. Lastly, knowing that one's true self does not align with who they believe they are can create dissonance and also negatively impact the coming out process.

Discussion

RQ 1: What themes regarding LGBTQ+ coming out were found amongst coming out videos on YouTube?

The themes discovered in this newfound theory are important because they show personalized, detailed information regarding the unique coming out experiences of LGBTQ+ individuals. By providing research of the three major themes of queer inner resilience, identity boxing, and timing, LGBTQ+ individuals that have not yet revealed their sexual orientation can better understand the coming out process and how they should decide to come out on their own. This theory was created based upon selected coming out videos under specific search terms. As these videos are readily available on YouTube at any time, it is possible for these videos to be included in future research alongside new coming out videos if ever continued.

After researching each LGBTQ+ coming out video, the most obvious overarching narrative discovered that explained the reasoning and motivation behind posting coming out stories on YouTube is to help others. This theme extends to guiding other LGBTQ+ individuals who may not have had the opportunity to come out to people or have been contemplating coming out to people. For an experience that is so selfish in nature by focusing on individual experience, LGBTQ+ individuals do not use coming out stories/videos for validation or pity; they use it to further benefit others and help those in need.

I believe this research to be a pivotal starting point for LGBTQ+ research moving forward. To know that LGBTQ+ individuals unite in giving back to their community may be able to help lower suicide rates in the future. With YouTube being one of the most popular social

media platforms of this generation and with the fight for equality and acceptance increasing, further research could potentially provide suggestions to companies, organizations, or social media influencers to create testimonial coming out videos. These efforts would be in hopes that LGBTQ+ lives could be saved and impacted with a sense of hope and internal acceptance moving forward.

All three major themes were created based on the information discovered in each coming out video. The discovery of these themes provided great insight into the future of LGBTQ+ research in terms of utilizing YouTube as a platform of giving testimonial advice. Rather than making a YouTube video solely on the idea of LGBTQ+ advice, connecting personal advice with personal experience (through coming out stories) made each coming out video easier to connect and relate with.

While the selected YouTube coming out videos were categorized into only one category each for this research thesis, it is important to know that there were some videos that fell into two or all categories. I believe that this is because of each LGBTQ+ individual's unique coming out experiences. Because these stories are so unique, the themes presented may vary in importance to each queer individual. For example, if Timing was not an important factor for a queer individual, they may not have mentioned it in their YouTube video but instead mentioned Identity Boxing as it directly related to the experience that the queer individual had. Interestingly, based on these observations, those that experienced all three major themes had more positive coming out experiences.

Limitations of this research study include the overall amount of LGBTQ+ coming out YouTube videos selected for this study. There are over 30 coming out videos posted on YouTube within the week of November 24, 2019 to December 1, 2019. With so many coming out videos

being posted, it is possible that the three major themes presented in this research paper may change based on the videos selected. The three major themes presented in this paper, however, are based on the 50 selected videos analyzed. Another limitation could be that because LGBTQ+ coming out stories are so unique to the individual, the themes discovered could be true for some LGBTQ+ individuals and not others. As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I can attest that my own coming out story and advice would fall in only two of the three major themes presented in this paper. I do believe, however, that by understanding the themes of even one LGBTQ+ coming out story has the potential to help other LGBTQ+ individuals that are sharing a similar, yet not exact, coming out experience. Future research could expand this theory into the realms of other social media platforms such as: Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok. By being able to provide advice to LGBTQ+ individuals who have not come out yet and are struggling, even to the extent of contemplating suicide, future research may also be done to further understand the impact of the connection between testimonial advice and LGBTQ+ suicide rates.

Conclusion

Queer YouTube Coming Out Theory has provided detailed insights of LGBTQ+ individuals that share their stories on the social media platform, YouTube. By analyzing coming out videos, this research thesis can help LGBTQ+ organizations better understand the coming out process and how LGBTQ+ individuals (youth, young adults, and adults) utilize social media as a medium to share coming out stories to others. These coming out videos act as a way to pass down advice to other queer individuals while also allowing others to relate to similarly shared experiences. By analyzing the coming out stories of LGBTQ+ individuals, families, friends, and organizations can use discovered information to better reach out to and quickly adapt to the needs of a queer individual. In the end, I have high hopes that this research can act as a resource

to LGBTQ+ individuals that have not come out yet and help the families and friends of LGBTQ+ individuals better interact with their LGBTQ+ loved ones.

References

- A. (2018, December 12). Youtube.com traffic statistics. Retrieved from <https://www.alexa.com/siteinfo/youtube.com>
- Bailey, J. A., II. (2004). Self-image, self-concept, and self-identity revisited. *J Natl Med Assoc.*, 95(5), 383-386.
- Bond, B. J., & Figueroa-Caballero, A. (2016). Exploring the relationship between computer-mediated communication, sexual identity commitment, and well-being among lesbian, gay, and bisexual adolescents. *Communication Research Reports*, 33(4), 288-294.
- Bateman, J. (2017, April 03). How youtube videos changed the way young people come out. Retrieved from https://broadly.vice.com/en_us/article/8x4gkp/how-youtube-videos-changed-the-way-young-people-come-out
- Bond, B. J., & Figueroa-Caballero, A. (2016). Exploring the relationship between computer-mediated communication, sexual identity commitment, and well-being among lesbian, gay, and bisexual adolescents. *Communication Research Reports*, 33(4), 288-294.
- Cover, R. (2013). Queer youth resilience: critiquing the discourse of hope and hopelessness in lgbt suicide representation. *M/C Journal*, 16(5), 1-1.
- Dahl, I. H. (2008). Youth media is coming out. *Youth Media Reporter*, 2(1-6), 35-39. Retrieved October 10, 2018.
- Denes, A. (2008). The second coming out: Communicative strategies in redisclosures of lgbt children's sexual orientation to their parents. *National Communication Association*, 1-30.
- Eguchi, S. (2006). Social and internalized homophobia as a source of conflict: how can we improve the quality of communication? *Review of Communication*, 6(4), 348-357.

- Florida, R. (2016, June 12). The global map of homophobia. Retrieved from <https://www.citylab.com/equity/2014/02/global-map-homophobia/8309/>
- Gallup, Inc. (2018, May 22). In U.S., estimate of LGBT population rises to 4.5%. Retrieved from <https://news.gallup.com/poll/234863/estimate-lgbt-population-rises.aspx>
- Gillig, T. K., & Murphy, S. T. (2016). Fostering support for lgbtq youth? The effects of a gay adolescent media portrayal on young viewers. *International Journal of Communication, 10*, 3828-3850.
- Goltz, D. B. (2013). It gets better: queer futures, critical frustrations, and radical potentials. *Critical Studies in Media Communication, 30*(2), 135-151.
- Hall, J. A., & France, B. H. (2007). Attitudes and communication of homophobia in fraternities: separating the impact of social adjustment function from hetero-identity concern. *Communication Quarterly, 55*(1), 39-60.
- Hills, M. C. (2018, May 31). Survey: YouTube is america's most popular social media platform. Retrieved from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/meganhills1/2018/03/23/social-media-demographics/#671d325783ad>
- Humphrey, M. (2018). Confession narratives and mass kinship of youtube celebrities: A narrative rationality analysis. *Interactions: Studies in Communication & Culture, 9*(2), 225-237.
- King, E. B., Reilly, C., & Hebl, M. (2008). The best of times, the worst of times: Exploring dual perspectives of "coming out" in the workplace. *Group & Organization Management, 33*(5), 566-601.
- P. (2018, July 20). The history of youtube. Retrieved from <https://phrasee.co/the-history-of-youtube/>

Strauss, A., & Corbin J. (1990) Basics of qualitative research: grounded theory procedures and techniques. Newbury Park, Calif: Sage Publications. Print.

Winters, M. (2013, February 8). Trend 6: Who am i? The rise of multiple identities. Retrieved from <http://www.diversityjournal.com/10188-trend-6-who-am-i-the-rise-of-multiple-identities/>

Appendix A

	User name	Date	Views	Length (minutes)
1.	MarkE Miller	November 15, 2012	826,946	5:31
2.	Mark Raimondo	July 9th, 2014	465,033	6:41
3.	Austin Wallis	August 6, 2014	51,410	8:09
4.	Justice F.	August 10, 2014	25,341	14:46
5.	Connor Franta	December 8, 2014	12,212,423	6:27
6.	Aaron Rhodes	January 14, 2015	27,037,159	8:36
7.	Ingrid Nilsen	June 9, 2015	17,663,540	19:12
8.	Andrew Neighbors	August 12, 2015	255,275	11:51
9.	Alex Passarello	December 31, 2015	408,453	15:50
10.	Adventures of Zach and B	April 13, 2016	892,616	9:19
11.	Matthew Crawford	April 22, 2016	339,386	10:49
12.	Doug Armstrong	May 7, 2016	81,898	9:47
13.	Travis Bryant	January 6, 2017	321,022	12:52
14.	Salice Rose	September 5, 2017	2,966,426	20:21
15.	Adventures of Zach and B	September 22, 2017	379,262	9:39
16.	Adolfo romero	December 13, 2017	1,820	7:28
17.	MarkyMarkTV	January 4, 2018	8,823	10:06
18.	JUST BE YOU	January 8, 2018	463	13:49
19.	Richie West	January 10, 2018	660	10:06
20.	Yummertime	January 15, 2018	63,693	24:29
21.	Yummertime	February 27, 2018	25,757	9:56
22.	Gabriel riley	April 4, 2018	25,920	9:01
23.	Jessiepaage	June 29, 2018	1,354,172	14:55
24.	Gloom	July 7th, 2018	1,597,739	10:22

25.	Brandon Szczupaj	October 11, 2018	44,865	12:26
26.	Dylan Geick	December 3, 2018	426,338	14:41
27.	Mickey Nucci	December 25, 2018	57,265	14:07
28.	Gabe Varns	January 10, 2019	6,220	8:26
29.	Taylor Phillips	February 1, 2019	97,726	19:50
30.	laurology	February 20, 2019	10,796	10:03
31.	Sean Sil	March 12, 2019	686	11:35
32.	Meaghan Gipps	April 2, 2019	5,967	7:26
33.	Matt And Omar	April 29, 2019	16,399	11:51
34.	Joseph Garner	June 12, 2019	129,696	19:09
35.	Brian Kelly	June 20, 2019	21,109	8:23
36.	Connor White	June 22, 2019	33,778	6:51
37.	Brandon Naatz	June 24, 2019	33,729	14:48
38.	jerm bot	July 20th, 2019	693,751	10:07
39.	Michael Waters	July 24, 2019	432	6:18
40.	Rylee Drake	July 25, 2019	1,590	6:55
41.	Linc and Canyon	August 11, 2019	16,293	10:46
42.	Bradley Birkholz	September 13, 2019	1,057	9:43
43.	Hector Lopez	September 16, 2019	74,217	12:48
44.	Daniel Beckman	October 12, 2019	7,213	7:59
45.	Casey Journeys	October 21, 2019	1,845	6:47
46.	Learn German with Anja	November 1, 2019	84,961	6:40
47.	Sam Cushing	November 11, 2019	83,170	13:12
48.	Jennifer Reyes	November 16, 2019	21,575	32:42
49.	Phoenix's Life	November 19, 2019	3,880	3:02
50 .	Dash-and Amman	November 19, 2019	284	9:12

Appendix B

User name	Category	YouTube Video URL
Aaron Rhodes	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3K0CJ8usPU
adolfo romero	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhtWULLtdQo
Adventures of Zach and B	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7nXLFO_t7Ps
Adventures of Zach and B	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HAmVrMZ6Pg
Alex Passarello	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gl6SkpHOc0I
Andrew Neighbors	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0V7-CmsEOK
Austin Wallis	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFACdO99Jb8
Bradley Birkholz	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PWZf29mPZw4&t=376s
Brandon Naatz	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=28L-c7b0fz0
Brandon Szczupaj	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5w2CBAmnqnY
Brian Kelly	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQnLWuZ0UMs&t=144s
Casey Journeys	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PhdUosyAu4
Connor Franta	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYodBfRxKWI&t=1s
Connor White	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZh9wAYBOnk
Daniel Beckman	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=14mG2Jn3Yk0
Dash-and Amman	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpKrIBfSJ2I&t=470s
Doug Armstrong	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gP1w34vFulc
Dylan Geick	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8QXYsKShNI
Gabe Varns	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33QAnTFNBDI
gabriel riley	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7OrAiShQVv4

Gloom	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtI9Nwe2M60&t=559s
Hector Lopez	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GG_ iyAzgWoc
Ingrid Nilsen	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eh7WRYXVh9M
Jennifer Reyes	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qKP8Ssx-muE
jerm bot	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhrTIwaSFRo
Jessiepaege	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ol6i1FC9qvA
Joseph Garner	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jK8pC6xjIzI&t=13s
JUST BE YOU	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xFIVg2vtUs&t=745s
Justice F.	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhLeG379POA
laurology	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZN3-6PdKk8
Learn German with Anja	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kW4C3HTKJuM&t=336s
Linc and Canyon	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChSywWLqPVk&t=365s
Mark Raimondo	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTKXB9Lf-ck
MarkE Miller	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zK7tIaRz8EA
MarkyMarkTV	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijtNLBh4_ys
Matt And Omar	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9cf4w8di_s
Matthew Crawford	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lTrk1d4l6ag
Meaghan Gipps	Identity Boxing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qD3s1rhF-1k
Michael Waters	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5uq7D_smJw
Mickey Nucci	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1eV8lavGzbg&t=714s
Phoenix's Life	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkm95ABG8dl
Richie West	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C02AfS8OrFo
Rylee Drake	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vubJ9jh8Jds
Salice Rose	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y2mo76g4gCk

Sam Cushing	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8KkDhmxLPvc&t=1s
Sean Sil	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2L4wEHQH3vA
Taylor Phillips	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYZToSlxZi4
Travis Bryant	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n-Y6wIEKAzQ
Yummertime	Timing	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G12mFCn2iEM
Yummertime	Queer Inner Resilience	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hl62qZp-w-Y