



## Most Americans Say Employers Shouldn't Be Allowed to Discriminate

By John M. Becker

November 3, 2014

A new poll released last week finds that two-thirds of Americans support federal legislation protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people from workplace discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

The survey, commissioned by **Out & Equal Workplace Advocates** and conducted by The Harris Poll, also found that a clear majority -- 55% -- say *no* employers should be exempt from such legislation, including churches.

Via **press release**:

"This year's survey reinforces what we are seeing in companies, government agencies and businesses around the country - even around the world-- that more and more business leaders are supporting workplace equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees," said Selisse Berry, Founder, CEO, Out & Equal Workplace Advocates. "While this is good news we still have work to do to protect employees who can still be fired in 29 U.S. states for being LGBT and in 32 if one is transgender. Out & Equal will continue to work with our partners to build workplace equality for all members of our LGBT community."

More, after the break.

Even when respondents were asked about specific types of exemptions, support was remarkably thin:

When asked specifically, some Americans do agree with certain exemptions. The latest survey shows only about a third (35%) of all adults believe churches or other houses of worship should be exempt, and three in ten (30%) believe privately held businesses with owners citing religious beliefs should be exempt. Also, just a fifth (21%) of adults believe publicly held businesses citing religious beliefs should be exempt, and 19% believe small businesses generally should be exempt.

The survey also polled participants on transgender inclusion, and found that more than half (54%) "strongly agree" that trans workers should be treated fairly and equally.

For more information about the Harris/Out & Equal poll, [click here](#).



<http://www.bilerico.com/2014/11/most-americans-say-employers-shouldnt-be-allowed-t.php>