



More GLBT youths living on streets

A report released in the United States has found that more GLBT youths are living on the streets.

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By Chris Pycroft

The **National Gay and Lesbian Task Force**, along with the National Coalition of the Homeless, have released a report stating that more gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) youths are living on the streets.

Statistics provided in the report show that 42 percent of homeless youths in the United States are either gay or lesbian. The significant contrast is pointed out in the report to the massive figure, as opposed to the 3 to 5 percent of the overall population in the United States preferring people of the same gender.

Each year in the United States, up to 1.6 million youths either are kicked out of home, or runaway. 672,000 of them are GLBT.

Executive Director of the **National Gay and Lesbian Task Force**, Matt Foreman, commented "The heartbreaking epidemic of homelessness among lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth is both fueled and ignored by powerful forces across the country, including many who cloak themselves in 'family values'."

The report also indicated that up to 50 percent of younger gay males who come out to their parents receive a negative reaction, and up to 26 percent are asked to move out of home because of their coming out.