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February 2017
University of California Press

Cross-National Public Opinion about Homosexuality: Examining Attitudes across the Globe

BOOK RELEASE 2/7/2017

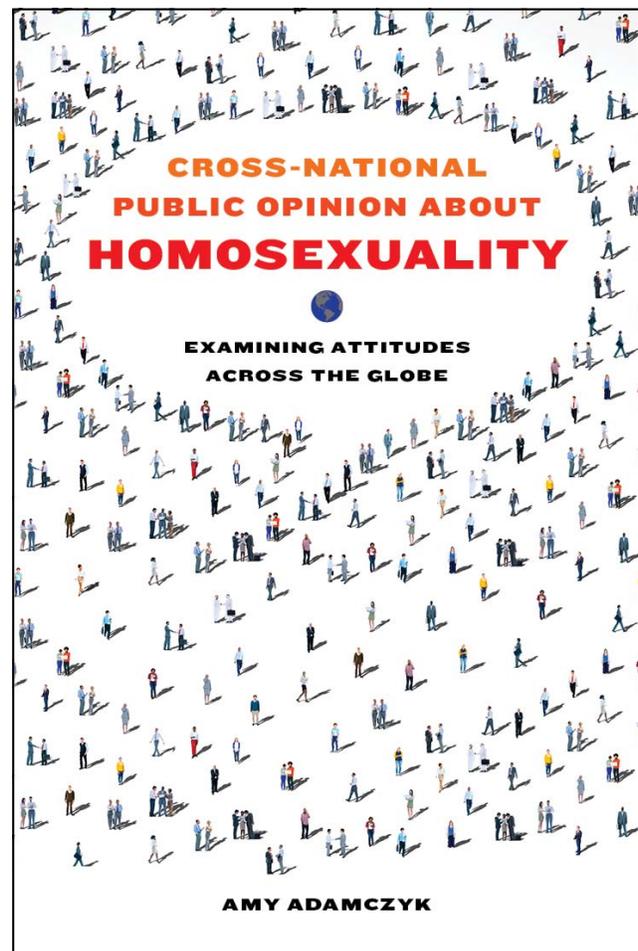
Summary:

Public opinion about homosexuality varies substantially around the world. While residents in some nations have embraced gay rights as human rights, people in many other countries find homosexuality unacceptable. What creates such big differences in attitudes? Amy Adamczyk shows that cross-national differences in opinion can be explained by the strength of democratic institutions, the level of economic development, and the religious context of the places where people live. Using survey data from almost ninety societies, case studies of various countries, content analysis of newspaper articles, and in-depth interviews Amy Adamczyk examines how country and individual characteristics influence acceptance of homosexuality.

Book endorsements:

"In this groundbreaking book Adamczyk has undertaken the daunting task of unraveling the complex dynamics shaping public opinion about same-sex relationships. She provides a rich theoretical understanding of the macro forces influencing attitudes and impressively integrates multiple types of methods and data to assess these ideas. A major contribution to cross-national public opinion research that I highly recommend."

—Christian Smith, University of Notre Dame



Cross-National Public Opinion about Homosexuality

Book endorsements cont.:

"Adamczyk has written the most comprehensive contemporary study on disapproval of homosexuality. She takes into account multidisciplinary theoretical insights on individual as well as contextual determinants to provide a worldwide readership with enlightening overviews on controversial issues."

—Peer Scheepers, Radboud University

"Drawing from a wealth of quantitative and qualitative cross-national data, Adamczyk provides an illuminating analysis of cross-national patterns in attitudes toward homosexuality. This highly informative book is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the societal roots of sexual prejudice and tolerance in the 21st century. I strongly recommend it."

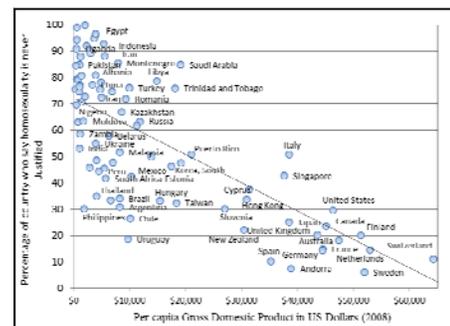
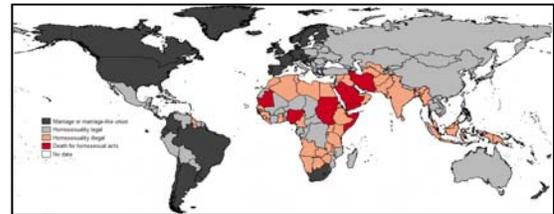
—Gregory M. Herek, University of California, Davis

"Conversation around the topic of diversity has never been more timely on college campuses, and Professor Adamczyk takes up the important subject of sexual diversity, offering a wide-ranging portrait of attitudes about same-sex relationships on a global scale. For graduate and undergraduate students interested in gay rights and sexual identity, Adamczyk's new book offers an essential window into how religion, politics, and economic development affect public opinion on these topics, and will surely spark passionate campus conversation about her findings."

—Donna Freitas, author of *Sex and the Soul: Juggling Sexuality, Spirituality, Romance and Religion on America's College Campuses*

"True cross-national studies of public opinion are rare, and even rarer still are those that take religious differences seriously. Adamczyk explores the diversity and sources of opinions among Protestant, Catholic, Muslim, and Confucian/Buddhist majority countries. I recommend this book highly to those interested in the intersection of religion and the politics of sexuality, and of those interested in comparative public opinion more broadly."

—Clyde Wilcox, Georgetown University



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Author Bio:

Dr. Amy Adamczyk is Professor of Sociology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the Programs of Doctoral Study in Sociology and Criminal Justice at The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY). She is a native of rural Wisconsin, and now lives in New York City. In 2005 she received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the Pennsylvania State University. She holds MA degrees from the University of Chicago and the Graduate Center/ Queens College, and she completed her BA degree at Hunter College.



Her research focuses on how different contexts (e.g. nations, counties, friendship groups), and personal religious beliefs shape people's deviant, criminal, and health-related attitudes and behaviors. Her research has been published widely, including in the *American Sociological Review*, *Social Forces*, *Justice Quarterly*, the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Social Science Research*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Sociological Quarterly*, *Sociology of Religion*, and the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.

With her colleagues she received the 2008 Donald MacNamara Award for outstanding article of the year. In 2009 John Jay College awarded her the Donald MacNamara Award for Junior Faculty, in 2008, 2009, 2012, and 2016 she was the recipient of John Jay College's Research Excellence Award, and in 2011 she received the John Jay College's Midcareer Award. Her research has been supported with grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, and the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation. She is also a board member for the LGBT Social Science & Public Policy Center at Hunter College, CUNY.

Sample Interview: Office for the Advancement of Research, John Jay College

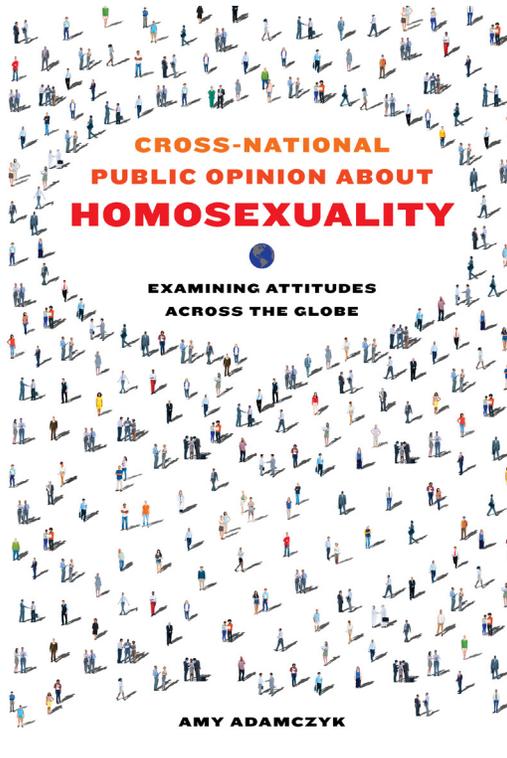
<https://johnjayresearch.commons.gc.cuny.edu/2017/01/23/interview-with-amy-adamczyk-professor-of-sociology/>

Sample Blog: Trump and Homosexuality: Differences in Public Opinion

<http://www.ucpress.edu/blog/23366/trump-differences-in-public-opinion/>

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AMY ADAMCZYK

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Amy Adamczyk is Professor of Sociology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the Graduate Center, City University of New York.

304 pp. 6 x 9

Illustrations: 27 charts and graphs, 13 tables

978-0-520-28875-1 \$85.00/£70.95 Cloth

978-0-520-28876-8 \$39.95/£32.95 Paper

February 2017



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