

# Most Mainline Protestants Accept LGBT People

March 20, 2009 By [Oriol R. Gutierrez Jr.](#)

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In a post last month, I said that [the wind is at our backs](#) when it comes to LGBT civil rights. A new survey by the Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life further confirms my optimism.

The U.S. Religious Landscape Survey was conducted by Pew in 2007. [The survey](#) "explores the shifts taking place in the U.S. religious landscape" (hence the clever survey title). Key findings were released in 2008, such as how many Christians (78.4%) are in the U.S. population, etc.

Additional survey data are just seeing the light of day, including LGBT-related questions. The [following quote](#) is amazing to me:

**"Among mainline Protestants overall, 56% say homosexuality should be accepted, compared with only about one-in-four evangelical Protestants and four-in-ten members of historically black Protestant churches."**

Most mainline Protestants accept LGBT people. Let that marinate. And that was two years ago. Even the fact that about 25% of evangelical Protestants and about 40% of black church members accept LGBT people is remarkable.

There's no doubt that this is great news for the future of LGBT civil rights. What I also pray for from these shifting attitudes is that the diminishing homophobia results in fewer HIV infections. Hope just keeps on marching forward.

Here's a chart from Pew that breaks down the results:



*Tip of the hat to the LGBT blog Independent Gay Forum for this story!*

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