

♥ Masculine of Center Resource Guide

A Supportive Resource List for Healing, Identity, and Community

Curated by **Black Educated Lesbians (BEL)** to support masculine-of-center (MoC) lesbians in finding culturally competent, affirming care and community.

Mental Health & Therapy Resources

- [Therapy for Black Girls](#)
Directory of licensed Black women therapists. Also includes blog posts and the popular *Therapy for Black Girls* podcast.
 - [Inclusive Therapists](#)
Focused on centering marginalized populations with culturally responsive therapists, including LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities.
 - [The National Queer and Trans Therapists of Color Network \(NQTTCN\)](#)
Directory and resources for queer and trans therapists of color. Includes financial assistance for therapy.
 - [BEAM \(Black Emotional and Mental Health Collective\)](#)
Offers virtual healing spaces, toolkits, and peer support for Black communities.
 - [Open Path Collective](#)
Affordable in-person and online therapy sessions with sliding scale rates.
-

Podcasts for MoC & Queer Listeners

- [Black.Girl.Masculine \(episode featured on Let's.Talk.Bruh\)](#)
This episode features **Nalo Zidan**, founder of *Black Girl Masculine*, talking about what masculinity means for her as a **queer Black woman** and how masculinity and womanhood intersect. It's a great fit for MoC listeners.
- [BFF¿Black?Fat?Femme](#) – Conversations with Black queer changemakers exploring identity, love, and resilience.
- [Surface.Level](#) – Stories and dialogue about Black queer life and culture.
- [The.Friend.Zone](#) – Mental health, life, and creativity with Black queer hosts.

- [Town.Hall;A.Black?Queer.Podcast](#) – Hosted by Bob the Drag Queen and Miss Peppermint, explores community conversations and themes like love and joy.
 - [Black.Queer.Canon](#) – Cultural criticism and representation conversation from Black LGBTQ+ perspectives.
 - [Sauced Scientist](#)- A dope podcast created by Tori and Trice, two lit, black scientists discussing any and everything...except for science.
 - [Butch Talk Podcast](#)
Honest conversations about identity, masculinity, and queerness.
 - [The Great Lesbian Divide: Butch vs Femme](#)
Roundtable episode on identity expression and community.
 - [Queer Collective Podcast](#)
Biweekly episodes on activism, culture, and queerness.
 - [Queer Health Pod](#)
Health and wellness topics for transmasculine and MoC bodies.
 - [Food 4 Thot](#)
Multiracial queer perspectives on love, sex, art, and liberation.
-

Research Articles & Academic Sources on Black Masculine Lesbians / MoC Black SMW

1. Sexual Identity, Minority Stress, & Masculine Presentation

This peer-reviewed study examines how **gender presentation (including masculine/masculine-of-center traits)** affects experiences of stigma, healthcare access, and minority stress among Black sexual minority women (SMW). It highlights how **masculine gender expression intersects with race and stigma** in healthcare contexts — an important empirical finding about Black SMW group experiences.

 *Full text available via NIH/PMC – search for “Sexual identity factors and minority stressors associated with ... Black SMW”*

2. Exploring the Lived Experiences of Black and Latina Masculine Presenting Lesbians

A **qualitative thesis** focusing specifically on the lives of Black and Latina **masculine-presenting lesbians**, discussing how gender expression intersects with race, sexual orientation, and societal assumptions. It highlights **unique lived challenges and strengths** of these intersecting identities — a great academic project for your guide.

 Search for “*Exploring the Lived Experiences of Black and Latina Masculine Presenting Lesbians*” (California State University, Long Beach research PDF)

3. The Tomboyism / Stud Masculinity within Black Lesbian Cultures

An ethnographic academic article that explores **stud identity and masculine performance** among Black lesbians, arguing that adopting masculine traits can be a response to sexism, racism, and homophobia. It’s an important scholarly source for understanding gender performance and resistance within Black lesbian communities.

 Search “*Studs and Protest – The Tomboyism within Black Lesbian Female Masculinity*” on ResearchGate

4. Gender Transgressive Lesbian Identities

This academic project analyzes the **lived experiences of gender-transgressive lesbians**, including those identifying with masculine of center expressions, emphasizing how gender nonnormativity functions in queer social spaces.

 See “*The Lived Experiences of Gender Transgressive Lesbian...*” (Academic PDF via ScholarWorks)

5. Meaning of Gender Presentation in Black Lesbian Communities

A classic scholarly article titled “*Lipstick or Timberlands?*” that explores meanings and implications of **gender presentation (masculine/feminine)** in Black lesbian communities, noting how masculine-of-center individuals navigate identity and social expectations.

 Search for the PDF “*Lipstick or Timberlands? Meanings of Gender Presentation in Black Lesbian Communities*” (UCLA/CCPR repository)

6. Black Lesbian Gender & Sexual Culture (Historical / Cultural Context)

This article explores sexual cultural scripts and how *gender presentation (including masculinity)* factors into interactions among Black lesbian women — especially around vulnerability, sexuality, and cultural norms.

 ResearchGate or academic databases for “*Black Lesbian Gender and Sexual Culture*”

Articles, Magazines & Media Representation

- [**Butch Is Not a Dirty Word**](#)
A biannual magazine celebrating butch and MoC identities through stories, interviews, and photography. Offers print and digital issues.
 - [**Wussy Mag**](#)
Queer Southern publication spotlighting bold gender expression and MoC voices.
 - [**Autostraddle**](#)
Online magazine for queer women and nonbinary folks with essays, culture, and opinion pieces.
 - [**DIVA Magazine**](#)
UK-based lesbian publication with cultural stories and features.
-

Organizations & Support Networks

- [**Black Educated Lesbians \(BEL\)**](#)
Global nonprofit network supporting Black lesbians through leadership, wellness, and healing. Includes monthly MoC Healing Circles, the annual BEL Conference, and more.

- [The Brown Boi Project](#)
Leadership and healing programming for masculine of center people of color, with an emphasis on racial and gender justice.
 - [Masculine Identified Lesbians of Color Collective \(MILoCC\)](#)
Peer-led support and events for MoC lesbians of color.
 - [Alpha Lambda Zeta Fraternity, Inc.](#)
National LGBTQ+ service fraternity for masculine-identified lesbians.
 - [National LGBTQ Task Force](#)
Advocacy and movement-building group working for LGBTQ+ equity and justice nationwide.
 - [National Black Justice Coalition \(NBJC\)](#)
Civil rights organization focused on the empowerment of Black LGBTQ+/SGL communities.
 - [The Audre Lorde Project](#)
Community organizing for LGBTQ+ people of color in NYC.
 - [Southerners On New Ground \(SONG\)](#)
Movement-building and organizing in the U.S. South for LGBTQ+ liberation.
 - [CenterLink: The Community of LGBTQ Centers](#)
Connects people to local LGBTQ+ community centers.
 - [PFLAG](#)
Offers national/local support groups for LGBTQ+ people and families.
 - [Human Rights Campaign \(HRC\)](#)
National LGBTQ+ civil rights advocacy.
 - [Outright International](#)
Global LGBTIQ human rights and advocacy organization.
 - **Masculine of Center Conference-No longer active**
National gathering centering MoC folks and building community around wellness, masculinity, and activism.
 - **Lesbians of Color Symposium (LOCS) Collective-No longer active**
Programs and events created for and by LGBTQ+ women of color.
-

Emergency & Crisis Support

- **The Steve Fund Text Line:** Text *STEVE* to 741741
Crisis support for young people of color.
 - **Trans Lifeline:** 877-565-8860
Peer support for trans and nonbinary people, including MoC individuals.
 - **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline:** Call or text 988
Available 24/7 for anyone in distress.
-

Want to Contribute a Resource?

Know of a dope therapist, podcast, or healing space for MoC lesbians?

Email us at admin@blackeducatedlesbians.com so we can include it in the next update of this guide!