

Provided by Tasmanian Council for
Sexual + Gender Diverse People
Inc. at Hobart hearing for
Suicide inquiry 20/5/10.

~ Percentage of GLBTI people who have experienced assault based on sexual orientation

Tasmanian research

Research period five years or over

- a) **46%** amongst 16-26 year old Tasmanian gay and bisexual men (Menzies Centre for Population and Rural Health, 1998, sample=120)
- b) **46%** amongst 14-18 year old same sex attracted people in three Tasmania High Schools (La Trobe University Centre for Sex, Health and Society Research, 1998, sample=300)
- c) **32%** amongst 15-25 year old southern Tasmanian lesbians (Department of Community and Health Services and Hobart Women's Health Centre, 1998, sample=30)

Research period previous twelve months

- d) **12.5%** amongst gay men ("Tasmanian Council on AIDS and Related Diseases, CARD's Men who have sex with men survey", 1998, sample=88)
- e) **15%** amongst Tasmanian gay men (Project MaleCall, Macquarie University Centre for HIV social research, 1996, sample =140)

National or interstate research

Research period five years or over

- f) **33%** of lesbians (NSW gay and lesbian community study, "Off our Backs", 1992, sample=40)
- g) **20%** amongst gay men and **11%** amongst lesbians (NSW Anti-violence Project, "Street Watch Report", 1997, sample=unsure)
- h) **20%** amongst gay men and **11%** amongst lesbians (Victorian gay and lesbian community survey, 1994, sample=1000)

Research period previous twelve months

- i) **14%** amongst gay men and **12%** amongst lesbians (NSW Police gay and lesbian community survey, "Out of the Blue", 1995, sample=297)
- j) **11%** amongst Australian gay men (Project MaleCall, Macquarie University Centre for HIV social research, 1996, sample =3039)

~ Percentage of GLBTI people who have experienced assault and verbal abuse based on sexual orientation

Tasmanian research

Research period five years or over

- k) **94%** amongst 16-26 year old Tasmanian gay and bisexual men (Menziess Centre for Population and Rural Health, 1998, sample=120)
- l) **91%** amongst 15-25 year old southern Tasmanian lesbians (Department of Community and Health Services and Hobart Women's Health Centre, 1998, sample=30)

Research period previous twelve months
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- m) **47%** amongst Tasmanian gay men (Project MaleCall, Macquarie University Centre for HIV social research, 1996, sample =140)
- n) **42%** amongst gay men ("Tasmanian Council on AIDS and Related Diseases, CARD's Men who have sex with men survey", 1998, sample=88)

National or interstate research

Research period five years or over

- o) **70%** of gay men and lesbians (Victorian gay and lesbian community survey, 1994, sample=1000)
- p) **79%** of gay men and lesbians (Victorian gay and lesbian community survey, 1999, sample=1000)
- q) **83%** of gay men and lesbians (NSW Police gay and lesbian community survey, "Out of the Blue", 1995, sample=260)
- r) **91%** of lesbians (NSW gay and lesbian community study, "Off our Backs", 1992, sample=40)

Research period previous twelve months
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- s) **40%** amongst Australian gay men (Project MaleCall, Macquarie University Centre for HIV social research, 1996, sample =3039)

~ Percentage of GLBT people who have experienced discrimination based on sexual orientation

Research period five years or over for all studies

Tasmania

- t) **95.5%** amongst 15-25 year old southern Tasmanian lesbians (Department of Community and Health Services and Hobart Women's Health Centre, 1998, sample=30)

National or interstate

- u) **87%** of gay men and lesbians (Victorian gay and lesbian community survey, 1994, sample=1000)
- v) **84%** of gay men and lesbians (Victorian gay and lesbian community survey, 1999, sample=1000)

Discrimination in employment (all interstate)

- w) **59%** of gay men and lesbians in employment (Sydney University gay and lesbian community study in NSW, Vic and ACT, 2000, sample=1000)
- x) **45%** of gay men and lesbians in employment (Victorian gay and lesbian community survey, 1994, sample=1000)
- y) **40%** of gay men and lesbians in employment (Victorian gay and lesbian community survey, 1999, sample=1000)

~ Other relevant statistics

Discrimination and harassment in schools

According to a study of attitudes to homosexuality amongst 300 students at Hobart's Elizabeth College released in September 1999,

- **8%** of students admitted to being homosexual or bisexual
- **32%** of males and **20%** of females admitted feeling uncomfortable around a homosexual person
- **16%** of students admitted to physically or verbally abusing someone on the basis of their sexuality.

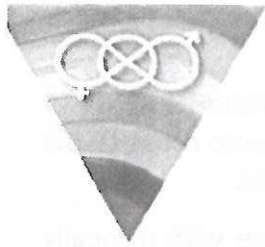
The effects on young gay and bisexual people

According to a study of health compromising and suicidal behaviours among young gay and bisexual men in Tasmania conducted at the Division of Community and Rural health and issued in October 1999,

- the young Tasmanian gay and bisexual men surveyed were two and a half times more likely to seriously consider suicide than their heterosexual peers,

- **62%** of the young Tasmanian gay and bisexual men surveyed had experienced physical assault, and **94%** had suffered verbal abuse because of their sexual orientation,

- the young Tasmanian gay and bisexual men were more likely to experience conflict with parents and peers, lose friends because of coming out, abuse alcohol and have unsafe sex.



APPLICATION OR MEMBERSHIP

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Gender: _____

Other Relevant Details: _____

Which regional Community Liaison Committee would you join?
Tick one)

North:

Cradle Coast:

South:

Greater Hobart:

PRIVACY POLICY

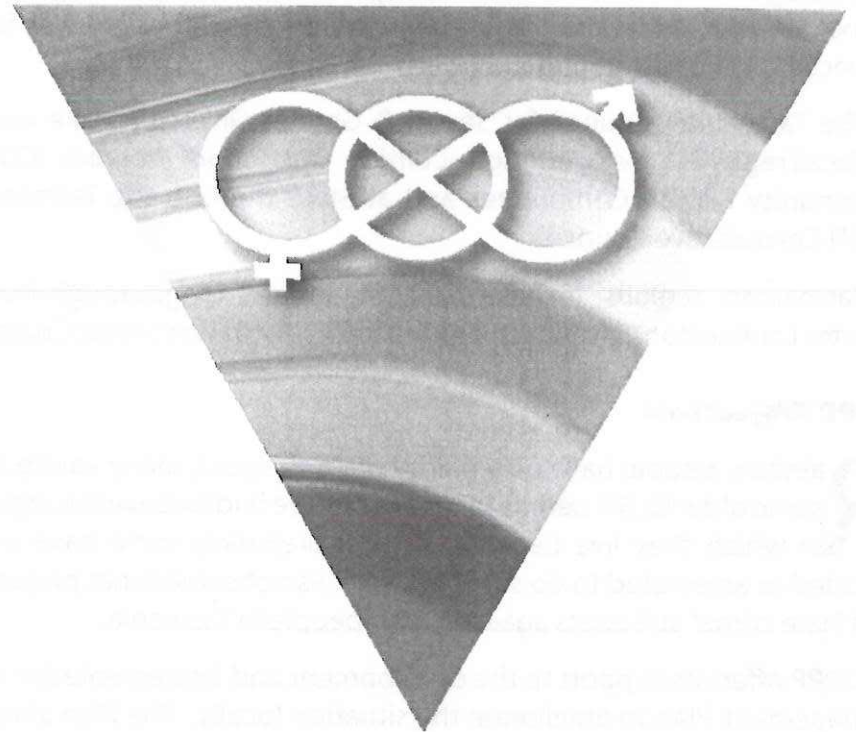
COPP respects the privacy of all its members. Your details are only used to inform you of COPP news or events, or, with your consent only, for consultation on GLBTI or related issues. No COPP member details are provided to any other organisation or person.

Please return this form to:

1001 Old Huon Road LONGLEY TAS 7150

Provided by Tasmanian Council for Sexual & Gender Diverse People - at Heart Learn for Suicide Inquiry. -22/5/10

Tasmanian Council For Sexual & Gender Diverse People



WHO WE ARE

WHAT WE DO

AN INVITATION TO SUPPORT

A Voice For Rainbow People



OUR PROJECTS

Coming Out Proud Program (COPP)

The intent of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex community (GLBTI) in establishing the *Tasmanian Council for Sexual & Gender Diverse People* is simply to provide for strategies that will allow GLBTI people in the Tasmanian regions to 'come out with pride' and live in their community with dignity as fully respected and participating members.

The Tasmanian Council for Sexual & Gender Diverse People works at local/regional level through *Coming Out Proud Program (COPP)* Community Liaison Committees and at State through the Tasmanian GLBTI Consultative Council.

Tasmanian regions include Greater Hobart, Kingborough/Huon, Greater Launceston/East Coast, Cradle Coast (North West/West Coast).

COPP Objectives

Rainbow people have observed that, in the past, many young and some older GLBTI people in Tasmania have had to leave the regions in which they live because of local prejudice; some have even suicided or attempted to do so. They have also observed that prejudice and 'hate crime' still exists against GLBTI people in Tasmania.

COPP offers its support to the development and implementation of a Management Plan to ameliorate the situation locally. The Plan aims to achieve equality of access and respect within each regional community for GLBTI people.

COPP Trust

A capital investment fund financing social, wellbeing and enterprise initiatives that assist sexual and gender diverse people (rainbow people) to 'come out with pride', live in their community with dignity as fully respected and participating members.

How It Works At The Local Level

An independent COPP Community Liaison Committee (CLC) is set up to manage the program locally in partnership with other GLBTI organisations, State and Local Government agencies.

The program in each region is then run in accordance with a locally developed Management Plan.

Local Governments are asked to endorse COPP and to appoint a Councillor or staff member as Liaison Officer to attend COPP meetings and assist the process.

How It Works At The State Level

COPP is coordinated at a state level by a Program Steering Committee comprised of the State Coordinators, the CLC Chairs and representatives of associated GLBTI organisations.

It is anticipated that the State Program Steering Committee will be incorporated as the State GLBTI Council, once viable. The State Council would coordinate consultation, initiate support and generally be responsible for representing the GLBTI community in Tasmania at state and national levels.

Proposed Program Outcomes

Local GLBTI communities identify their full diversity, including the particular support needs of certain members (e.g. young, older, indigenous and ethnic persons, parents) and implement strategies to ensure appropriate services are provided to enable them to live as fully participating members of the general community.

Government and community organisations in the regions have active programs/strategies in place to ensure respect for members of the GLBTI community and fully participating members of the general community

GLBTI organisations are full operational in the regions.