



2014 Community Survey Report

March 2015

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Growing Together Fund (Fund) was established in 2001 as an initiative of the Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County to address the needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, and Intersex (LGBTQI) residents of San Luis Obispo County (SLO County). The Fund was established through grants from the National Lesbian and Gay Funding Partnership. Since 2002, the Community Foundation has distributed over \$120,000 in grants to local organizations and established a small endowment with the intent to impact the lives of SLO County's LGBTQI residents for years to come.

The goals of the Fund are:

1. To identify the issues and service needs of the local LGBTQI community in order to determine how best to distribute grant monies.
2. To promote community education and to encourage local groups to better address the needs of the LGBTQI community.
3. To strengthen the capacity of organizations which best serve and support SLO County's LGBTQI communities.
4. To create a permanently endowed fund dedicated to support the needs of the LGBTQI community.

“While downtown I was called names when seen holding the hand of my partner.”

In 2001, in order to identify the issues and service needs of the local LGBTQI community, the Growing Together Advisory Committee developed and administered a Community Survey (Survey). The Survey was administered again in 2008. Along with identifying service needs, the Survey has provided a method for gathering information about the health and wellbeing of the LGBTQI community, local community involvement, and local support for LGBTQI individuals, i.e. organizations and sources of information for this community.

Almost 70% of LGBTQI respondents reported they'd experienced suicidal thoughts that they attributed to concerns related to their sexual orientation or gender identity.

The 2014 Survey was distributed throughout SLO County both electronically and in print. Survey Monkey was used so that participants could easily access the Survey on-line and was advertised through E-Newsletters, on the Community Foundation website, and by flyers using a QR code. Of the 732 responses, 94%,

or 689, responded using Survey Monkey. Print copies of the Survey were sent to local schools, community organizations and businesses, as well as distributed by hand at the Pride festival in downtown San Luis Obispo. Of the 732 responses, 30 were determined to be unusable.

SAMPLE

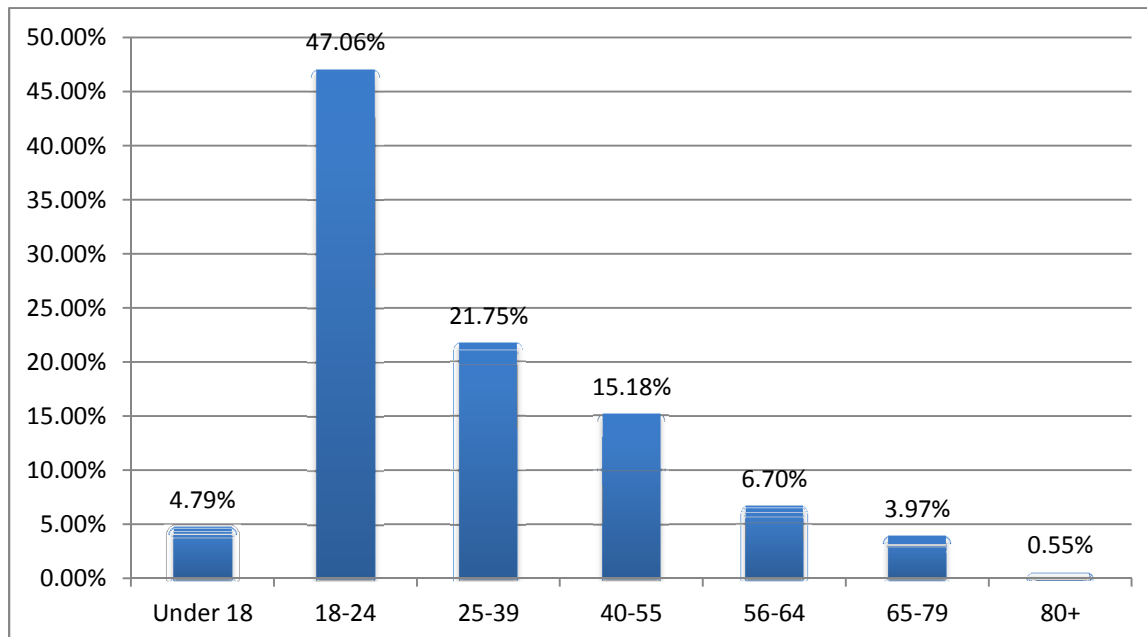
Respondents to the 2014 Survey identified themselves as Female (60.72%) or Male (35.7%), with the remaining respondents describing themselves as *Questioning, Gender Fluid, Gender Queer or Gender Non-Conforming*. The majority of respondents were between the ages of 18-24. The distribution of respondents' age can be seen in **Figure 1** on the following page. In contrast, respondents in the 2008 Survey were older, with the greatest number of respondents falling within the 40-55 age range.

In a 2013 poll conducted by GLSEN, 85% reported having experienced verbal harassment because of their sexual orientation; 37% said they had experienced some form of physical harassment.

In addition, respondents identified as Heterosexual (82.2%), Gay (5.6%), Lesbian (5.3%), or Bisexual (6.8%). Respondents were also given the option to specify their answer in a comment. For example, 6 self-identified as *Asexual*, 7 *Pansexual*.

Respondents were from San Luis Obispo/Central County (48.4%), North County (31.7%), with a disproportionately low number of respondents from South County (2.2%). The majority of respondents were White (68.94%) and Christian (79.94%). Most respondents were single, living with parents (28.22%) and over 65% indicated that their highest level of education was at minimum some college education.

Figure 1
2014 Age Breakdown of All Respondents



The large proportion of Heterosexuals (82.2%) participating in the Survey presented a methodological issue, particularly on those questions addressing current issues and service needs in the LGBTQI population. Because the intention of this Survey was to identify issues and service needs of this population, it was decided to separate out respondents identifying as Heterosexual from those questions. Where Heterosexual responses were taken out, it is noted in the report. A second methodological issue was discovered during analysis of the data. For transgender individuals who have completed their transition, they may no longer identify as transgender, but rather by their current gender. It is unknown if some of the transgender individuals identified themselves as Heterosexual. In future surveys, it will be necessary to add a question regarding assigned gender at birth to allow for proper subset data analysis.

Almost half of LGBTQI respondents reported having experienced discrimination, harassment, abuse or micro-aggressions in San Luis Obispo County because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

RESULTS

The most common place for the LGBTQI community to look for information was from an Internet Website (60.8%). Respondents also sought out LGBTQI friends or resources from GALA or another LGBTQI organization in the community. Fewer than 5% of participants went to their *Clergy, Health Care Provider, the Growing Together Initiative, Social Service Agency, or Telephone Hotline* for information about LGBTQI issues.

The 2014 Survey asked respondents to identify how they felt about twenty-five issues and service needs for the LGBTQI community in SLO County on the following five-point Likert scale question:

How serious are the following issues or service needs facing the LGBTQI community in San Luis Obispo County at the present time? (Please check the correct column for each item listed)

<i>Very Serious</i>	<i>Somewhat Serious</i>	<i>Neutral/No Opinion</i>	<i>Not Very Serious</i>	<i>Not at all</i>
5	4	3	2	1

The majority of respondents chose *Very Serious (5)* or *Somewhat Serious (4)* for all of the issues and service needs listed. The seven issues that were considered were: Anti-LGBTQI Violence, Housing Discrimination, Civil Rights/Advocacy, Media Accuracy/Visibility, Marriage Equality Issues, Employment/Job Discrimination, and Domestic Partnership Issues. The percentage of respondents who identified these issues as either *Very Serious (5)* or *Somewhat Serious (4)* can be seen in **Figure 2**. See **Figure 3** for a comparison of rankings on Seriousness in the 2014, 2008 and 2001 Surveys.

Figure 2
Percentage of Respondents who Found the Issues to be Serious

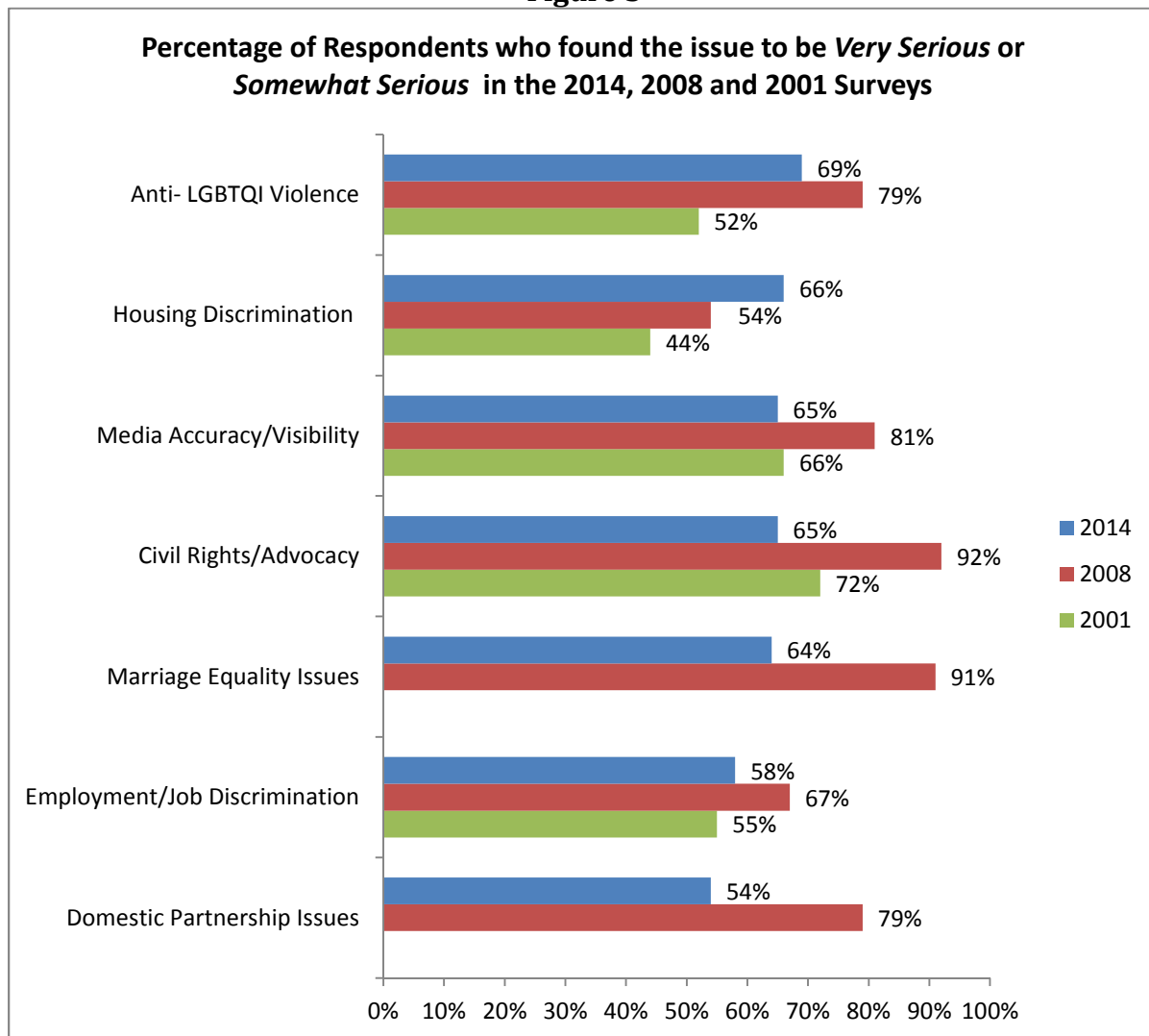
2014 Ranked Issues	Percent
1) Anti- LGBTQI Violence	69.47%
2) Housing Discrimination	66.12%
3) Civil Rights/Advocacy	64.89%
4) Media Accuracy/ Visibility	64.58%
5) Marriage Equality Issues	64.17%
6) Employment/Job Discrimination	57.89%
7) Domestic Partnership Issues	53.69%

While the majority of respondents ranked all seven of the Issues as somewhat or very serious, *Anti LGBTQI Violence* was identified as the most serious issue followed by *Housing Discrimination*. By comparison, the top two issues in 2008 were *Civil Rights/Advocacy* and *Marriage Equality*. Note that *Domestic Partnership Issues* and *Marriage Equality Issues* were first added in the

**I was “denied housing and
 was evicted for being
 gay.”**

2008 Survey. Perhaps as a result of legal changes since 2008, i.e. overturning of DOMA, both *Domestic Partnership* and *Marriage Equality* were ranked as less serious in this 2014 Survey.

Figure 3

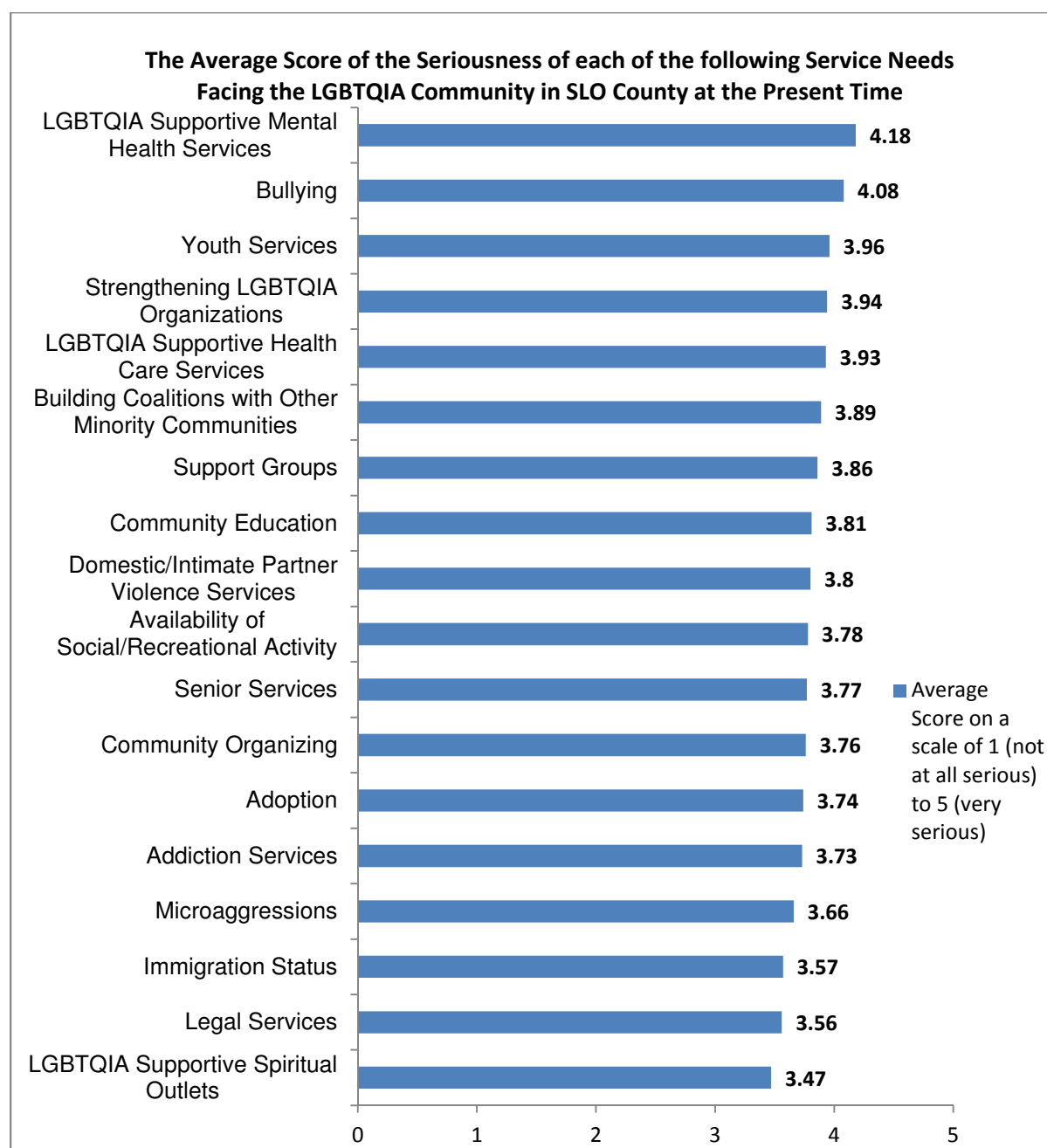


The next section of the Survey asked respondents to rate the seriousness of Service Needs on the same Likert Scale. The results of this section are shown in **Figure 4**. This graph shows the average response of seriousness (from 1 to 5). When analyzing only the LGBTQI responses, the top three Service Needs were *Supportive Mental Health Services*, *Bullying* and *Youth Services*. When comparing the LGBTQI versus Heterosexual responses, the LGBTQI responses found *Mental Health Services* to be a much greater issue facing their community within SLO County. Furthermore, 46.22% of respondents said that they have experienced some sort of harassment because of either their gender identity or sexual orientation; 89% did not report the incident to authorities. While most LGBTQI respondents considered their

The 2014 California Healthy Kids Survey reported that 50.3% of LGB youth surveyed have seriously considered attempting suicide in the last twelve months.

mental health to be either *Excellent* or *Very Good*, 30.29% had seriously considered suicide related to their gender identity or sexual orientation.

Figure 4*



*data does not include Heterosexual responses

CONCLUSION

Based on the 2014 Survey, the Community Foundation has identified four important issues and/or service needs facing the SLO County LGBTQI Community:

- Anti-LGBTQI Violence
- Supportive Mental Health Services
- Youth Services and Harassment/Discrimination
- Housing Discrimination

The information gathered from this 2014 Community Survey will be used to prioritize the activities supported by the Growing Together Initiative in its mission to advocate for the issues and needs of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and intersex communities in SLO County. The complete results of the 2014 Community Individual Survey with comparison 2001 and 2008 data are available on the Community Foundation website below. Those who wish to join these efforts of the Growing Together Fund, or who would like more information are invited to visit the Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County website at cfsloco.org or contact:

Growing Together Fund
Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County
550 Dana Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 543-2323

2014 GROWING TOGETHER INITIATIVE SURVEY

METHODOLOGY

The first Growing Together Initiative Survey was conducted in 2001. Since that time, dramatic changes have taken place for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, and Ally (LGBTQIA) community in California and the U.S. In order to reflect these changes, the following alterations were made to the 2014 Community Survey (Survey): in terminology, issues addressed, and distribution. (See the Appendix for a copy of the complete 2014 Survey.)

Terminology

In 2001, the terms used to identify sexual orientation were *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT)*. In 2008, *Queer/Questioning* and *Intersex* were added to be more inclusive. These terms continue to be used in the 2014 Survey.

Issues Addressed

In May 2008, the California Supreme Court found that same-sex marriage was protected as an equal right. Immediately after the court's decision, Proposition 8, a ballot initiative that would change the state constitution to define marriage as between a man and a woman, was added to the November election ballot. The 2008 Survey was conducted and concluded between July 2008 and November 2008 when same-sex marriage was still legal. However, that November, Proposition 8 was passed by a slim majority, and same-sex couples were again denied the right to marry. In 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court ultimately ruled that the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) was unconstitutional and same-sex marriage became legal. As a result of these dramatic changes in the law, in 2008, the Survey added *Marriage Equality* and *Domestic Partnership* to the list of issues of possible importance to respondents.

Distribution

In 2001, only hard copies of the Survey were available. In 2008, respondents were able to take the Survey online using Survey Monkey. The Survey was also available in hard copy in limited quantities sent to local community agencies.

As in 2008, the most recent 2014 Survey could be accessed online through Survey Monkey. Submissions of the Survey were limited to one per computer in an attempt to prevent multiple responses from the same person. Out of 732 responses, 94% were submitted online.

The Community Foundation also used on-line resources to advertise the Survey, including the Community Foundation e-newsletter and the local Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA). Fliers advertising the Survey, included the URL for Survey Monkey and a QR code. The Survey could also be accessed from the Community Foundation's website and Facebook page.

Hard copies were sent to numerous local organizations, clubs, and businesses for them to distribute. These organizations included GALA, CAPSLO, Tranz Central Coast, PFLAG, Planned Parenthood, and the AIDS Support Network of SLO County. Additionally, local schools distributed and advertised the Survey. Hard copies were sent to Arroyo Grande High School, Atascadero High School, Coast Union High School, Paso Robles High School and San Luis Obispo High School. The Survey was also sent to Cal Poly and Cuesta's Pride Centers. (See **Image 1** for a copy of the flier) All print copies of the Survey were manually entered into Survey Monkey.

Surveys were distributed to anyone interested, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, in order to gather information regarding the LGBTQIA community of SLO County from the widest possible sample.

In 2001, 506 Surveys were completed. In 2008, 281 Surveys were completed. The present Survey, 732 responses were collected. The increase in Surveys collected is most likely due to the use of Survey Monkey and its advertisements through e-newsletters. After GALA sent out an email encouraging members to take the Community Survey, there was immediately an increase in responses. The 2014 Survey opened on July 13th and was available until October 15th to ensure capturing local college students' input.

While 732 responses were collected, 30 respondents reported they do not and have never lived in SLO County. Their responses were not included in the issues and results section of this report because the purpose of this Survey was to determine needs within the County only. Additionally, 2 surveys were considered invalid based on their responses.

Along with the Community Survey, the Community Foundation utilized two different sources of data in the analysis of this report. The first was a biennial survey (California Healthy Kids Survey) conducted by local school districts and analyzed by The Central Coast Coalition for Inclusive Schools. The analysis was entitled, "Health and Safety of LGBT youth in San Luis Obispo County Schools." The survey was conducted in the spring of 2014 in schools throughout the County. Participants were students in 7th, 9th or 11th grade and they were asked about their experiences in school. There were 6,669 participants in the survey representing two-thirds of the total population of 7th, 9th, and 11th graders in SLO County; 350 identified as *GLB* and 140 identified as *Transgender*. The second data set was from the 2013 GLSEN School Climate Survey in California. This is a biennial survey conducted throughout the entire state to determine the safety, acceptances and experiences of LGBTQI youth. Both of these studies were used to provide a more in depth analysis of LGBTQI youth.

A copy of the Foundation's Community Survey is included in the appendix of this report.

Image 1

The Growing Together Initiative's LGBTQIA Survey is out!
Share your story and shape your community!



This is a chance for you to speak up about the needs of our LGBTQIA community
 and your personal experiences whether you are LGBTQIA identified or an ally!



Take the survey by scanning the QR code
 or follow this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GTFSLO>

The Survey closes October 15th!

THE *Community*
 FOUNDATION
 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

GROWING
 TOGETHER
 FUND

www.facebook.com/GrowingTogetherFund

SAMPLE AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Location and Longevity

All three Surveys (2001, 2008, 2014) asked respondents to indicate their five digit postal code in order to determine the distribution of respondent locations throughout the county. San Luis Obispo and Central County were overrepresented, while Coastal County and South County were significantly underrepresented. The underrepresentation of South County is of concern. While possible reasons are speculative, it may be a reflection of limited organizations and resources in that area of the county, or reduced access or knowledge about the Survey. The 30 respondents living outside of SLO County were excluded from the Survey beyond this question. The percentage of regional distribution can be seen below in **Table 1**.

Table 1

SLO County Region (% of County Population) ¹	Number (out of 731)	Percent of Sample
North County (31%)	232	31.74%
Coastal County (18%)	99	13.54%
San Luis Obispo/Central County (28%)	354	48.43%
South County (23%)	16	2.19%
Outside of SLO County (N/A)	30	4.1%

Age

Respondents were asked to identify their age by checking a box that included a range of ages. Age distribution was analyzed for all respondents, and for LGBTQI responses separately. The age distribution of all respondents can be seen below in **Table 2** and for LGBTQI respondents only in **Table 3**.

Table 2 (Age Distribution of All Respondents)

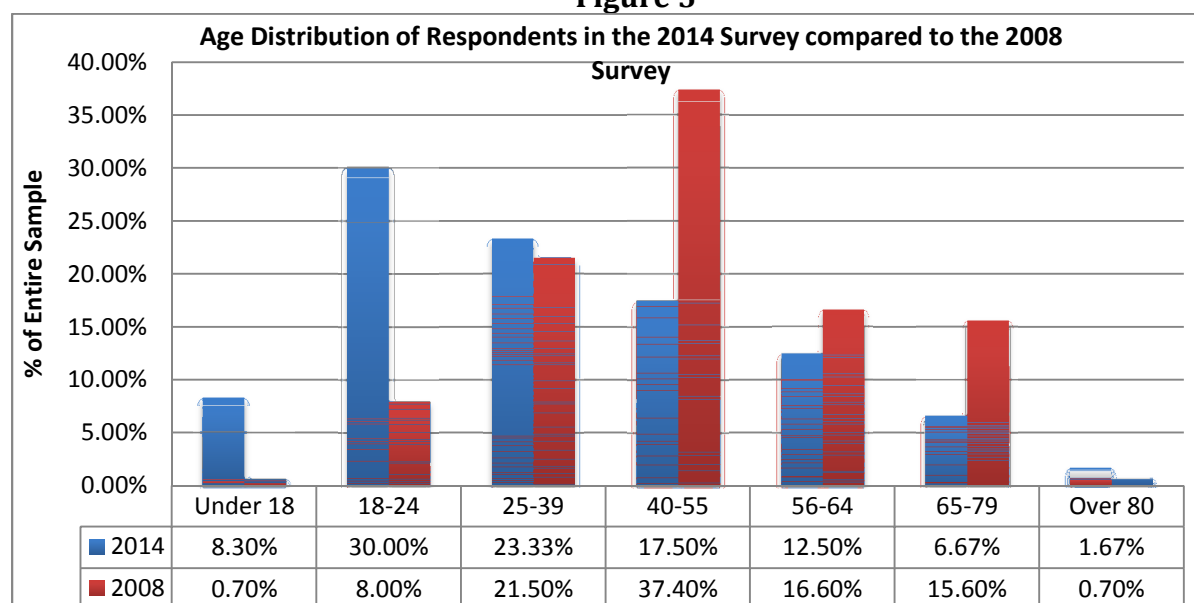
Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=731)
Under 18	35	4.79%
18-24	344	47.06%
25-39	159	21.75%
40-55	112	15.18%
56-64	49	6.70%
65-79	29	3.97%
80+	4	0.55%

¹ Data taken from the 2013 Annual San Luis Obispo County Report on Population

Table 3 (Age Distribution for LGBTQI Respondents Only)

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=120)
Under 18	10	8.3%
18-24	26	30.0%
25-39	38	23.33%
40-55	21	17.5%
56-64	15	12.5%
65-79	8	6.67%
80+	2	1.67%

In 2008, the largest number of respondents were 40-55 years of age. In contrast, in the 2014 Survey, the largest age group was 18-24 years of age. This increase in number of younger respondents in the 2014 Survey was most likely due to the involvement of Gay Straight Alliance clubs that were asked to distribute the Survey. The comparison between 2008 and 2014 Surveys on age distribution for the LGBTQI respondents can be seen in **Figure 5**.

Figure 5

According to the 2013 SLO County Annual Report, 46% of the entire population in SLO County is under 35 years old, and 26% is between the ages of 35 and 54. With this information, it may be concluded that the age sample of the 2014 Survey was somewhat proportional to the population of SLO County.

Gender

Like the 2001 and 2008 Survey, the majority of respondents in the 2014 Survey described themselves as *Female* (60.72%). *Male* (35.68%) was the second most common response. Respondents were also given the option to identify themselves as:

- *Questioning* (0.41%)
- *Transgender* (0.28%)
- *Transsexual, female to male* (0.0%)
- *Transsexual, male to female* (0.55%)
- *Intersex* (0.0%)
- *Transvestite* (0.0%)
- *Gender Fluid* (0.69%)
- *Gender Queer* (0.55%)
- *Gender Non-Conforming* (0.28%)
- *Prefer Not To Say* (0.83%)

Respondents were also given the option to leave a comment along with their answer to further describe their gender. The comments that were left can be seen below in **Figure 6**.

Figure 6

1. Gay
2. A-sexual
3. Somewhere between agender and demiboy
4. Dude/Man
5. Female, but questioning a little

In the 2001 and 2008 Surveys, only one respondent identified as *Transgender*. Two respondents identified as *Transgender* in the 2014 Survey. In 2008, four individuals described themselves as *Transsexual, male to female* but 0 as *Transsexual, female to male*. No participants identified as *Questioning* when this gender identity was added in 2008. However, three respondents identified as *Questioning* in the 2014 Survey.

It should be noted that after the Survey had closed, a concern was raised regarding how transgender individuals might self-identify. For transgender individuals who have completed their transition, they may no longer identify as transgender, but rather by their current gender. Depending on the gender of their sexual partner, they may then identify themselves as heterosexual. In future surveys, it will be necessary to add a question regarding assigned gender at birth to allow for accurate subset data analysis.

In the 2014 Survey, three additional categories were added: *Gender Fluid*, *Gender Queer*, and *Gender Non-Conforming*. These three options allow for more inclusive terms in respect to the gender spectrum. These three categories received 5, 4 and 2 responses, respectively. This shows the importance of including these gender choices in the question, as multiple individuals do identify themselves in this way and it does not limit an individual to being one gender or another. Eight respondents chose not to answer this question.

Sexual Orientation

In the 2014 Survey, the majority of respondents identified as *Heterosexual* (82.2%). Due to concern about how this high response rate might affect the results of the Survey, responses for Heterosexuals were separated out from the analysis. Whenever data was separated out, it will be noted.

In the 2014 Survey, there was a fairly equal distribution of respondents who identified as either *Gay* (5.62%), *Lesbian* (5.33%) or *Bisexual* (6.8%). Out of 731 respondents, 56 chose not to answer this question and 48 specified their answer in a comment. For example, 6 of these respondents answered *Asexual* and 7 answered as *Pansexual*. The 2008 Survey was the first year that respondents identified as *Pansexual*. The 2014 Survey was the first time a respondent identified as *Asexual*. Other responses can be seen in **Figure 7**.

Figure 7

1. Queer
2. Homo flexible
3. Fluid/Queer
4. Asexual biromantic
5. Unsure
6. Lover
7. Trisexual

Racial/Ethnic Identity

The SLO County 2013 Annual Report was used for information on the distribution of Race/Ethnic identities within the County. In the Survey 68.9% identified as *European American/White*, 23% Latino. See Table 4 for all Ethnic/Racial responses and percent in SLO County. Latinas/os were underrepresented in the Survey.

Table 4

Response	Percent of SLO County	Percent Sample (out of 705)
African American/Black	2%	1.28%
Asian American	2%	3.12%
White	70%	68.94%
Latino	23%	14.33%
Multi-Racial	2%	10.5%
Native American	1%	1.84%

Annual Income

The 2014 Survey respondents were asked to indicate annual personal income from all sources. The 2008 and 2014 income groups were adjusted to reflect inflation and higher costs of living since the original 2001 Survey. Most respondents in the 2008 Survey fell within an average middle class American income. The 2014 Survey respondents were more likely to fall within the two lowest personal income categories (*under \$15,600* and *\$15,600 to \$31,999*). If responses from the youngest age groups are removed (under 18 and 18-24) the income levels are closer to income results from the 2008 data. It is likely that the large number of younger respondents are responsible for this lower income level.

Household

Respondents were asked about household arrangements. Respondents indicated they were *Single, living with parents* (28.22%); *Single, living alone* (20.25%) (Again, it is likely this reflects the younger age of respondents.); *Married adults with children* (14.76%); *Married adults without children* (11%); *Single adults without children* (11.14%); *Single-parent family* (5.79%); *Domestic Partners without children* (4.2%); *Single adults with children* (2.89%) and *Domestic partners with children* (1.45%). Of the 731 respondents, 45 wrote in an answer (see Appendix).

Education

The Survey asked about maximum level of education attained. Respondents indicated at least some college (65%); high school (27.7%); middle school (1.7%). Only 20% indicated they had a college degree. This was lower than the 2008 Survey, where 32.6% of respondents said they had a *4-year college degree* and 28.5% had a *graduate degree*. Again, this is likely reflective of the number of younger respondents. Educational levels can be seen in **Table 5**.

Table 5

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=723)
Middle School	12	1.66%
High School Diploma/GED	200	27.66%
Technical Training/Certificate	25	3.46%
Some College	282	39%
2-Year College Degree	52	7.19%
4-Year College Degree	80	11.07%
Graduate Degree	72	9.96%

Religion

Respondents were asked about religious affiliation. Of 731 respondents, 396 or 55% responded *Yes* and 324 or 45% responded *No*. Those responding *Yes*, were then asked to specify their religious affiliation. Of those respondents answering *Yes*, the 324 responses were categorized into 8 major religious groups, as identified by the *Pew Research Center*. These responses can be seen in **Figure 8**.

Figure 8

- *Christianity*
- *Islam*
- *Hinduism*
- *Buddhism*
- *Judaism*
- *Folk Religions*
- *Unaffiliated* (for example, believing in a higher power, having faith, belief in an afterlife, etc. but unaffiliated with a specific religion)

- *Other Religions*

Table 5 (Religious Affiliation)

Response	Number	Percent Sample (n=324) ²
Christianity	259	79.94%
Islam	3	0.93%
Hinduism	2	0.62%
Buddhism	5	1.54%
Judaism	8	2.47%
Folk Religions	1	0.31%
Unaffiliated	29	8.95%
Other	11	3.4%

In contrast to the entire sample, when LGBTQI responses are separated out, only 36 of 120 (33.3%) reported a religious affiliation. Of these 36, 24 respondents were *Christian*, 4 were *Jewish*, 2 were *Buddhist* and the remainder were *Unaffiliated*.

² There were an additional 6 responses that were determined to be *unrecognizable* and were not placed into a religious category. These account for 1.85% of the percent sample.

RESULTS

Issues

In 2001, there were five *Issues* listed in the Survey for respondents to rate on a continuum from: *Very Serious, Somewhat Serious, Neutral/No Opinion, Not Very Serious, to Not at All*. The 2008 and 2014 Surveys asked about seven *Issues*, adding *Marriage Equality* and *Domestic Partnership*. It should be noted that in the 2008 Survey, percentages are much higher than the 2001 and 2014 Survey because a fewer number of people took that year's survey. **Table 6** below shows the percentage of respondents who listed the issue as either *Very Serious* or *Somewhat Serious*. **Figure 9** shows the comparison of *Issues* across all three Surveys. It should be noted that only the LGBTQI responses were used for the 2014 Survey, as a way of guaranteeing that the fluctuation of Heterosexual responses did not change the results.

Table 6

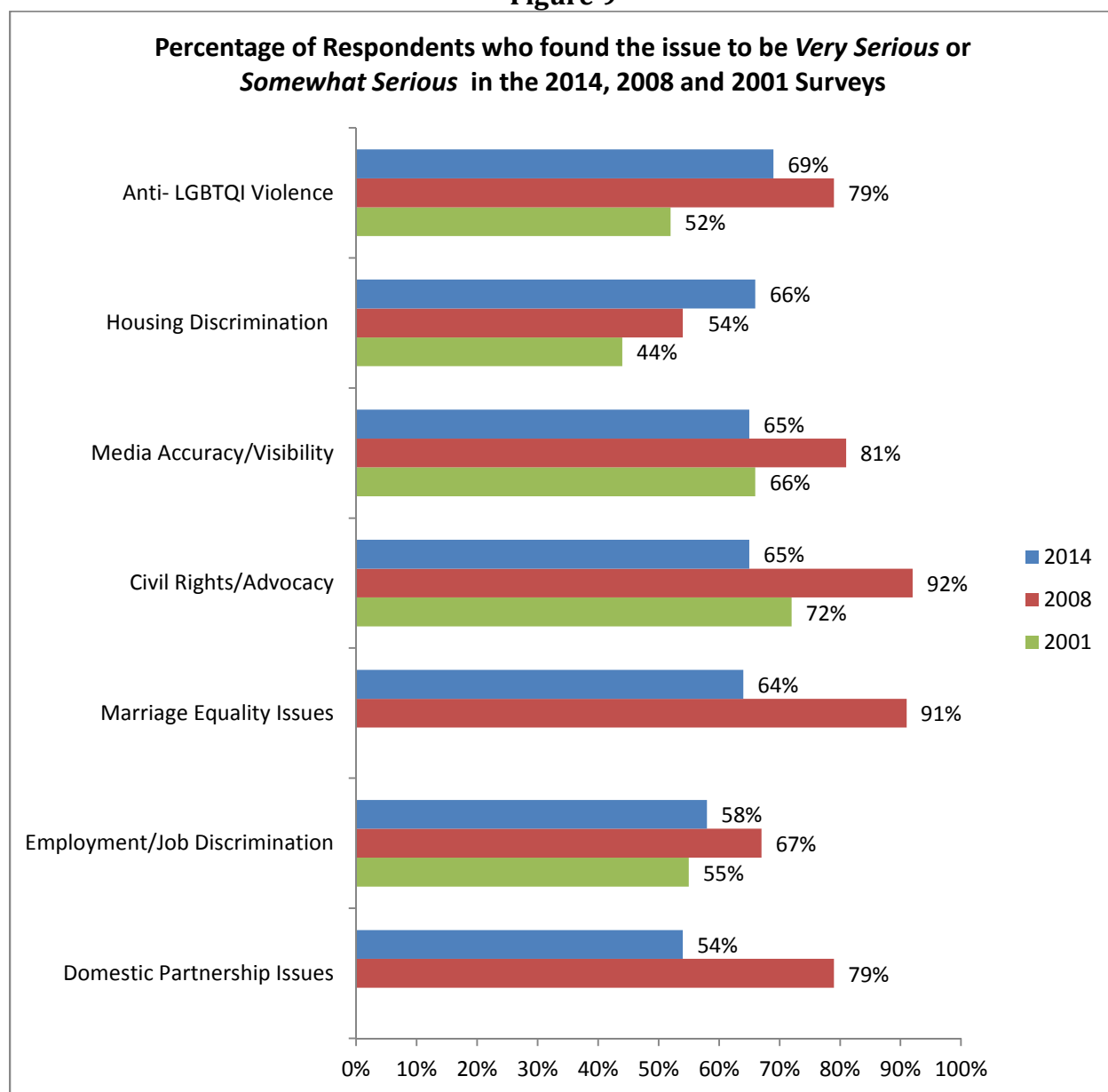
Percentage of Respondents who found the issue to be *Very Serious* or *Somewhat Serious*

2014 Ranked Issues	Percent
1) Anti- LGBTQI Violence	69.47%
2) Housing Discrimination	66.12%
3) Civil Rights/Advocacy	64.89%
4) Media Accuracy/ Visibility	64.58%
5) Marriage Equality Issues	64.17%
6) Employment/Job Discrimination	57.89%
7) Domestic Partnership Issues	53.69%

2008 Ranked Issues	Percent
1) Civil Rights/ Advocacy	92.10%
2) Marriage Equality Issues	90.80%
3) Media Accuracy/ Visibility	81.00%
4) Anti-Gay/Lesbian Violence	79.10%
5) Domestic Partnership Issues	79.00%
6) Employment/Job Discrimination	67.40
7) Housing Discrimination	54.00

2001 Ranked Issues	Percent
1) Civil Rights/ Advocacy	72%
2) Media Accuracy/ Visibility	66%
3) Employment/ Job Discrimination	55%
4) Anti-Gay/Lesbian Violence	52%
5) Housing Discrimination	44%

Figure 9



In the 2014 Survey, *Anti-LGBTQI Violence* collectively had the highest percentage of respondents listing it as *Somewhat Serious* (37.89%) or *Very Serious* (31.58%). *Housing Discrimination* was the second most important issue, which had been the least important in the past two Surveys. This could be a reflection of a growing problem in the County. Additionally, the issue of *Marriage Equality* went from being ranked the most important issue to the fifth most important. This likely reflects recent legal victories regarding same-sex marriages.

Service Needs

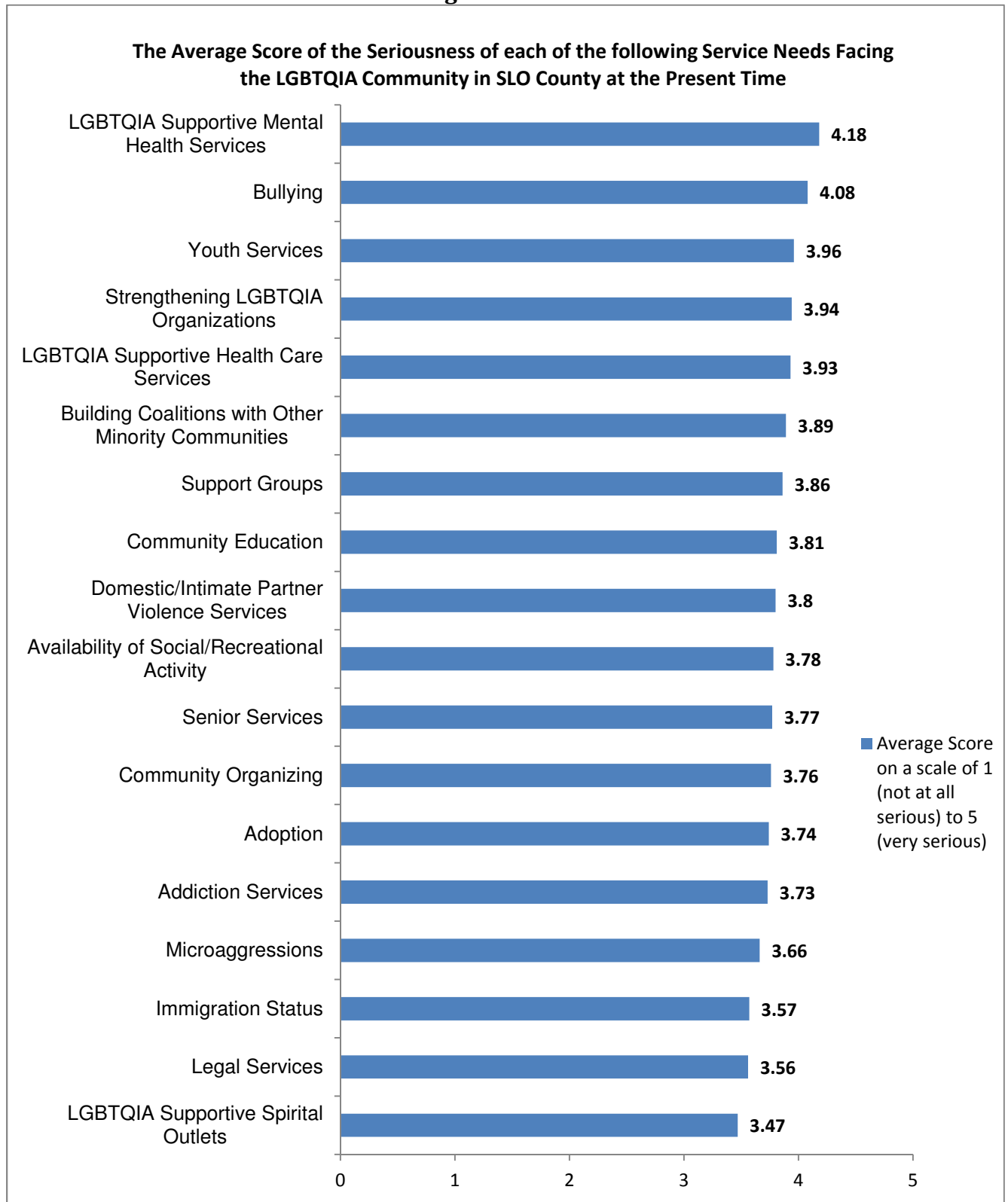
For this Survey, respondents were asked to rate the seriousness of seventeen different service needs of the LGBTQIA community. They were ranked on a scale of 1-5 (1 being *Not*

at all Serious; 2 being *Not Very Serious*; 3 being *Neutral/No Opinion*; 4 being *Somewhat Serious* and 5 being *Very Serious*). In 2014, the following four Service Needs were added to the Community Survey: *Bullying*, *Micro-aggressions*, *Immigration Status*, and *Adoption*. Recent studies have raised concern that bullying is becoming more and more frequent among today's youth. The growth of social media and use of the internet has increased what is called "cyberbully." The increased awareness of bullying and cyberbullying is what prompted the GTI to add bullying as a service need on the 2014 Survey. Likewise, *Adoption* has been added as a service need because of the legalization of same-sex marriage and the growing acceptance of domestic partnerships.

Again, in the following service needs, only LGBTQI responses were analyzed. In 2014, the top three service needs identified were *LGBTQIA Supportive Mental Health Services*, *Bullying* and *Youth Services*. There is quite a bit of overlap in these three service needs.

In 2008, the most important service needs identified were *Community Education*, *Youth Services* and *Strengthening LGBTQI Organizations*. Of note, in the 2001 Survey, *Legal Services* was rated as an important service need. In the 2008 and 2014 Surveys, concern for *Legal Services* declined drastically. It might be speculated that *Legal Services* needs are being satisfied within the community.

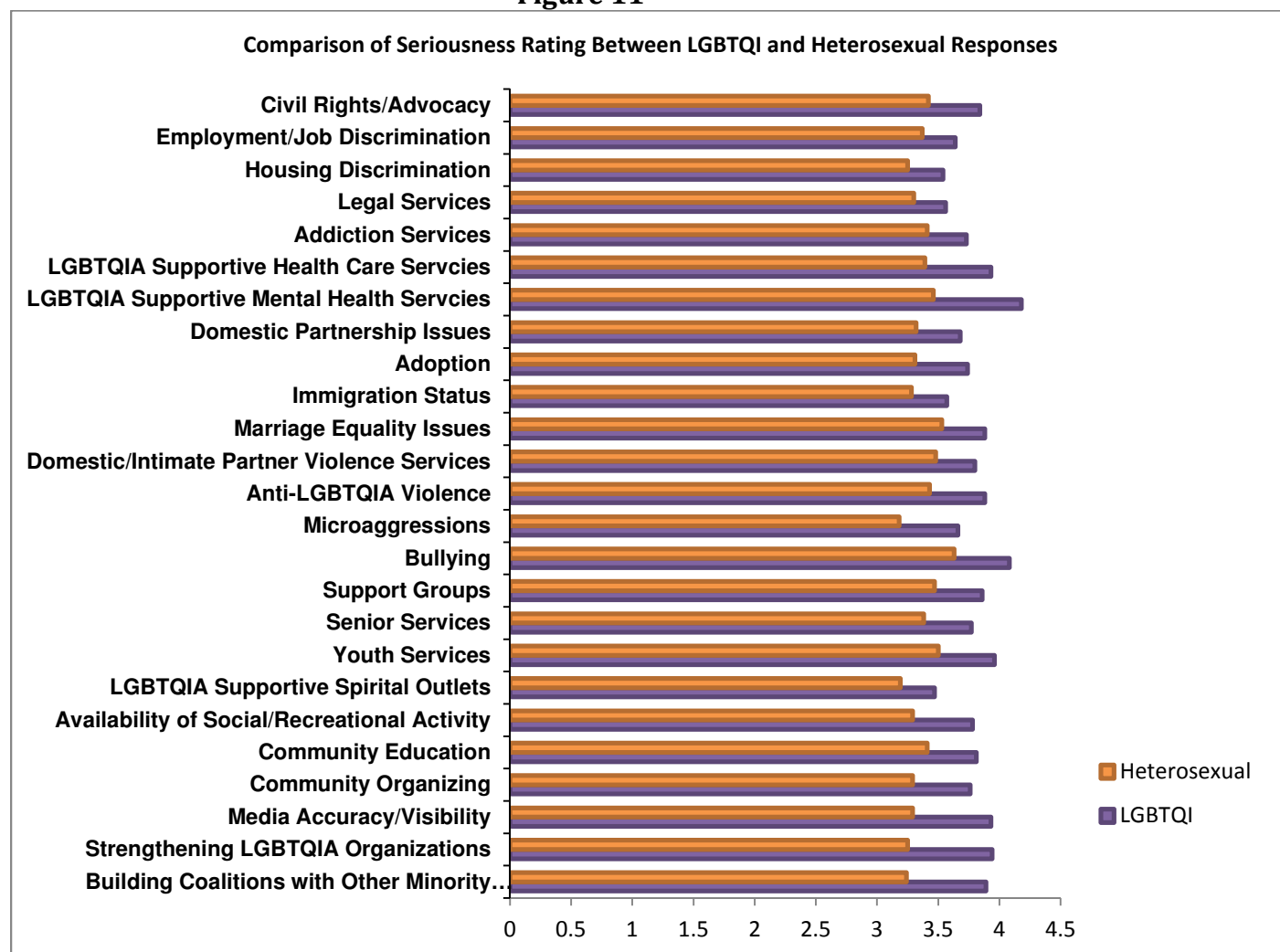
All seventeen of the service needs had an average score of 3.47 to 4.18, which indicates that all of these issues should be considered *Somewhat Serious*. The issue ranked least important was *LGBTQI Supportive Spiritual Outlets*. See **Figure 10** on the next page for the ranking of issues and services needs for the LGBTQI community.

Figure 10

*does not include heterosexual responses

As discussed previously, when the Issues and Service Needs sections of the Survey were analyzed, Heterosexual responses are not included in the analysis because of a distinct difference in the responses of Heterosexuals in comparison to LGBTQI responses. For every issue and service need, the Heterosexual respondents had a lower level of seriousness. (See **Figure 11** for the comparison between LGBTQI and Heterosexual responses.)

Figure 11



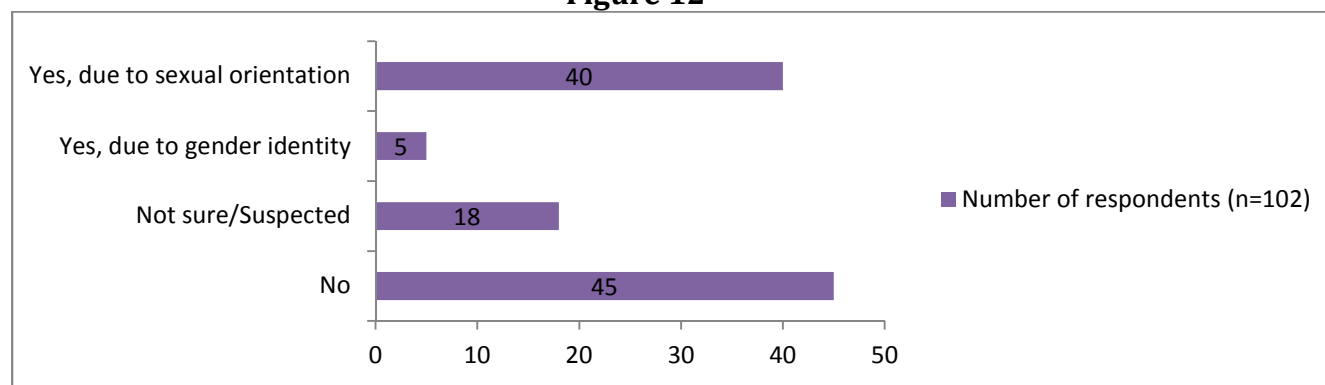
The most significant differences were for *LGBTQIA Supportive Mental Health Services*, *Strengthening LGBTQIA Organizations*, *Building Coalitions with Other Minority Communities* and *Media Accuracy/Visibility*.

It might be speculated that the Heterosexual community in SLO County is less aware or knowledgeable about the issues and service needs that concern the LGBTQI community.

Discrimination and Harassment

Respondents were asked: “Have you ever experienced discrimination, harassment, abuse or microaggressions in San Luis Obispo County because of your sexual orientation or gender identity?” They were given the options to answer *Yes, due to sexual orientation*, *Yes, due to gender identity*, *No or Not sure/Suspected*. Close to half of the respondents who answered this question had experienced harassment due to their gender identity or sexual orientation. This is an increase from the 2008 report where one-third of respondents indicated they had experienced discrimination or harassment. (See **Figure 12** for number of respondents experiencing discrimination.)

Figure 12



The next question asked participants to specify the type of discrimination, harassment, abuse or micro-aggressions that they had experienced. See **Table 7** for types of discrimination experienced. Respondents were asked to select all of the responses that apply to their experiences. The most common types of harassment were *Felt Uncomfortable/Unwelcome* and *Verbal Abuse/Threat*. The only form of discrimination that was not selected was *False Arrest*.

Respondents were able to specify their experiences by leaving a comment with this answer. A few examples of harassment that they shared include:

- “There is a noticeable difference in how certain people in SLO treat me when I present in a way that people perceive as queer. I have also experienced negative reactions from medical practitioners to the fact that I am in a consensual, multi-partner relationship arrangement, despite the fact that I utilize extremely thorough safer sex practices. A practitioner in SLO has told me that I would probably contract an STI no matter what I did, and implied that it would be extremely shameful if I were to get pregnant and not know who the other biological parent was.”
- “The H8te campaign was difficult - to see your neighbors with yard signs supporting Prop 8. Also, the display at Cal Poly comparing marriage equality with people marrying animals. Also, some catcalls from Cal Poly boys in a truck. It's much better these days.”
- “Treatment by County Office when changed information on title of property from joint tenants to domestic partners years ago. The front counter person would not give me eye contact or talk to me.”
- “While downtown I was called names when seen holding the hand of my partner.”
- “A lot of aggression and behavior when I display any sort of affection with my partner.”

- “Denied housing and was evicted for being gay”
- “People asking if our child is really ‘ours’ or if we adopted or who is the ‘real’ mom.”

Table 7

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=91)
Hate Mail/Phone Calls	4	4.39%
Verbal Abuse/Threat	30	32.96%
Cyber Bullying/Online Harassment	7	7.96%
Vandalism/Property Damage	6	6.59%
Ignored/Not Served/Left Out	26	28.57%
Denied Service by a Business/Employee	7	7.69%
Excluded from Participation in an Organization/Event	7	7.69%
Felt Uncomfortable/Unwelcome	41	45.05%
Treated Differently from Others	33	36.26%
Inappropriate Medical Treatment	6	6.59%
Inappropriate Service Referral	2	2.2%
False Arrest	0	0.0%
Police Harassment	3	3.29%
Illegal Eviction	1	1.11%
Job Harassment/Mistreatment	8	9.79%
Job Loss/Loss of Promotion	4	4.40%
Kicked out of Family/Home	4	4.40%
Physical Assault	3	3.29%
Sexual Assault	8	8.79%

Respondents were then asked, “If you did experience any of the above forms of discrimination, harassment, abuse, bullying, or microaggressions to whom did you report it?” Respondents could select *Yes, did report* or *No, did not report*. If they answered *Yes* they were asked to identify whom they reported the incident to. If they answered *No* they were asked to leave a comment explaining why they did not. Participants could answer this question in response to multiple incidents, (which is why the total percentage adds up to more than 100%). (See **Table 8** for reporting discrimination.)

Table 8

Response	Number	Percent of Respondent (n=40)
No, did not report	36	89.74%
Yes, did report	6	15.38%

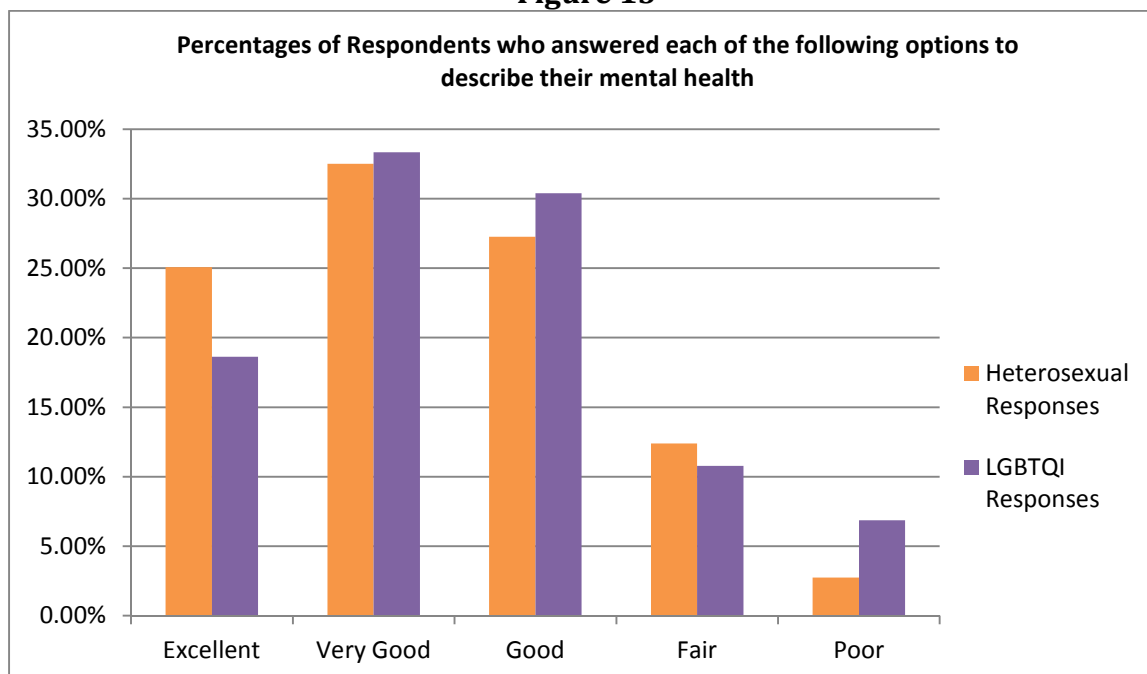
Only 15% of respondents said that they reported the incident. Reasons given included: they either didn’t know who to report it to, or didn’t think anything would happen from reporting. Only one person said that something positive came out of reporting the incident. Three stated that their report was inconclusive or dismissed.

Health

Respondents were asked about their physical and mental health. There was no difference between the physical health of LGBTQI respondents versus Heterosexual respondents.

However, in terms of mental health, LGBTQI respondents were less likely to say their mental health was *Excellent* and more likely to say it was *Poor*. (See **Figure 13** for responses regarding mental health.)

Figure 13



Respondents were asked, “Have you ever had suicidal thoughts that you attribute to concerns related to your sexual orientation or gender identity?” There was a significant difference with 30.39% of LGBTQI respondents reporting they have had suicidal thoughts, compared to only 1.93% of Heterosexual respondents. (See **Figure 9** for the comparison of suicidal thoughts.) In addition, 42.66% of all respondents said they know someone who has had suicidal thoughts or actions that they attributed to their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Table 9
LGBTQI responses only

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=102)
Yes	31	30.39%
No	71	69.61%

Heterosexual responses only

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=363)
Yes	7	1.93%
No	356	98.07%

LGBTQI respondents were asked to identify when they first became conscious of their LGBTQI identity. Of all LGBTQI respondents, 65.88% answered that they were age 17 or younger; 23.53% reported they were aged 18-24. This highlights the importance of providing youth services to the LGBTQI community in SLO County.

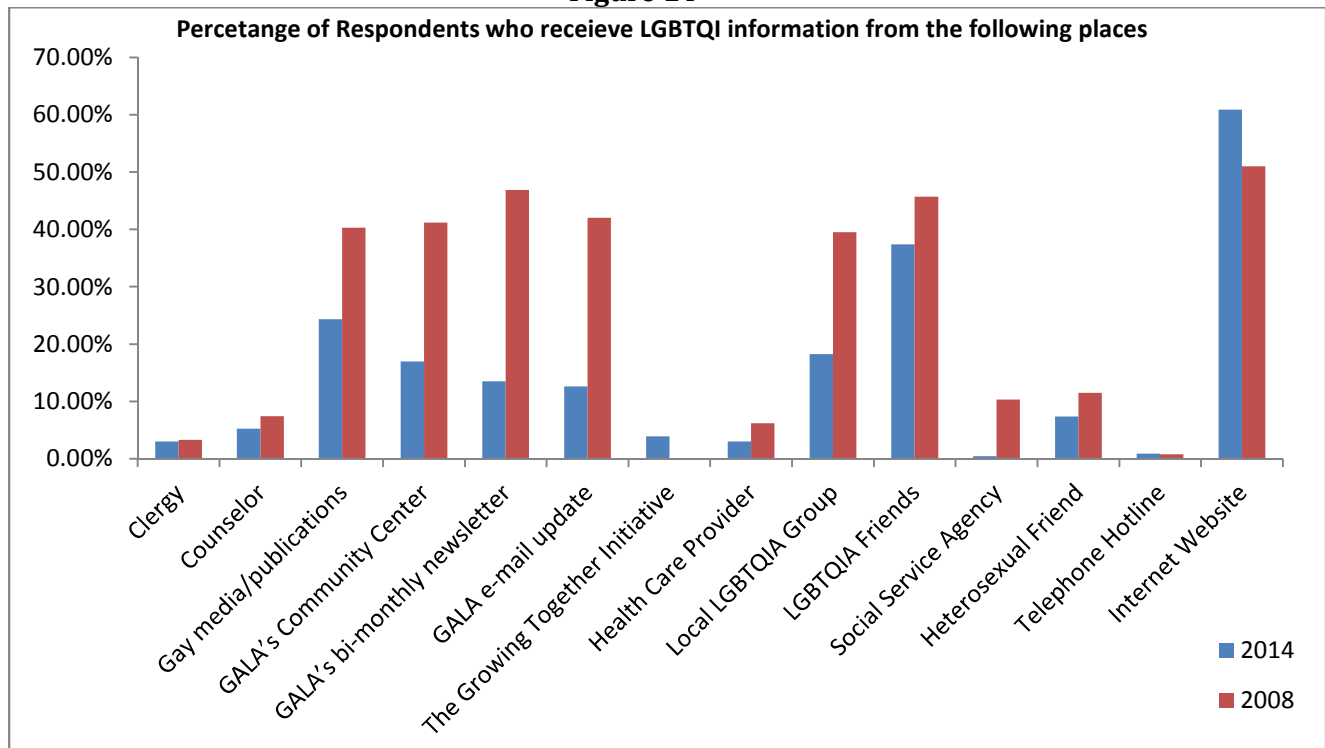
Community Involvement

The final section of the Survey asked participants to identify where they receive LGBTQI information from within the county. They could choose all responses that applied. (See **Table 10** for where LGBTQI respondents receive information.) The most common place for people to find information in 2014 was from an *Internet Website* (60.87%), then from *LGBTQIA Friends* (18.24%); and GALA's Community Center (16.96%). It should be noted that GALA was one of the organizations that included the URL for the 2014 Survey Monkey in their newsletter. Fewer than 5% of participants went to their *Clergy, Health Care Provider, The Growing Together Initiative, Social Service Agency* or *Telephone Hotline* for LGBTQI information.

Table 10

Answer Choice	Responses	Percent (n=230)
Clergy	7	3.04%
Counselor	12	5.22%
Gay media/publications	56	24.35%
GALA's Community Center	39	16.96%
GALA's bi-monthly newsletter	31	13.48%
GALA e-mail update	29	12.61%
The Growing Together Initiative	9	3.91%
Health Care Provider	7	3.04
Local LGBTQIA Group	42	18.26%
LGBTQIA Friends	86	37.39
Social Service Agency	1	0.43%
Heterosexual Friend	17	7.37%
Telephone Hotline	2	0.87
Internet Website	140	60.87%

In comparing the 2008 and 2014 Surveys, in 2014, the *Internet* was used more frequently when seeking information about LGBTQI issues. (See Figure 14 for comparison between 2008 and 2014.

Figure 14

The final question of the 2014 Survey asked respondents to identify local organizations that they have contributed either time or money to in the past year. They could identify either LGBTQIA organizations or non-LGBTQIA organizations. Many of the respondents listed non-local organizations, which are not included here. About 20% of respondents said they have contributed money and/or time to local organizations. Respondents listed 30 different local organizations in which they were involved, including: *GALA*, *SLO AIDS Support Network*, *Big Brothers Big Sisters*, *Cal Poly Pride Center* and *The Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County*.

CONCLUSION

The goal of the Community Foundation's 2014 Growing Together Initiative Survey was to gain insight into what factors need to be addressed regarding the LGBTQI community. Participants were residents of SLO County ranging in age from under 18 to over 80. Both Heterosexuals and LGBTQI community members were surveyed. The methodology used, a combination of both online and print surveys, allowed for easy access to the Survey. Survey respondents indicated that the top three *service needs* were: *Supportive Mental Health Services*, *Youth Services*, and *Discrimination/Harassment*. The top two *issues* identified were *Anti-LGBTQI Violence* and *Housing Discrimination*. This data will guide the priorities of the Growing Together Initiative Fund moving forward.

Mental Health

Based on responses in this Survey, it is clear that Mental Health Services must be a priority in our County. LGBTQI respondents ranked *Supportive Mental Health Services* as a top need. In addition, more than 30% of LGBTQI respondents have considered suicide because of concern related to their sexual orientation or gender identity. In contrast, fewer than 2% of Heterosexual respondents indicated correlation between their sexual or gender identity and contemplation of suicide. Also of concern, LGBTQI individuals reported significant harassment and discrimination.

Another source of data highlights the need for mental health services for LGBTQI youth. According to the California Healthy Kids Survey developed by West Ed and implemented in all 7th, 9th and 11th grades in SLO County, 50.3% of LGB youth surveyed have seriously considered attempting suicide in the last twelve months. This number is most likely higher than the Survey results because adolescents are statistically more likely to consider suicide. Comparatively, 17.6% of non-LGB youth had seriously considered attempting suicide. Both the Community Foundation Survey and the Healthy Kids Survey show a correlation between sexual identity and consideration of suicide.

Poor mental health is linked to substance abuse, and interferes with academic achievement and work, social relationships and overall quality of life. Based on these results, it is clear that Supportive Mental Health Services must be available and easily accessible for LGBTQI individuals. In addition, it is important that community mental health services are inclusive and welcoming of LGBTQI individuals.

Youth Services

The majority of respondents said they were first conscious of their LGBTQI identity when they were 10-17 years of age. In addition, *Youth Services* was ranked amongst the most serious service needs. According to the 2013 Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network's National School Climate Survey, most California schools are not considered safe for LGBTQI students because there is a lack of curriculum that is inclusive of LGBT people, history and events, and secondary schools lack a comprehensive anti-bullying or harassment policy. In a poll conducted by GLSEN, 85% reported having experienced verbal harassment because of their sexual orientation; 37% said they had experienced some form of physical harassment.

Both the California Healthy Kids Survey (**Figure 15**) implemented with SLO County youth, and the GLSEN Report (Table 11) give a much more in-depth look at the experiences of youth in our county as well as the rest of California.

Figure 15

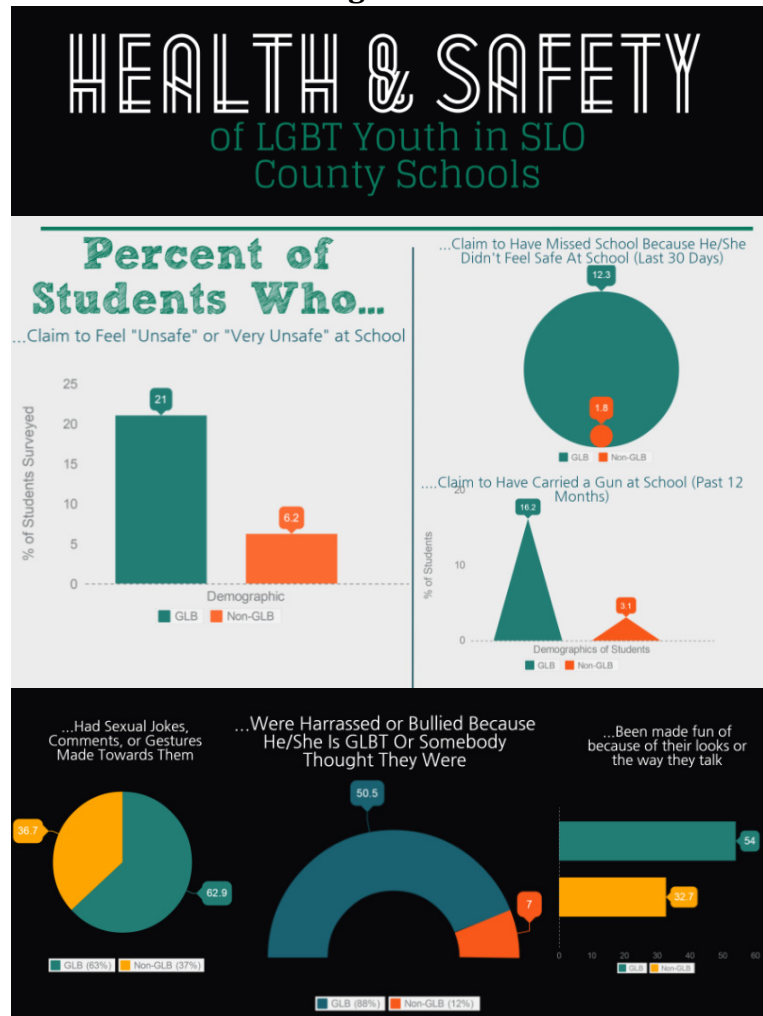


Table 11

Percent of Students Surveyed	Answer to Question Asked
88%	Felt deliberately excluded
80%	Had mean rumors or lies told about them
59%	Were sexually harassed
49%	Experienced cyberbullying
43%	Had property damaged
74%	Have heard "gay" used in a negative way
64%	Have heard homophobic remarks
56%	Have heard negative gender remarks
51%	Have heard staff use homophobic remarks

There are organizations in SLO County that are directed towards LGBTQI youth. GALA has a youth group for LGBT individuals ages 13-20. Additionally, many public high schools in SLO County (Arroyo Grande HS, Atascadero HS, SLO HS, Paso Robles HS, Templeton HS, and Nipomo HS) have Gay-Straight Alliance Clubs. It is critical for our youth to feel safe on campus and in the community in order to achieve their potential and feel empowered within their LGBTQ identity.

Discrimination and Harassment

Of great concern is the reported discrimination and harassment of LGBTQI youth and adults. In this 2014 Community Survey, 44% of respondents said they had experienced discrimination, harassment, abuse, bullying or micro-aggressions in San Luis Obispo County because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

The GLSEN Report (Tables 12 & 13) provides an even more concerning picture of harassment due to sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender.

Sexual Orientation (Table 12)

Percent of Students Surveyed	Type of Harassment
74%	Verbal Harassment
36%	Physical Harassment
17%	Physical Assault

Gender Expression (Table 13)

Percent of Students Surveyed	Type of Harassment
55%	Verbal Harassment
23%	Physical Harassment
11%	Physical Assault

In addition to issues of discrimination and harassment, the 2014 Survey respondents ranked *Anti-LGBTQI Violence* as the highest issue, and *Bullying* as the second.

According to the CA Healthy Kids Survey, 7.3% of students surveyed in grades 7, 9, and 11 *have carried a gun or other weapon (such as a knife or club) on school property in the last 12 months*. Of those students surveyed, 18.6% *have seen someone carrying a gun, knife, or other weapon on school property in the last 12 months*.

According to the CA Healthy Kids Survey implemented in SLO County, 21% of 7th, 9th, and 11th grade students surveyed have *experienced acts of cyberbullying*, including rumors spread about them. Additionally, according to the 2013 GLSEN Report, one in four LGBT youth said they had been bullied online in the past year because of their sexual orientation. Cyberbullying is an issue that needs to be addressed.

In regards to discrimination, of those who said they had experienced it, only 15.4% said that they reported it. When compared to the findings in the GLSEN Report, 66% of students who had been harassed or assaulted at school never reported it to a school staff. Of those who did, only 46% said that reporting the incident resulted in effective intervention by staff. More study is necessary to determine the reasons for this lack of reporting. However, it is crucial that schools create a welcoming and safe environment for all students.

As part of its mission, the Community Foundation San Luis Obispo already supports community efforts to provide supportive mental health services, reduce discrimination and harassment and provide supportive youth services for our LGBTQI community members. Grants have already been awarded to the following community organizations:

- Gay Straight Alliance Network
- Transitions Mental Health Association
- PFLAG Central Coast Chapter
- Gay and Lesbian Alliance of the Central Coast
- SLO High School Gay/Straight Alliance Club
- Spectrum
- Cuesta Gay/Straight Alliance Club
- Templeton High School Gay/Straight Alliance
- Community Counseling Center

Final Statement

This report details the results of the 2014 Community Individual Survey conducted by the Growing Together Fund. The information gathered by the 2014 Survey will be used to prioritize the activities supported by Growing Together in confronting the issues and needs of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning/Queer and Intersex (LGBTQI) communities in San Luis Obispo County. Those who wish to join in the efforts of the Growing Together Fund and or who would like more information or who are interested in the complete results of the 2008 or 2001 Community Individual Surveys are invited to visit the Community Foundation website at www.cfsloco.org or contact:

Growing Together Fund
The Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County
550 Dana Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Appendix A

Data Summary Tables of 2014 Responses with comments for each survey question

Question #1: How long have you lived in San Luis Obispo County?

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=704)
A year or less	119	16.28%
2-5 years	115	15.73%
6-10 years	87	11.90%
11-15	76	10.40%
16-25	187	25.58%
26-40	71	9.71%
41-60	14	1.92%
61+	5	.68%
Not in SLO	30	4.10%

Question #2: What is your residential zip code?

SLO County Region	Number (out of 731)	Percent of Sample
North County	232	31.74%
Coastal County	99	13.54%
San Luis Obispo/Central County	354	48.43%
South County	16	2.19%
Outside of SLO County	30	4.1%

Question #3: Age*All Respondents*

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=731)
Under 18	35	4.79%
18-24	344	47.06%
25-39	159	21.75%
40-55	112	15.18%
56-64	49	6.70%
65-79	29	3.97%
80+	4	0.55%

Only LGBTQ Respondents

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=120)
Under 18	10	8.3%
18-24	26	30.0%
25-39	38	23.33%
40-55	21	17.5%
56-64	15	12.5%
65-79	8	6.67%
80+	2	1.67%

Question #4: What most closely describes your gender identity?

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=724)
Female	439	60.72%

Male	258	35.68%
Questioning	3	0.41%
Transgender	2	0.28%
Transsexual, female to male	0	0.00%
Transsexual, male to female	4	0.55%
Intersex	0	0.00%
Transvestite	0	0.00%
Gender Fluid	5	0.69%
Gender Queer	4	0.55%
Gender Non-Conforming	2	0.28%
Prefer Not To Say	7	0.83%

Question #5: How do you identify your sexual orientation?

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=691)
Gay	38	5.5%
Lesbian	36	5.20%
Bisexual	46	6.66%
Heterosexual	571	82.63%

Other (specified):

1. Pansexual
2. Queer
3. Homo flexible
4. Fluid/queer
5. Asexual biro mantic (bi meaning i'm romantically attracted to people identifying as female and also nonbinary people)
6. Vaginasexual
7. I like men
8. Demisexual
9. Asexual
10. Pan
11. I like girls.
12. Decline to state
13. Decline to state
14. Pansexual
15. Straight as an arrow
16. None of the above
17. Pansexual
18. Heterosexual zoophile (exclusive)
19. Asexual
20. Asexual
21. I am a student and my sexual has no relevance
22. Heterosexual
23. Lover
24. Why is heterosexual the last choice?

25. Trisexual ill try about anything as long as I get to be on top
26. Asexual
27. Asexual
28. Unsure
29. Free spirit
30. Pansexual
31. Another bull shit question
32. Pansexual
33. Queer
34. Pansexual
35. Asexual

Question #6: Racial/Ethnic Identity?

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=291)
African American/Black	9	1.28%
Asian American/Pacific Islander	22	3.12%
European American/White	486	68.94%
Latina/o, Chicana/o, Hispanic	101	14.33%
Native American	13	1.84%
Multi-Racial	74	10.5%

Question #7: Annual Personal Income from all sources?

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=731)
under \$15,600	281	38.44%
\$15,600-\$31,999	111	15.18%
\$32,000-\$46,999	68	9.3%
\$47,000-\$62,999	8	5.2%
\$63,000-\$77,999	25	3.42%
\$78,000-\$99,999	33	4.51%
Over \$100,000	46	6.29%
Does not apply (e.g. living with parents)	129	17.65%

Question #8: How would you describe your household?

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=691)
Single, living alone	142	20.25%
Single, living with parents	195	28.22%
Single-parent family	40	5.79%
Single adults without children	77	11.14%
Single adults with children	20	2.89%
Domestic Partners without children	29	4.2%
Domestic partners with children	10	1.45%
Married adults without children	76	11%
Married adults with children	102	14.76%

Question #9: Highest level of education/training completed?

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=723)
Middle School	12	1.66%
High School Diploma/GED	200	27.66%
Technical Training/Certificate	25	3.46%
Some College	282	39%
2-Year College Degree	52	7.19%
4-Year College Degree	80	11.07%
Graduate Degree	72	9.96%

Comments (specified):

1. Only homeschooled, then started Cuesta at age 12 with trigonometry.
2. I am almost done with my AA and will transfer to Fresno State
3. I just completed my Associate Degree
4. Student
5. 7 years total with no degree
6. Psychiatric Technician License
7. UCSD digital arts program graduate
8. Also some non-vocational college
9. Some graduate

Question #10: Do you have a spiritual tradition or religious affiliation?

Response	Number	Percent Sample (n=720)
Yes	324	45%
No	396	55%

Response	Number	Percent Sample (n=324)*
Christianity	259	79.94%
Islam	3	0.93%
Hinduism	2	0.62%
Buddhism	5	1.54%
Judaism	8	2.47%
Folk Religions	1	0.31%
Unaffiliated	29	8.95%
Other	11	3.4%

*There were an additional 6 responses that were determined to be *unrecognizable* and were not placed into a religious category. These account for 1.85% of the percent sample.

Comments (specified): For each major religious group we have identified all of the different answers, but not specified the exact amount of responses for each subgroup.

Christianity-

- Protestant
- Roman Catholic
- Lutheran
- Jehovah's witness
- Catholic
- Christianity
- Methodist, not active in a church

- Church of Latter Day Saints
- Unitarian Universalist
- Baptist
- Pagan
- Believe in God. Affiliate with Christianity.
- Episcopal
- Baptist
- I mean I go to a Christian church but it's more for the community
- Judeo-Christian
- Christian, though I hate to say that because being a "Christian" has so many negative connotation. I prefer to say that I simply believe in Jesus.
- Agape
- United Methodist
- Seventh-Day Adventist
- I follow the teachings of the Christian bible
- Christian—Reformed Baptist
- I have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and as follower of Christ, you may consider me a Christian.
- I am a born again Christian, saved by the grace of Jesus Christ.
- Christian (specifically Presbyterian)
- Somewhat Christian, but more a "fan" of God than of the church.
- I am in the Russian Orthodox/Christian religion
- Mormon
- combination multi-cultural earth pagan/ Christian
- Apostolic Christian
- Lapsed Catholic With Buddhist Tendencies
- Christian non-demoninational
- Jesus Christ Is my Lord Amen.
- Evangelical Christion
- Christian based but open
- Christian upbringing
- I believe in the Trinity, The Father, Son and Holy Ghost and am proud to be a practicing Christian.
- Catholic raised, not always practicing
- Penecostal Christian

Buddhism

- Buddhist
- Shinto, Buddhism

Folk Religions

- Shaman

Hinduism

- Hindu
- Spiritually Hindu with other mixed eastern philosophies

Islam

- Islam

Judaism

- Jewish
- Yes/Messianic Gentile

- Technically/racially Jewish but not practicing
- Jewish Athiest

Unaffiliated

- Earth (nature) – centered
- i believe in God
- Connection to Mother Nature
- Spiritual
- i believe in the afterlife, everything else im not sure of
- There is a higher power
- I think every faith has truth.
- Scientific spiritualist
- Yes, I believe in creation. I meditate/pray and believe in a greater power.
- eclectic spirituality
- one higher power
- god
- self-directed
- We trust in the forces of nature
- Introversive spiritual reflection, universal consideration.
- Undecided
- I am One with all, that is my spirituality
- Earth base spiritual wayz
- My own
- LOVE
- personal-not an exact name
- nonsectarian

Other

- LeWeyan Satanism
- 12 step programs
- Asatru
- Zoroastrianism
- Four square church
- Wicca
- Agnostic
- Deism
- Taoist
- Satanism
- Mixed- Buddhist, Christian and Yogi

Question #11: How serious are the following issues or service needs facing the LGBTQIA community in SLO County at the present time?

CIVIL RIGHTS/ADVOCACY

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=319)
Very Serious (5)	62	19.44%
Somewhat Serious (4)	77	24.14%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	139	43.57%

Not Very Serious (2)	15	4.7%
Not Serious at all (1)	26	8.15%

Mean: 3.42

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=94)
Very Serious (5)	30	31.91%
Somewhat Serious (4)	31	32.98%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	23	24.47%
Not Very Serious (2)	8	8.51%
Not Serious at all (1)	2	2.13%

Mean: 3.84

EMPLOYMENT/JOB DISCRIMINATION

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=318)
Very Serious (5)	64	20.13%
Somewhat Serious (4)	59	18.55%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	153	48.11%
Not Very Serious (2)	14	4.40%
Not Serious at all (1)	28	8.81%

Mean: 3.37

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=95)
Very Serious (5)	19	20.0%
Somewhat Serious (4)	36	37.89%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	29	30.53%
Not Very Serious (2)	9	9.47%
Not Serious at all (1)	2	2.11%

Mean: 3.64

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=317)
Very Serious (5)	64	17.03%
Somewhat Serious (4)	59	15.46%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	167	52.68%
Not Very Serious (2)	17	5.36%
Not Serious at all (1)	30	9.46%

Mean: 3.25

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=94)
Very Serious (5)	14	14.89%
Somewhat Serious (4)	35	37.23%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	35	37.23%
Not Very Serious (2)	8	8.51%
Not Serious at all (1)	2	2.13%

Mean: 3.54

LEGAL SERVICES

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=313)
Very Serious (5)	54	17.25%
Somewhat Serious (4)	54	17.25%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	163	52.08%
Not Very Serious (2)	15	4.79%
Not Serious at all (1)	27	8.63%

Mean: 3.3

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=94)
Very Serious (5)	14	14.89%
Somewhat Serious (4)	36	38.30%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	36	38.30%
Not Very Serious (2)	5	5.32%
Not Serious at all (1)	3	3.19%

Mean: 3.56

ADDICTION SERVICES (ALCOHOL, DRUG, SEX, ETC.)

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=315)
Very Serious (5)	65	20.63%
Somewhat Serious (4)	67	21.27%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	141	44.76%
Not Very Serious (2)	15	4.76%
Not Serious at all (1)	27	8.57%

Mean: 3.41

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=93)
Very Serious (5)	24	25.81%
Somewhat Serious (4)	28	30.11%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	34	36.56%
Not Very Serious (2)	6	6.45%
Not Serious at all (1)	1	1.08%

Mean: 3.73

LGBTQIA SUPPORTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=312)
Very Serious (5)	56	17.95%
Somewhat Serious (4)	68	21.79%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	153	49.04%
Not Very Serious (2)	12	3.85%
Not Serious at all (1)	23	7.37%

Mean: 3.39

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=96)
Very Serious (5)	34	35.42%
Somewhat Serious (4)	30	31.25%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	24	25.00%
Not Very Serious (2)	7	7.29%
Not Serious at all (1)	1	1.04%

Mean: 3.93

LGBTQIA SUPPORTIVE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES*Heterosexual Responses*

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=311)
Very Serious (5)	67	21.54%
Somewhat Serious (4)	65	20.90%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	146	46.95%
Not Very Serious (2)	9	2.89%
Not Serious at all (1)	24	7.72%

Mean: 3.46

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=95)
Very Serious (5)	43	45.26%
Somewhat Serious (4)	31	32.63%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	17	17.89%
Not Very Serious (2)	3	3.16%
Not Serious at all (1)	1	1.05%

Mean: 4.18

DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP ISSUES*Heterosexual Responses*

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=313)
Very Serious (5)	51	16.29%
Somewhat Serious (4)	65	20.77%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	156	49.84%
Not Very Serious (2)	14	4.47%
Not Serious at all (1)	27	8.63%

Mean: 3.32

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=95)
Very Serious (5)	22	23.16%
Somewhat Serious (4)	29	30.53%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	38	40.0%
Not Very Serious (2)	4	4.21%
Not Serious at all (1)	2	2.11%

Mean: 3.68

ADOPTION*Heterosexual Responses*

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=314)
Very Serious (5)	56	17.83%
Somewhat Serious (4)	49	15.61%

Neutral/No Opinion (3)	169	53.82%
Not Very Serious (2)	15	4.78%
Not Serious at all (1)	25	7.96%

Mean: 3.31

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=95)
Very Serious (5)	27	28.42%
Somewhat Serious (4)	23	24.21%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	39	41.05%
Not Very Serious (2)	5	5.26%
Not Serious at all (1)	1	1.05%

Mean: 3.74

IMMIGRATION STATUS

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=311)
Very Serious (5)	54	17.36%
Somewhat Serious (4)	43	13.83%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	176	56.59%
Not Very Serious (2)	12	3.86%
Not Serious at all (1)	26	8.36%

Mean: 3.28

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=96)
Very Serious (5)	21	21.88%
Somewhat Serious (4)	19	19.79%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	51	53.13%
Not Very Serious (2)	4	4.17%
Not Serious at all (1)	1	1.04%

Mean: 3.5

MARRIAGE EQUALITY ISSUES

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=309)
Very Serious (5)	86	27.83%
Somewhat Serious (4)	55	17.80%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	131	42.39%
Not Very Serious (2)	11	3.56%
Not Serious at all (1)	26	8.41%

Mean: 3.53

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=95)
Very Serious (5)	34	31.91%
Somewhat Serious (4)	29	32.98%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	21	24.47%
Not Very Serious (2)	9	8.51%
Not Serious at all (1)	2	2.13%

Mean: 3.88

DOMESTIC/INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE SERVICES

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=309)
Very Serious (5)	73	23.62%
Somewhat Serious (4)	62	20.06%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	140	45.31%
Not Very Serious (2)	9	2.91%
Not Serious at all (1)	25	8.09%

Mean: 3.48

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=96)
Very Serious (5)	25	26.04%
Somewhat Serious (4)	33	34.38%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	33	34.38%
Not Very Serious (2)	4	4.17%
Not Serious at all (1)	1	1.04%

Mean: 3.80

ANTI-LGBTQIA VIOLENCE

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=309)
Very Serious (5)	73	23.62%
Somewhat Serious (4)	47	15.21%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	155	50.16%
Not Very Serious (2)	9	2.91%
Not Serious at all (1)	25	8.09%

Mean: 3.43

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=95)
Very Serious (5)	30	31.58%
Somewhat Serious (4)	36	37.89%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	21	22.11%
Not Very Serious (2)	4	4.21%
Not Serious at all (1)	4	4.21%

Mean: 3.88

MICROAGGRESSIONS

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=308)
Very Serious (5)	34	11.04%
Somewhat Serious (4)	49	15.91%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	190	61.69%
Not Very Serious (2)	9	2.92%
Not Serious at all (1)	26	8.44%

Mean: 3.18

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=93)
Very Serious (5)	19	20.43%

Somewhat Serious (4)	28	30.11%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	42	45.13%
Not Very Serious (2)	3	3.23%
Not Serious at all (1)	1	1.08%

Mean: 3.66

BULLYING

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=311)
Very Serious (5)	85	27.33%
Somewhat Serious (4)	75	24.12%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	123	39.55%
Not Very Serious (2)	7	2.25%
Not Serious at all (1)	21	6.75%

Mean: 3.63

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=96)
Very Serious (5)	37	38.54%
Somewhat Serious (4)	35	36.46%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	20	20.83%
Not Very Serious (2)	3	3.13%
Not Serious at all (1)	1	1.04%

Mean: 4.08

SUPPORT GROUPS

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=310)
Very Serious (5)	67	21.61%
Somewhat Serious (4)	72	23.23%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	136	43.87%
Not Very Serious (2)	10	3.23%
Not Serious at all (1)	25	8.06%

Mean: 3.47

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=94)
Very Serious (5)	31	34.04%
Somewhat Serious (4)	28	29.79%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	25	26.66%
Not Very Serious (2)	7	8.51%
Not Serious at all (1)	2	2.13%

Mean: 3.86

SENIOR SERVICES

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=311)
Very Serious (5)	54	17.36%
Somewhat Serious (4)	64	20.58%

Neutral/No Opinion (3)	161	51.77%
Not Very Serious (2)	9	2.89%
Not Serious at all (1)	23	7.40%

Mean: 3.38

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=434)
Very Serious (5)	24	25.53%
Somewhat Serious (4)	32	34.04%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	32	34.04%
Not Very Serious (2)	5	4.26%
Not Serious at all (1)	2	2.13%

Mean: 3.77

YOUTH SERVICES

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=310)
Very Serious (5)	71	22.9%
Somewhat Serious (4)	68	21.94%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	139	44.84%
Not Very Serious (2)	9	2.9%
Not Serious at all (1)	23	10.13%

Mean: 3.5

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=94)
Very Serious (5)	35	37.23%
Somewhat Serious (4)	29	30.85%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	23	24.47%
Not Very Serious (2)	5	5.32%
Not Serious at all (1)	2	2.13%

Mean: 3.96

LGBTQIA SUPPORTIVE SPIRITUAL OUTLETS

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=310)
Very Serious (5)	46	15.03%
Somewhat Serious (4)	39	12.75%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	178	58.17%
Not Very Serious (2)	12	3.92%
Not Serious at all (1)	31	10.13%

Mean: 3.19

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=96)
Very Serious (5)	20	20.83%
Somewhat Serious (4)	24	25.0%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	28	39.58%

Not Very Serious (2)	9	9.38%
Not Serious at all (1)	5	5.21%

Mean: 3.47

AVAILABILITY OF SOCIAL/RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=310)
Very Serious (5)	52	16.77%
Somewhat Serious (4)	24	14.42%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	164	52.9%
Not Very Serious (2)	13	4.19%
Not Serious at all (1)	27	8.71%

Mean: 3.29

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=97)
Very Serious (5)	32	32.99%
Somewhat Serious (4)	28	28.87%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	25	25.77%
Not Very Serious (2)	8	8.25%
Not Serious at all (1)	4	4.12%

Mean: 3.78

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=310)
Very Serious (5)	63	20.32%
Somewhat Serious (4)	66	21.29%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	145	46.77%
Not Very Serious (2)	8	2.58%
Not Serious at all (1)	28	9.03%

Mean: 3.41

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=96)
Very Serious (5)	26	27.08%
Somewhat Serious (4)	37	38.54%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	26	27.08%
Not Very Serious (2)	3	3.13%
Not Serious at all (1)	4	4.17%

Mean: 3.81

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=311)
Very Serious (5)	48	15.43%
Somewhat Serious (4)	60	19.29%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	165	53.05%
Not Very Serious (2)	11	3.54%
Not Serious at all (1)	27	8.68%

Mean: 3.29

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=95)
Very Serious (5)	28	29.47%
Somewhat Serious (4)	27	28.42%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	33	34.74%
Not Very Serious (2)	3	3.16%
Not Serious at all (1)	4	4.21%

Mean: 3.76

MEDIA ACCURACY/VISIBILITY

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=310)
Very Serious (5)	52	16.77%
Somewhat Serious (4)	56	18.06%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	162	52.26%
Not Very Serious (2)	10	3.23%
Not Serious at all (1)	30	6.68%

Mean: 3.29

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=96)
Very Serious (5)	37	38.54%
Somewhat Serious (4)	25	26.04%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	37	28.13%
Not Very Serious (2)	4	4.17%
Not Serious at all (1)	3	3.13%

Mean: 3.93

STRENGTHENING LGBTQIA ORGANIZATIONS

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=309)
Very Serious (5)	43	13.92%
Somewhat Serious (4)	61	19.74%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	165	53.40%
Not Very Serious (2)	11	3.56%
Not Serious at all (1)	29	9.39%

Mean: 3.25

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=96)
Very Serious (5)	34	35.42%
Somewhat Serious (4)	30	31.25%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	26	27.08%
Not Very Serious (2)	4	4.17%
Not Serious at all (1)	2	2.08%

Mean: 3.94

BUILDING COALITIONS WITH OTHER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=311)
Very Serious (5)	42	13.5%
Somewhat Serious (4)	58	18.65%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	172	55.31%
Not Very Serious (2)	12	3.86%
Not Serious at all (1)	27	8.68%

Mean: 3.24

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=97)
Very Serious (5)	29	29.90%
Somewhat Serious (4)	33	34.02%
Neutral/No Opinion (3)	31	37.96%
Not Very Serious (2)	3	3.09%
Not Serious at all (1)	1	1.03%

Mean: 3.89

Comments (specified) for all respondents:

- What does LGBTQIA mean?
- I've no idea.
- Do not know. Do not live in SLO County.
- Discrimination against those in poverty. 5
- I don't understand why I a heterosexual woman am being asked these questions. Most are not relevant to my particular situation. I am not even sure what the whole thing means.
- marry them idiots so they can learn just how painful divorce can be.
- I have no knowledge of that county
- Not educated about the matter enough to give valid feedback
- Decline to comment
- Unknown, I do not follow their requirements and needs
- If we all remember people are people, and if we stop labeling each other or ourselves we might get along
- Just my opinions from what I see and hear
- I have not been involved with the community in a long time, so, I am not sure on not aware of the issues or service needs on the all of the above.
- The overall percentage of LGBTQ community is not more than 20% of the entire population. While there needs to be supportive services there also needs to not be backlash for the other "main" groups that don't have the same opinion. Disagreement and hate are two different opinions.
- I have no knowledge whatsoever of the needs, hardships, nor triumphs of the local LGBTQ community
- In my opinion the GALA in this area seems gay men dominate, usually over the ages of 40. I don't see much offered for lesbian women, especially the younger generation. I think the LGBTQ community needs to bridge the gap between ages. All groups have a lot to learn from each other. I would like to see more for ages 18-30.
- nonbinary resources and visibility
- I don't know.

Question #12: Have you ever experienced discrimination, harassment, abuse, bullying or microaggressions in San Luis Obispo County because of your sexual orientation or gender identity? (Check all that apply)

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=102)
Yes, due to sexual orientation	40	39.22%
Yes, due to gender identity	5	4.90%
Not sure/Suspected it was	18	17.65%
No	45	44.12%

Question #13: Briefly explain your answer to the question above.

Comments (specified):

- I work in a male dominated field as a woman, its daily.
- Sometimes I'm straight-passing in public, and sometimes I'm not. There is a noticeable difference in how certain people in SLO treat me (my experience with this being primarily as a customer in stores or restaurants) when I present in a way that people perceive as queer. I have also experienced negative reactions from medical practitioners to the fact that I am in a consensual, multi-partner relationship arrangement, despite the fact that I utilize extremely thorough safer sex practices. A practitioner in SLO has told me that I would probably contract an STI no matter what I did, and implied that it would be extremely shameful if I were to get pregnant and not know who the other biological parent was.
- A handful of times, people have yelled out at or approached my girlfriend with me.
- don't share this stuff with the public. But if I did I'm sure I would be judged for it by some hater(s) out there.
- People just think you're crazy, because they don't believe that having no sex drive exists.
- The H8te campaign was difficult - to see your neighbors with yard signs supporting Prop 8. Also, the display at Cal Poly comparing marriage equality with people marrying animals. Also, some catcalls from Cal Poly boys in a truck. It's much better these days.
- My roommate flat-out told me she didn't want to room with me because I'm not cisgender.
- Treatment by County Office when changed information on title of property from joint tenants to domestic partners years ago. The front counter person would not give me eye contact or talk to me.
- Harassed about orientation from 2nd grade to well after high school. Stopped when I withdrew from society, for they most part.
- mild bullying in high school but none since.
- I had some issues with a couple specific people in junior high, but for the most part, I haven't allowed too much crap to go down.. I've definitely seen some brutal, sexuality related bullying go on around here though.
- Abusive anonymous phone calls; physical violence
- When attending a rally for marriage equality, people yelled anti-gay things at us
- some bullying in high school. Family does not approve due to their religion. Afer a woman in the restroom saw my girlfeind and I share a quick kiss in the bathroom she went to her table yelling she wouldnt eat with lesbians. She got her family and quickly left resturaunt.
- Bullying from queer youth in FUSION Slo youth group.
- have overheard comments based on my physical appearance/clothing choices
- Have not come out.

- I haven't been bullied in a long time. It mostly happened when I was in elementary school over 15 years ago.
- Social outcast and no support from community, jobs, or other support services.
- Everyone is pretty nice and open to diversity
- was closeted but was called a "dyke" in high school because I was friends with a girl who had short hair. Someone even wrote "(my name) is a dyke" onto a bathroom stall door at the high school. Other than that, I am still in the closet so the weird high school stuff is the only thing I've ever run into.
- Losing friends as they find out.
- I have never felt discriminated against or harassed for being gay.
- No I have experienced harassment in a differing county.
- There are occasional derogative remarks towards me being "Lesbian" from people in my peer group
- While downtown I was called names when seen holding the hand of my partner.
- I've experienced bullying/slurs whilst in public of downtown slo
- I have never had any kind of bullying.
- Gay bashed as a child -12 years old
- Possible housing discrimination from prospective landlords. This is a big problem because affordable housing is scarce in SLO.
- A lot of aggression and behavior when I display any sort of affection with my partner.
- Heard some negative things yelled out, but most likely drunk kids. Never been discriminated in any other way here
- Judge overturned restraining order as not domestic violence when DA eventually disagreed
- Have been called names, and spit on, for being Asian American. It was a long time ago, in the 90's. Things are better now.
- derogatory comments, jokes, some discrimination in service
- bullied/ostracized in public school...but this was in Maryland, not SLO County
- Yelled at in pulled for being gay
- I was the subject of a sexual harassment complaint after I told some one I thought was my friend that I was gay.
- mugged 25 years ago
- broken windows in our home
- conservative religious leaders opposing me (a liberal religious leader)
- denied housing and was evicted for being gay
- Gay slurs at Jockos with multiple persons intimidation
- When I first moved to SLO County, I was harassed on the street for being gay.
- People here are always assuming sexual preference.
- I've been harassed at my workplace, either by customers or fellow employees
- Of course it's hard not to call marriage inequality discrimination, but I haven't personally experienced individual discrimination or harassment use to my sexual orientation.
- Examples include name calling (slurs) while walking down the street, one time someone threw a rock at my then girlfriend and I while shouting "dyke!", customers coming into the office and using negative or homophobic terms to describe myself or someone else. To be fair, this kind of nonsense has lessened significantly in the last 5 years
- Glared at while holding hands with a girl (templeton high school), whispers of "lesbian/dyke" when i walk by on occasion, GSA posters have been ripped down at school every time they're put up
- Just the typical assholes.
- People asking if our child is really "ours" or if we adopted or who is the "real" mom.

- Was told a job won't hire a male nurse

Question #14: What types of discrimination, harassment, abuse, bullying, or microaggressions have you experienced in the past five years? (Check all that apply)

(only LGBTQI responses)

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=91)
Hate Mail/Phone Calls	4	4.39%
Verbal Abuse/Threat	30	32.96%
Cyber Bullying/Online Harassment	7	7.96%
Vandalism/Property Damage	6	6.59%
Ignored/Not Served/Left Out	26	28.57%
Denied Service by a Business/Employee	7	7.69%
Excluded from Participation in an Organization/Event	7	7.69%
Felt Uncomfortable/Unwelcome	41	45.05%
Treated Differently from Others	33	36.26%
Inappropriate Medical Treatment	6	6.59%
Inappropriate Service Referral	2	2.2%
False Arrest	0	0.0%
Police Harassment	3	3.29%
Illegal Eviction	1	1.11%
Job Harassment/Mistreatment	8	9.79%
Job Loss/Loss of Promotion	4	4.40%
Kicked out of Family/Home	4	4.40%
Physical Assault	3	3.29%
Sexual Assault	8	8.79%
Does not Apply	32	36.36%

Comments (specified):

- There's a lot of hate within the LGBTQIA community. Most of the grief I've gotten has been from members discriminating against others (e.g. biphobia, my sig. other expressing concern I will cheat on her because I am pansexual.)
- Discriminated against during job applicant pre-screenings, interview
- Life happens, and we move on.
- How is any event like this verified? What are the safeguards against false accusations?
- Age discrimination
- Family dispute with brother, sister, and sister in-law in 2013 and 2009 through 2013
- Judge overturned restraining order as not domestic violence when DA eventually disagreed
- victim of false accusations/rumors, ethnicity disability related
- denied job opportunity
- a few idiots at a commercial gym- but they turned down when called out

Question #15: If you did experience any of the above forms of discrimination, harassment, abuse, bullying, or microaggression to whom did you report it? (If this section does not apply, please leave it blank) I

Response	Number	Percent of Respondent (n=40)*
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No, did not report	36	89.74%
Yes, did report	6	15.38%

*The reason that the percentages for this question add up to more than 100% is because respondents could select both responses

Comments for “No, did not report. Please explain below”:

- No
- At the time, I did not feel comfortable reporting.
- My mom was really unaccommodating in regards to my orientation and there wasn't really anyone to "report" it to.
- There was no one that could solve the problems I faced, except me. And I dealt with it the best I could.
- First amendment goes both ways unfortunately
- In 2 instances i considered bringing info to the police but opted out. I felt escalating the situation would make things more dangerous/unsafe
- I have received no h8 for being bi.
- Just embarrassed everything, and learned to survive horribly with lifes obstacles.
- didn't think authority figures would take it seriously
- no one to report this to.
- it's easier to just remove yourself from an unhealthy situation than to have a long process that drags out and may not result in your favor anyway.
- Nothing can be done
- No
- It was just high school related and it no longer affects me.
- I was too scared at the time to report it to anyone. It made me question who I really was and made me think if this was going to keep happening then maybe I just shouldn't show anyone my real sexuality.
- Generally the people doing the harassment didn't stick around, and there was no authority nearby
- I don't typically report stuff because no one takes it seriously.
- Did not report
- it wasn't enough for me to constitute reporting.
- Judges are like god. Who would you report to?
- was too minor, fleeting
- did not report
- Did not think that it would be seen as a crime
- It's hard to report some of these issues.
- How do you report that some one, due to homophobia, filed an EEOC sexual harrasment complaint? You can't. It's all in the eye of the one who perceived the transgression.
- Moved ib
- No
- No
- Long ago
- No
- No
- No did not report
- It was just a drunk fool calling people names and trying to act tough. Non-violent.
- Didn't feel comfortable
- This one

Responses for “Yes, did report. In the space below, please say to whom you reported the incident.”:

- I talked to an RA in my dorm.
- Reported to my employer - I experienced this treatment when I joined a service group as a representative of my employer
- I did review the business on yelp and Angie's list and I described the incident so that others would know what happened.
- Police
- Sheriff
- Manager of restaurant

Responses for “If you reported the incident, what was the result of you reporting the incident?”:

- The RA and her supervisor are trying to move me to a more accepting hall.
- I was no longer required to attend.
- they investigated but inconclusive
- nothing/dismissal

Question #16: Would you say that in general, your physical health (including physical illness and injury) is?

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of respondents (n=363)
Excellent	78	21.49%
Very Good	127	34.99%
Good	109	30.03%
Fair	41	11.29%
Poor	8	2.2%

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of respondents (n=102)
Excellent	21	20.59%
Very Good	50	49.02%
Good	21	20.59%
Fair	6	5.88%
Poor	4	3.92%

Question #17: Would you say that in general, your mental health is?

Heterosexual Responses

Response	Number	Percent of respondents (n=363)
Excellent	91	25.07%
Very Good	118	32.51%
Good	99	27.27%
Fair	45	12.4%
Poor	10	2.75%

LGBTQI Responses

Response	Number	Percent of respondents (n=102)
Excellent	19	18.63%
Very Good	34	33.33%
Good	31	30.39%

Fair	11	10.78%
Poor	7	6.86%

Question #18: Have you ever had suicidal thoughts that you attribute to concerns related to your sexual orientation or gender identity?

LGBTQI Responses Only

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=102)
Yes	31	30.39%
No	71	69.61%

Hetero responses

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=363)
Yes	7	1.93%
No	356	98.07%

Question #19: Have you ever known someone who has ever had suicidal thoughts or actions they attributed to concerns related to their sexual orientation or gender identity?

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=497)
Yes	212	42.66%
No	285	57.34%

Question #21: When were you first conscious of your LGBTQIA identity?

LGBTQI Responses Only:

Response	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=85)
Under 10	16	18.82%
10-17	40	47.06%
18-24	20	23.53%
25-39	5	5.88%
40-55	2	2.35%
56-64	1	1.18%
65-79	1	1.18%
80+	0	0.0%

Comments for Age (in years):

- ~17
- 21
- 12
- 2
- 17
- 14
- 18
- 14
- 58
- 24

- 20
- 14
- 7th grade-ish
- 20
- 9
- 14-15
- 16
- 12
- 18
- 10
- 15
- 18
- 14
- 6
- 8
- 7
- 77
- 14
- 1
- 12
- 5
- 12
- 6
- 13
- 12
- 10
- 7
- 10
- 13
- 16
- 14
- 5
- 19
- 7-10 years old
- 13
- 14
- 11
- 18
- 4 years old
- 27
- 20
- 18
- 25
- 48
- 7
- 21
- 24
- 15

- 10
- 14
- 6
- 25
- 10
- 18
- 20
- 8-18
- 6
- 6
- 7 or 8
- 21
- 12
- 12-14
- 14
- 46
- 8
- 11
- 16/19
- 21
- 14

Question: If you identify as LGBTQIA, with whom are you open about your sexual orientation?
(Check all that apply)

LGBTQI answers only

Answer Choices	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=99)
Does not apply	3	3.03%
Neighbors	13	13.13%
Family of origin	27	27.27%
Friends	49	49.49%
Fellow employees	17	17.17%
Religious organizations	6	6.06%
Schools	10	10.10%
Spouse	11	11.11%
Partner	18	8.18%
Nobody	6	6.06%
Everyone	47	47.47%

Question #22: If you identify as LGBTQIA, with whom are you open about your gender identity?
(Check all that apply)

LGBTQI answers only

Answer Choices	Number	Percent of Respondents (n=99)
Does not apply	39	39.39
Neighbors	5	5.05%
Family of origin	9	9.09%
Friends	14	14.14%
Fellow employees	5	5.05%
Religious organizations	3	3.03%
Schools	3	3.03%

Spouse	5	5.05%
Partner	7	7.07%
Nobody	3	3.03%
Everyone	43	43.43%

Question #24: Do you have family members who identify as bisexual, gay, lesbian, or transgender? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choices	Responses	Percent (n=437)
Does not apply	245	56.06%
Child(ren)	8	1.83%
Parent(s)	5	1.14%
Sibling(s)	29	6.64%
Grandparent(s)	0	0.0%
Former spouse(s)	3	0.69%
Spouse	8	1.83%
Extended Family	140	32.04%
Other	27	6.18%

Comments (specified):

- Nephew
- No
- All family members are heterosexual
- Niece
- Multiple friends
- FTM cousin
- Respect their privacy
- Several close friends
- Do not know or care
- Friends
- Uncle
- Close friends
- Close
- Cousin
- Friends
- No
- Do not know
- Friends who I consider family
- Many friends
- No one else
- Cousins
- Many friends
- Friends
- Friends
- Nephew
- Aunt

Question #25: Where do you go for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender information? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choice	Responses	Percent (n=230)
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Clergy	7	3.04%
Counselor	12	5.22%
Gay media/publications	56	24.35%
GALA's Community Center	39	16.96%
GALA's bi-monthly newsletter	31	13.48%
GALA e-mail update	29	12.61%
The Growing Together Initiative	9	3.91%
Health Care Provider	7	3.04
Local LGBTQIA Group	42	18.26%
LGBTQIA Friends	86	37.39
Social Service Agency	1	0.43%
Heterosexual Friend	17	7.37%
Telephone Hotline	2	0.87
Internet Website	140	60.87%

Comments (specified):

- Does not apply
- since I am heterosexual, I don't need counseling.
- Does not apply
- Savage love
- I don't care about the subject enough to look it up. (you could have an option saying 'does not apply' for people like me)
- Why do people need information? It doesn't make you a different species...
- Tumblr
- I have no found any
- I don't
- None
- I don't care about information
- Nowhere
- Nowhere
- Don't need any
- I don't
- N/A
- Tumblr
- Friends
- I don't go anywhere. I am not interested in knowing anything about that lifestyle.
- No where, I'm straight
- N/A
- I just listen to my friends who are lesbian,gay,bisexual or trans.
- Peer reviewed publication
- Does not apply
- I don't
- Loveline
- AIDS Support Network SLO
- Don't
- N/A (grew up with this / ask individual)
- I never have done think
- I don't seek any info

- I don't look for it
- N/A
- Does not apply
- N/A
- I don't need any information
- I don't
- I don't really
- n/a
- does not apply
- none
- does not apply
- is not an issue
- ellen
- I don't
- None
- I don't
- I don't actively seek out information
- I do not ask for information
- None
- My LGBT friends
- Social media
- Scarleteen
- Partner
- Lesbian connection
- Spouse
- Unitarian congregation
- Friends
- None
- Partner
- Unitarian universalist
- Partner/spouse

Question #26: What are the local organizations that you contributed time or money to in the past year? (List up to five LGBTQIA or non-LGBTQIA organizations and circle the appropriate response)

Organizations Listed- how many times listed:

1. LGBTQIA Faculty Staff Association at Cal Poly- 1
2. Big Brothers Big Sisters- 6
3. GALA- 36
4. Cal Poly Pride Center- 3
5. Human Rights Campaign- 1
6. SLO Aids Network- 12
7. SLOCCF- 3
8. Spectrum- 2
9. Lois Capps Campaign- 2

10. Inclusive Schools- 1
11. Open Doors- 1
12. PFLAG- 5
13. The Center- 1
14. Matthew Shepard- 1
15. American Foundation for suicide prevention- 1
16. NO H8- 1
17. CAPSLO- 2
18. Alpha- 2
19. Food Bank- 2
20. GSA- 4
21. Women's Shelter- 1
22. GTI- 10
23. Tranz- 2
24. Your True Gender- 1
25. WLF- 2
26. Planned Parenthood- 2
27. Fusion- 2
28. Transitions Mental Health- 1
29. SARP- 1
30. Hospice SLO- 1

Question #27: Additional Comments

- Thank you for your support of equal rights.
- I am a poor student who is not covered by federal funding. How the heck would I have any extra money to donate to organizations that I don't care about?
- on 22, if there were an option of "total strangers" I'd mark it but I wouldn't say it's comparable to "everyone."
- I am a little bothered about this survey and not sure I should have continued filling it out
- get NoH8 campaign involved in SLO :)
- As my orientation is, as I said earlier, rare, demonized, and poorly misunderstood, it leaves a bitter taste in my mouth to mention it without allowing any response in return. To alleviate that problem, I created an anonymous email which I give out at times like this.
Waffledragons@gmail.com If you have any questions, clarifications, comments, or anything else, regarding my orientation (exclusive zoophile), feel free to use that email. I am more than willing to discuss, or provide whatever information I may have, or anything else. If not, that's fine too.
But, the option is there.
- I am familiar with the organizations and their services, but am not personally acquainted with the local chapter.
- This is ridiculous
- thank you for the survey I believe this survey being sent to students across the board helps in itself to educate people or make them aware of issues
- I am a therapist and I have many LGBTQIA clients.
- I think this survey is designed for people who get worked up over social issues such as today's sexual fluidity. This is something I personally don't get involved in. I don't say anything to anyone nor do I listen to anyone's opinions, whether they are for these things or against them. This survey should include all types of discrimination, not just the one that is most relevant to popular social issues.

- Not interested in this. There are far more greater problems in this world than sexual identity.
- not LOCAL organizations. I've donated to Avaaz, Amnesty Int., Greenpeace, ultraviolet, and presente.
- If society continues to be rewarded for always being the victim we are ruined as a nation. I suggest you distance yourselves from such groups and enter society.
- For the first question, I think there are serious vacancies in free legal help, civil rights advocacy, and shelter for all people not just gay people. The homeless problem in this county is very serious especially since shelters conduct background checks on clients before they let them in which excludes many people from obtaining shelter. Since there are few free legal services these people have no help; they simply remain homeless. Many are arrested or violated and sent to jail by the police. This continues over and over again costing money and ruining lives. In addition, there are no inpatient drug and alcohol treatment programs in this county which is a very serious concern. Many people want treatment but nothing except very basic outpatient services are available. This county needs inpatient treatment programs for ANYBODY!
- I went to a private Christian school that I would have been kicked out of if they knew I was a lesbian. The group was students, parents, and community trying to achieve change within the school.
- In the future, you should create a survey that does not populate a dozen questions that don't apply. I stated "heterosexual" but still had to go through at least 10 additional questions related to LBGQT..... (can't remember rest of letters) designations that didn't apply to me.
- After moving here from the Bay Area, I feel like I had to go back into the closet. And health care is lacking, no matter who you are.

Appendix B

Health and Safety of LGBT Youth in San Luis Obispo County Schools Factsheet (2015)

Meyer, E.J. (2015) *Health and safety of LGBT youth in San Luis Obispo County schools: Fact Sheet*. San Luis Obispo, CA: Central Coast Coalition for Inclusive Schools.

Health and safety of LGBT youth in San Luis Obispo County schools: Fact Sheet

	GLB	Non-GLB	Trans	Non-Trans
Participant self-identification (N = 6623)	350 5.2%	6273 94.8%	140 2.1%	6483 97.9%
Attendance				
How many times did you skip school or cut class in the past 12 months? (more than once a week)	17.4%	3.7%	35.7%	3.8%
Missed school because you felt very, sad, hopeless, anxious, stressed, angry? (past 30 days)	34.3%	11.2%	26.1%	12.1%
Missed school because you didn't feel safe at school? (past 30 days)	12.3%	1.8%	23.2%	1.9%
Safety				
How safe do you feel when you are at school? (unsafe or very unsafe)	21%	6.2%	39%	6.3%
Been drunk or 'high' on drugs 7 or more times? (lifetime)	24.6%	5.7%	43.6%	5.9%
Have you been in a physical fight? (past 12 months)	32.3%	12.4%	34.1%	3.5%
Have you carried a gun at school? (past 12 months)	16.2%	3.1%	34.8%	1.5%
Did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide? (past 12 months)	50.3%	17.6%	41.5%	19.2%
Bullying and harassment				
In the past 12 months on school property have you...				
• Been pushed, shoved, slapped, hit, kicked by someone 1 or more times	37.5%	22.9%	37.3%	6.3%
• Been afraid of being beaten up?	30.2%	13.7%	39.4%	14%
• Had rumors/lies spread about you	58%	38.4%	33.1%	10.8%
• Had sexual jokes, comments, or gestures made to you?	62.9%	36.7%	46.1%	16.2%
• Been made fun of because of your looks or way you talked?	54%	32.7%	38.6%	11.7%
• Been threatened with harm or injury?	33.8%	11.5%	34.0%	3.1%
• Been made fun of, insulted, or called names?	58.9%	40%	18.4%	24.6%
• Were harassed or bullied for your race, ethnicity, or national origin?	26.3%	14%	13.6%	9.4%
• Were harassed or bullied for your religion?	24.1%	9.5%	9.4%	7%
• Were harassed or bullied for your gender?	15.9%	7.6%	14.4%	5.9%
• Were harassed or bullied because you are gay or lesbian or somebody thought you were?	50.5%	7%	11.5%	5.5%
• Were harassed or bullied because physical or mental disability?	21.5%	5.1%	25.4%	1.8%
• Were harassed or bullied for any other reason?	40.1%	21.3%	36.0%	8.9%

Meyer, E.J. (2015) *Health and safety of LGBT youth in San Luis Obispo County schools: Fact Sheet*. San Luis Obispo, CA: Central Coast Coalition for Inclusive Schools.

Participant Demographics			
N = 6623	White	3268	(54.2%)
M = 51.1%	Hispanic/Latino	2531	(38.8%)
F = 48.5%	Mixed	2198	(36.4%)
	Am. Indian/Alaskan	177	(2.9%)
7 th grade = 2134 (32%)	Asian	171	(2.8%)
9 th grade = 2153 (32.3%)	Black or African American	145	(2.4%)
11 th grade = 1927 (28.9%)	Hawaiian/Pacific Isl.	75	(1.2 %)

Methods: The data presented in this fact sheet were collected as part of the California Healthy Kids Survey in the spring of 2014 at middle and high schools across San Luis Obispo County. The data were collected using a paper and pencil survey administered by school sites and reported to and compiled by WestEd. The San Luis Obispo County Office of Education requested the dataset from WestEd and the data were analyzed running Chi-Square tests using SPSS statistical software. All differences reported here are statistically significant.

The Central Coast Coalition for Inclusive Schools (CCC4IS) is a network of community partners actively supporting the development of safe and affirming school communities.

Mission: The CCC4IS actively supports the development of safe and affirming school communities. We strive to celebrate diversity, advocate for social justice, and transform educational cultures by empowering youth, families, professionals, and organizations. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CCC4IS/>

Acknowledgements: The California Healthy Kids Survey was developed by WestEd under contract to the California Department of Education. This fact sheet was prepared by Elizabeth J. Meyer, Ph.D. for the Central Coast Coalition of Inclusive Schools in partnership with the San Luis Obispo County Office of Education. These data were acquired through funds provided by the San Luis Obispo County Community Foundation's Growing Together Initiative.

