

Risk, resilience and the prevention of LGBTIQ homelessness



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lgbtihomeless.com | [@GALFAhomeless](https://twitter.com/GALFAhomeless)

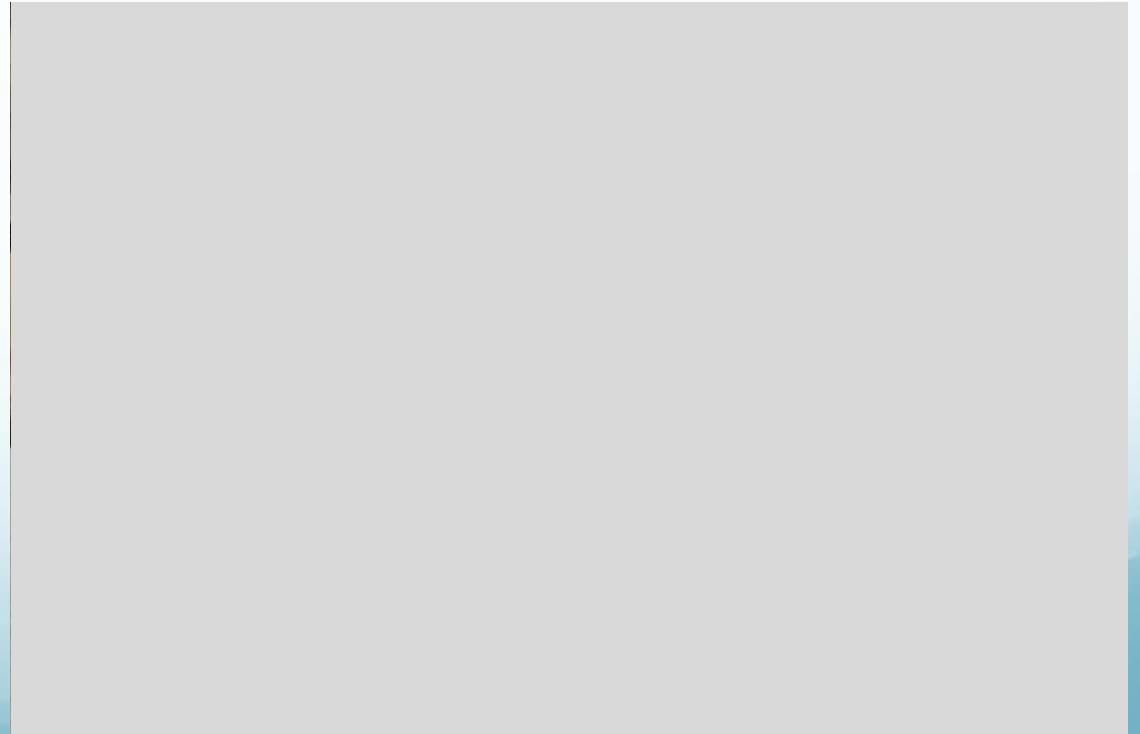


FACULTY OF
MEDICINE,
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SCIENCES



Outline

- LGBTIQ Housing & Homelessness Projects
- Risk and resilience factors for LGBTIQ homelessness
- Prevention
 - Primary
 - Secondary
 - Tertiary

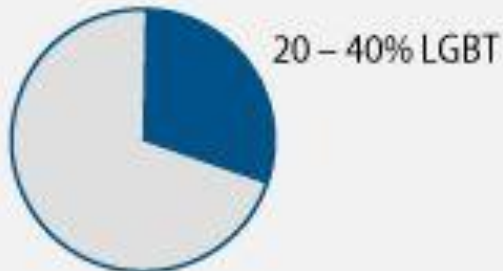


LGBTIQ Housing & Homelessness Projects

Youth population



Homeless youth population



General aims:

- Identify contributors and pathways for LGBTIQ people into and out of homelessness
- Investigate experiences of service provision
- Look at current practice and best practice
- Share key findings to influence policy initiatives, services, and training.

Projects

- **LGBTIQ homelessness research project** — Jan'16 – Sep'17
 - Advisory group, 2 research teams (Melbourne – qual. analysis, Swinburne – quant. analysis)
- **Trans and gender diverse pilot project** — Aug'16 – Nov'17
 - Steering group (Transgender Victoria, Drummond Street Services, Launch Housing, University of Melbourne, GALFA), community reference group
- **LGBTIQ Safe Housing Network pilot project** – Aug'17 – Aug '19
 - Funded VicHealth, expert steering group and consumer advisory group
- **LGBTIQ national best practice guidelines for homelessness and housing services** — Jan'18 – Sept'18
 - Calling for national participants steering group and Delphi process

LGBTQ homelessness project findings

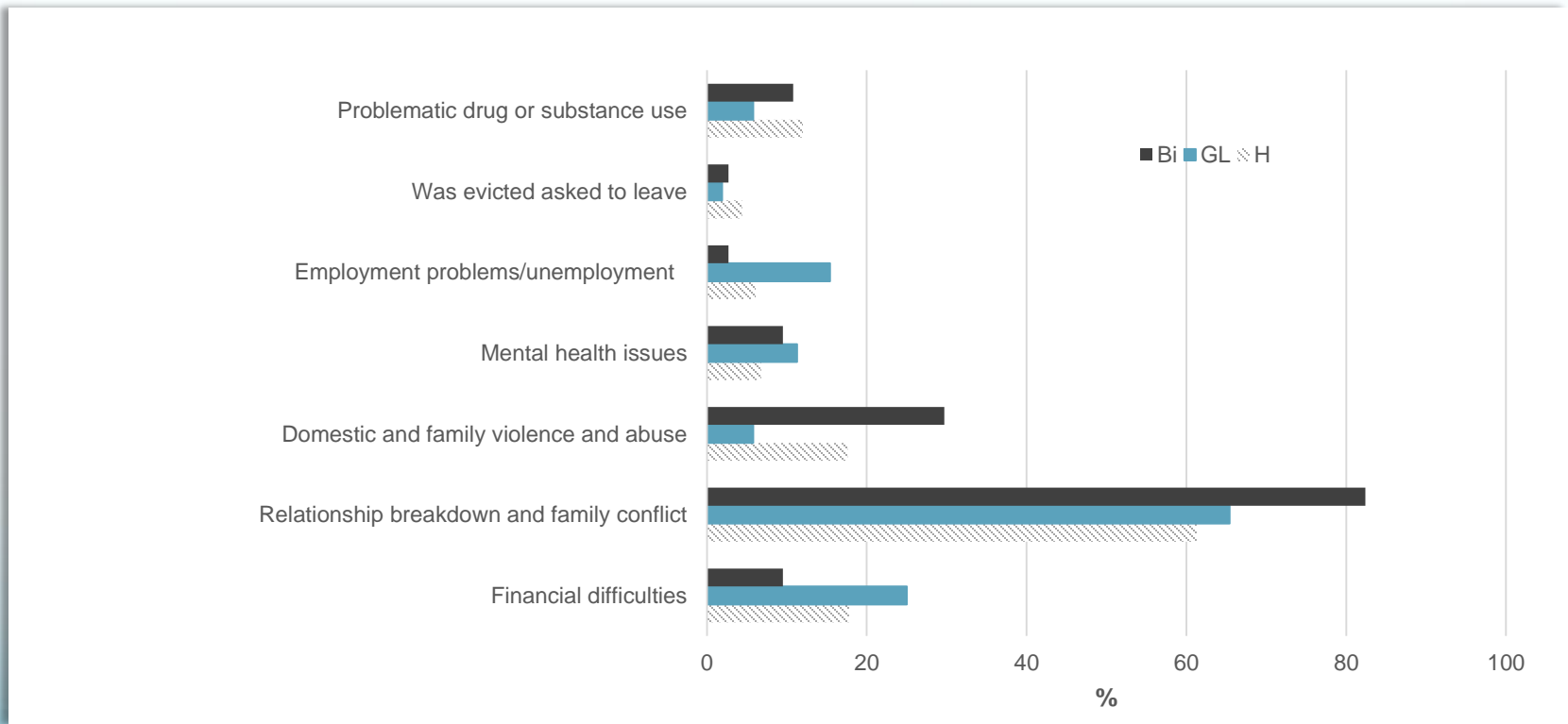
<http://www.lgbtihomeless.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/LGBTI-Homelessness-project-Final-report-September-2017.pdf>

Risk factors and pathways into homelessness

- *Structural* violence, harassment, explicit and implicit discrimination
- *Individual* vulnerability - especially family rejection and conflict, mental health, and childhood trauma and sexual assault

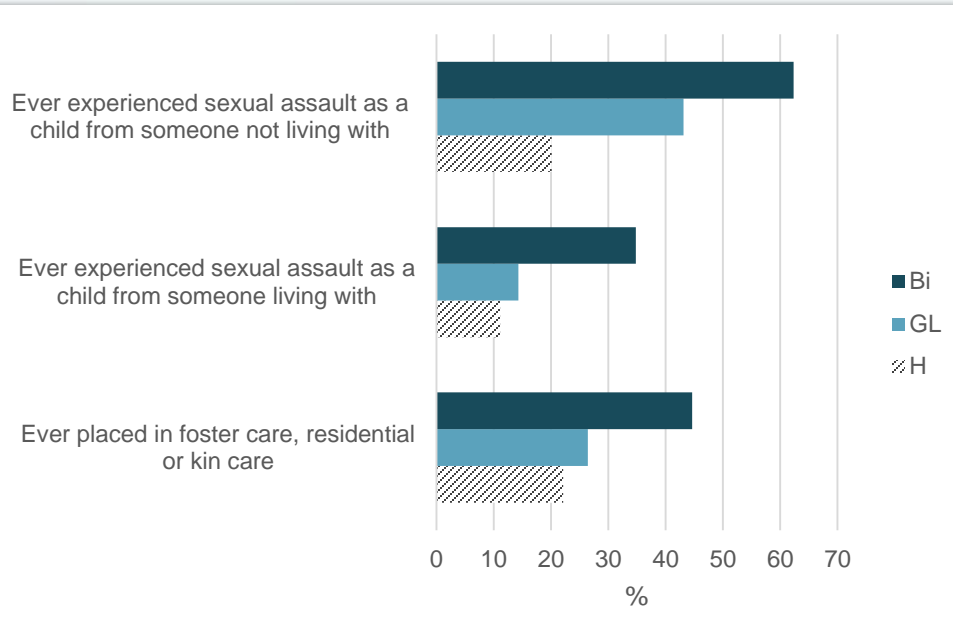
Reasons for becoming homeless

LGB more likely to report relationship breakdown and family conflict and/or family violence compared to heterosexual participants.

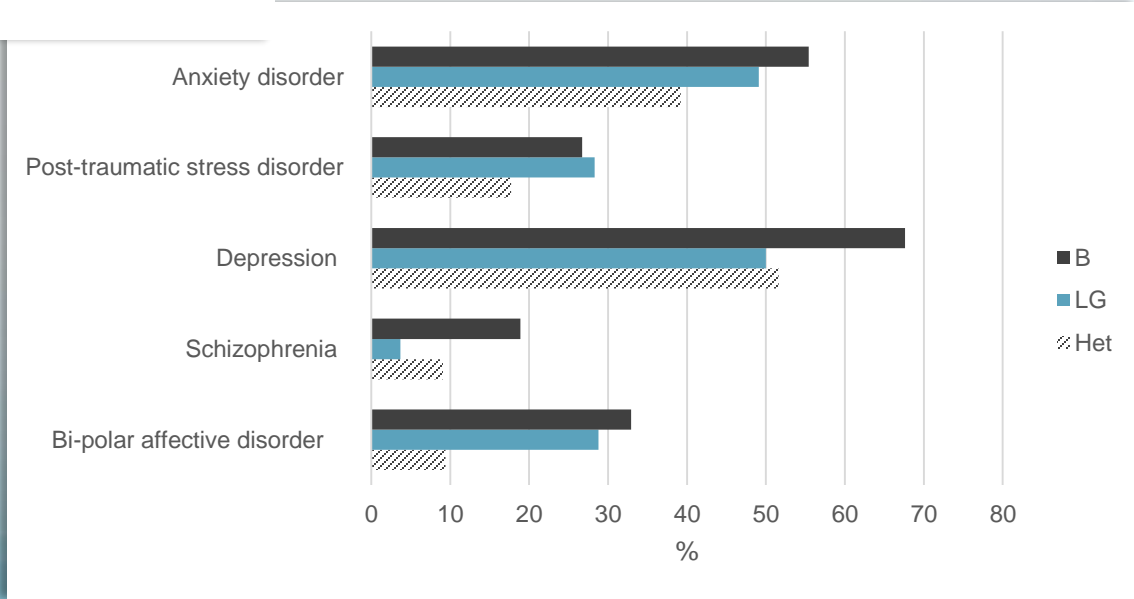


Journeys Home Wave 1 data – secondary data analysis conducted by Swinburne
N = 1,656: 3.2% LG, 4.2% Bi, 92.6% Hetero (Gender identity not included)

Specific Risk Factors

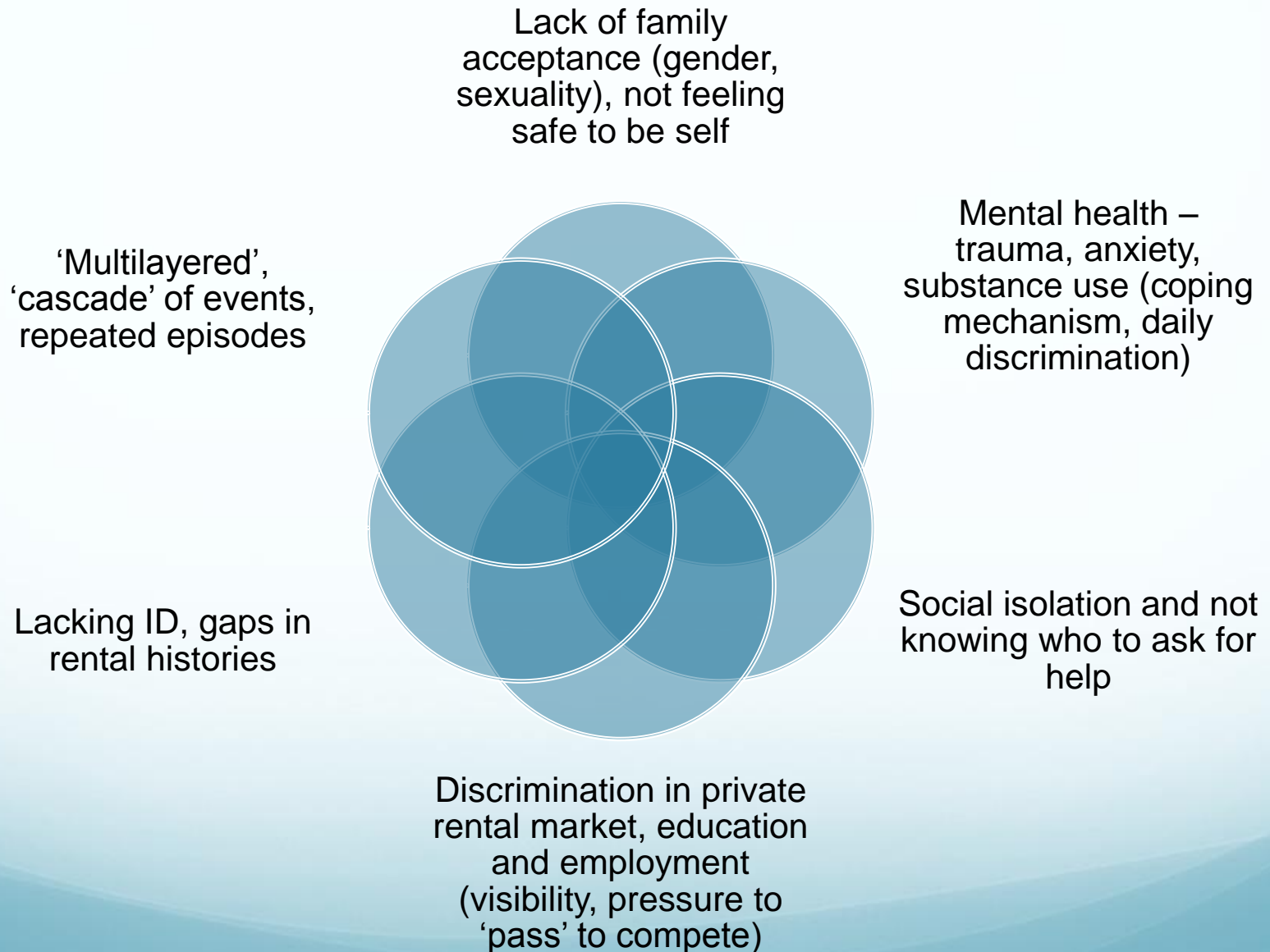


Journeys Home Wave 1 data – secondary data analysis conducted by Swinburne

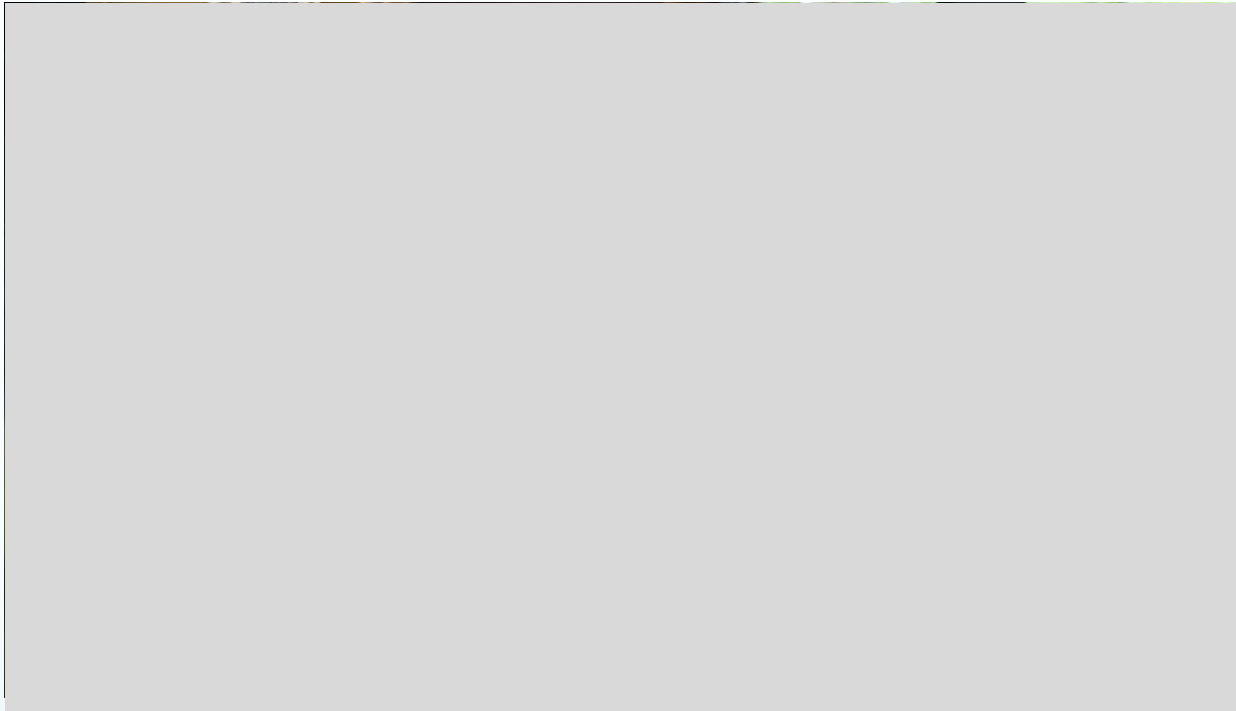


Other risk factors

Interviews with 19 homelessness services staff, and 17 LGBT people



Intersecting issues



Tamil asylum seekers and trans women
The Age 5/11/17

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/better-the-street-than-a-shelter-lgbtq-people-loath-to-use-homeless-services-20171031-gzbnnp.html>

Resilience – supporting secure housing



Structural

- Inclusive housing and homelessness services
- Inclusive systems – data, forms, workplaces



Individual

- Agency to present authentic self
- Social connection
- Advocacy
- Family of origin support
- Engagement with education, work

Prevention

Primary

- Family and multi-cultural, multi-faith interventions
- Schools, workplaces

Secondary

- Safe Housing Network
- Peer support and other community led interventions

Tertiary

- Guidelines for housing and homelessness services
- Inclusive policies, data collection

LGBTIQ Safe Housing Network

- Pilot with 100 LGBTIQ at risk of homelessness
- Allocate case worker and peer support worker
- Referrals – LGBTI inclusive:
 - Housing – rental, social, transitional, youth foyers
 - Support – mental health, education, workforce
- Evaluation
 - pre and post surveys with participants
 - Interviews with selected participants and workers





LGBTI Housing & Homelessness Projects

Initiated by the Gay and Lesbian Foundation of Australia (GALFA)



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For Housing & Homelessness Services



Trans and Gender Diverse Homelessness Pilot Project Model of Care

Training Resource For Service Providers

Prepared by A/Prof. Ruth McNair & Dr Cal Andrews
Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne

May 2017

lgbtthomeless.com



NATIONAL GUIDELINES – EXAMPLE AREAS FOR SERVICE WORKERS

- 1. Respectful communication**
- 2. Discrimination and barriers**
- 3. Disclosure and confidentiality**
- 4. Intersectional issues and diversity inclusion**
- 5. Recording LGBTIQ status**
- 6. Safe environment**
- 7. Support, referral, and advocacy**
- 8. Community housing and the private rental market**

**ADDITIONAL SECTION FOR MANAGERS
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR CLIENTS**

Questions

Housing & Homelessness Projects funders include:

Gay and Lesbian Foundation of Australia

Lord Mayors Charitable Foundation

Launch Housing

Assia Altman Fund of the Australian Communities Foundation

Victorian Government Department of Health and Human Services

Community Sector Banking

National LGBTI Health Alliance

VicHealth

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