

Supporting Sexual Diversity, Intersex, and Gender Diversity in WA schools

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safeschoolscoalition.org.au

Nationally
convened by:



Delivered by:



Session outline



- About Safe Schools Coalition
- Exploring concepts & terminology
- Nevo's story
- Research and experiences of young people
- Whole school approach
- Tips & strategies for inclusive practice

About us



National Safe Schools Framework



In a safe and supportive school;

- the risk from all types of **harm is minimized**
- students can be confident they will **receive support in the face of any threats to their safety or wellbeing**
- all members of the school community **feel respected and included**
- **diversity is valued**



What is gender and sexual diversity?



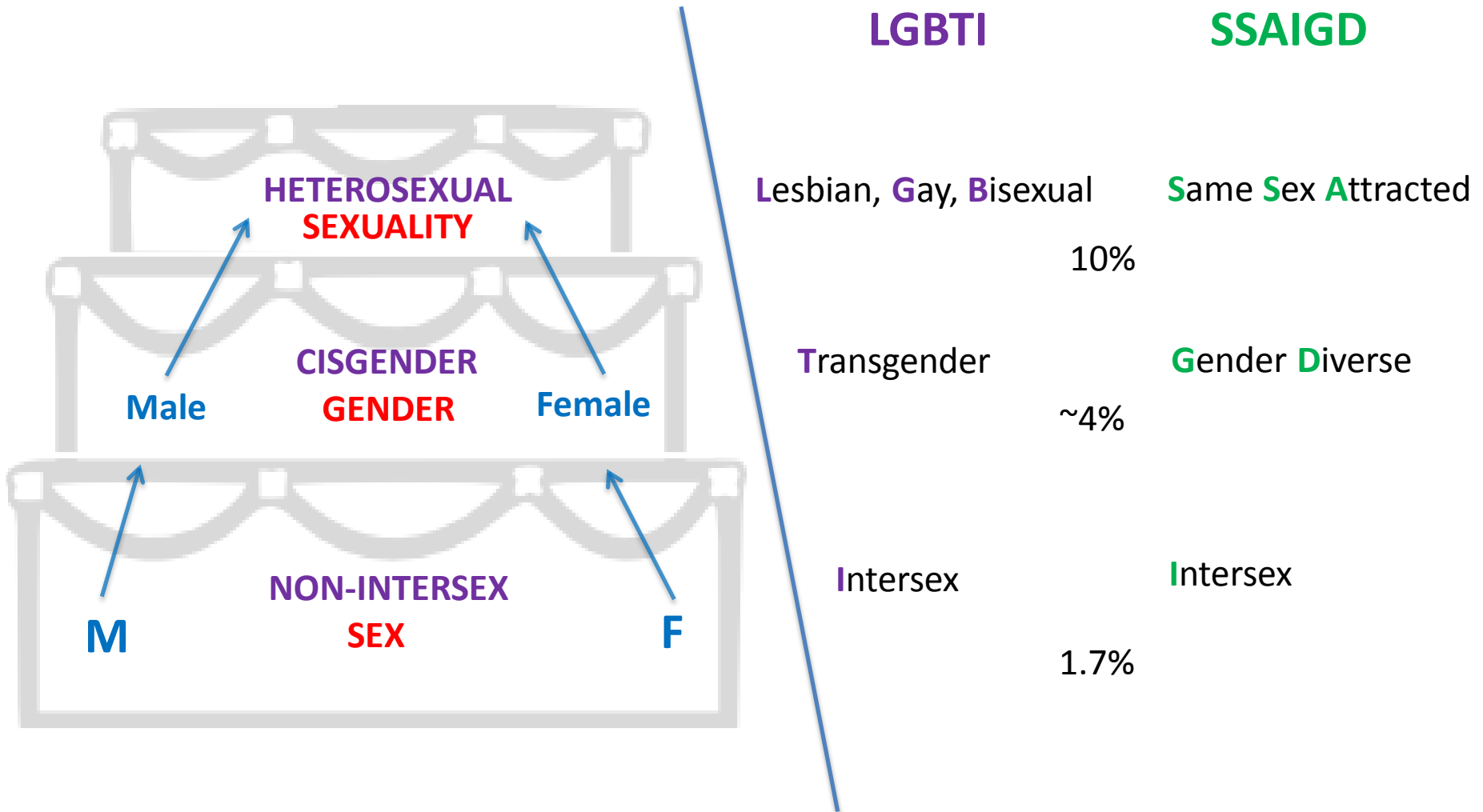
LGBTI

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
Transgender, Intersex

SSAIGD

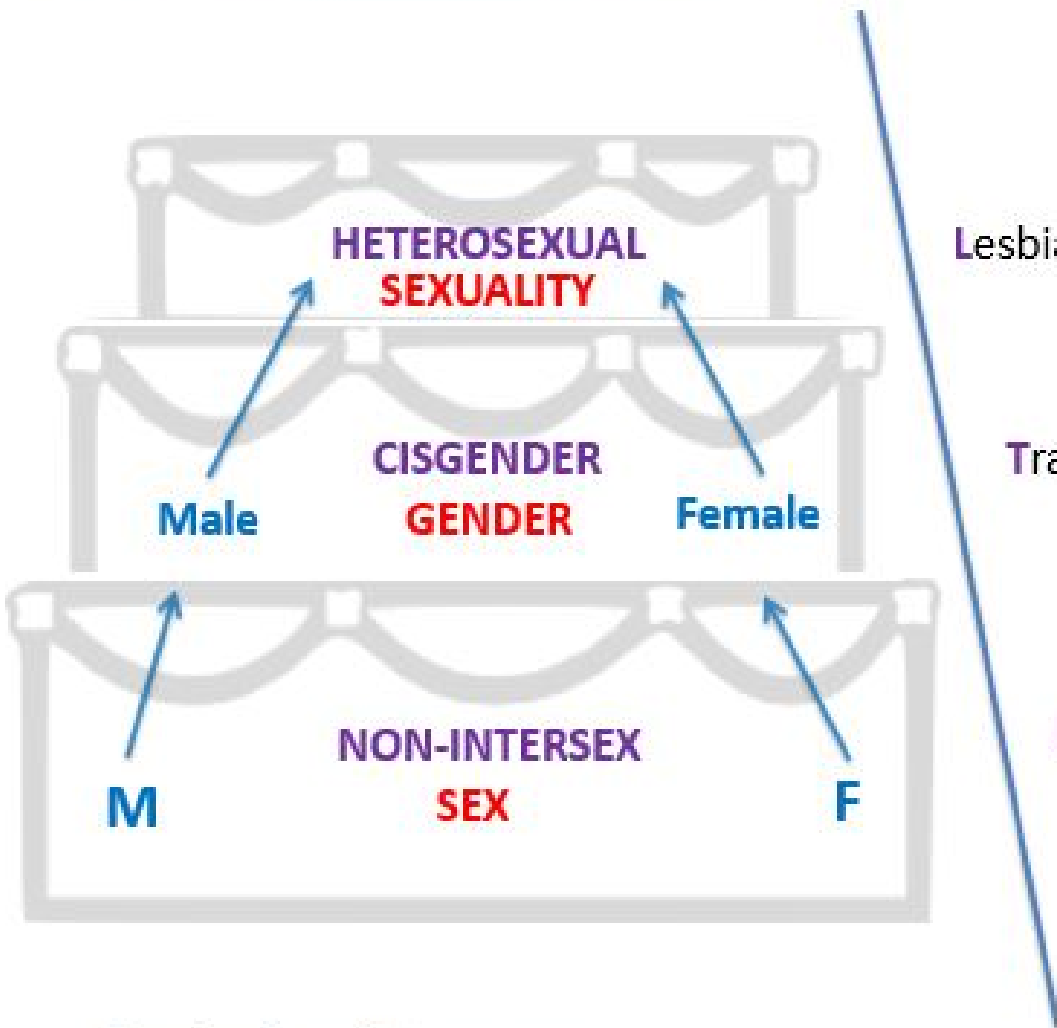
Same sex attracted,
intersex, gender diverse

Heteronormativity



**What are some of the ways
heteronormativity could be evident in
schools?**

Heteronormativity



LGBTI

SSAIGD

Lesbian, **G**ay, **B**isexual

Same **S**ex **A**ttracted

10%

Transgender

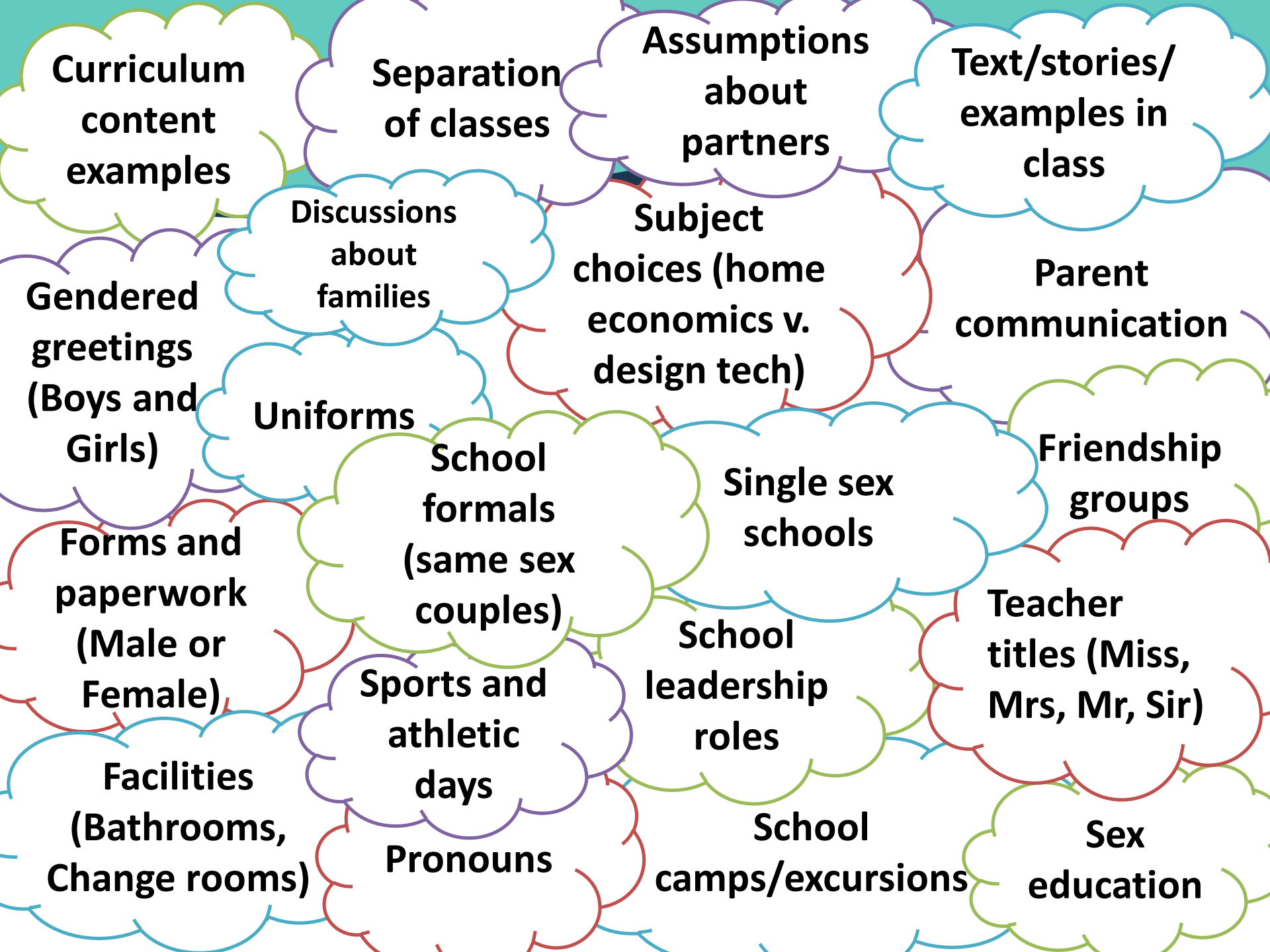
Gender **D**iverse

~4%

Intersex

Intersex

1.7%



Curriculum content examples

Gendered greetings (Boys and Girls)

Forms and paperwork (Male or Female)

Facilities (Bathrooms, Change rooms)

Separation of classes

Discussions about families

Uniforms

School formals (same sex couples)

Sports and athletic days

Pronouns

Assumptions about partners

Subject choices (home economics v. design tech)

Single sex schools

School leadership roles

School camps/excursions

Text/stories/examples in class

Parent communication

Friendship groups

Teacher titles (Miss, Mrs, Mr, Sir)

Sex education

Video



NEVO

Nevo is a positive and confident young person with the same hopes and dreams as many young people. He tells a powerful story about growing up with the knowledge that the female sex assigned to him at birth did not match who he knew he truly was. He speaks about the unique challenges facing transgender people and how the people in their lives can be supportive. He also comments on the important difference between gender identity and sexual identity. Nevo's story will help to dismantle fears and stereotypes about transgender and gender diverse people.

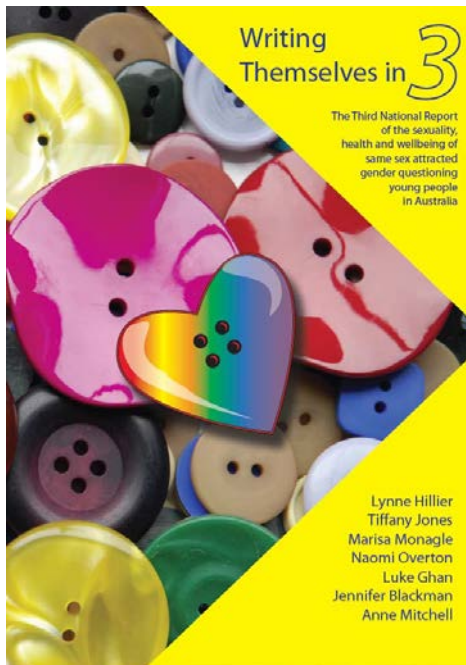
🕒 RUNTIME: 10:30 📖 LESSON 4

Imagine you are the 1 in 5!



- What do you **SEE** and **HEAR** about SSAIGD people?
- How will that make you **THINK** and **FEEL** about life
- How might you start to **ACT**?

The Research



Produced by
Australian Research
Centre for Sex, Health
and Society

Participants
3,134 SSA young
people aged 14-21
1998, 2004, 2010



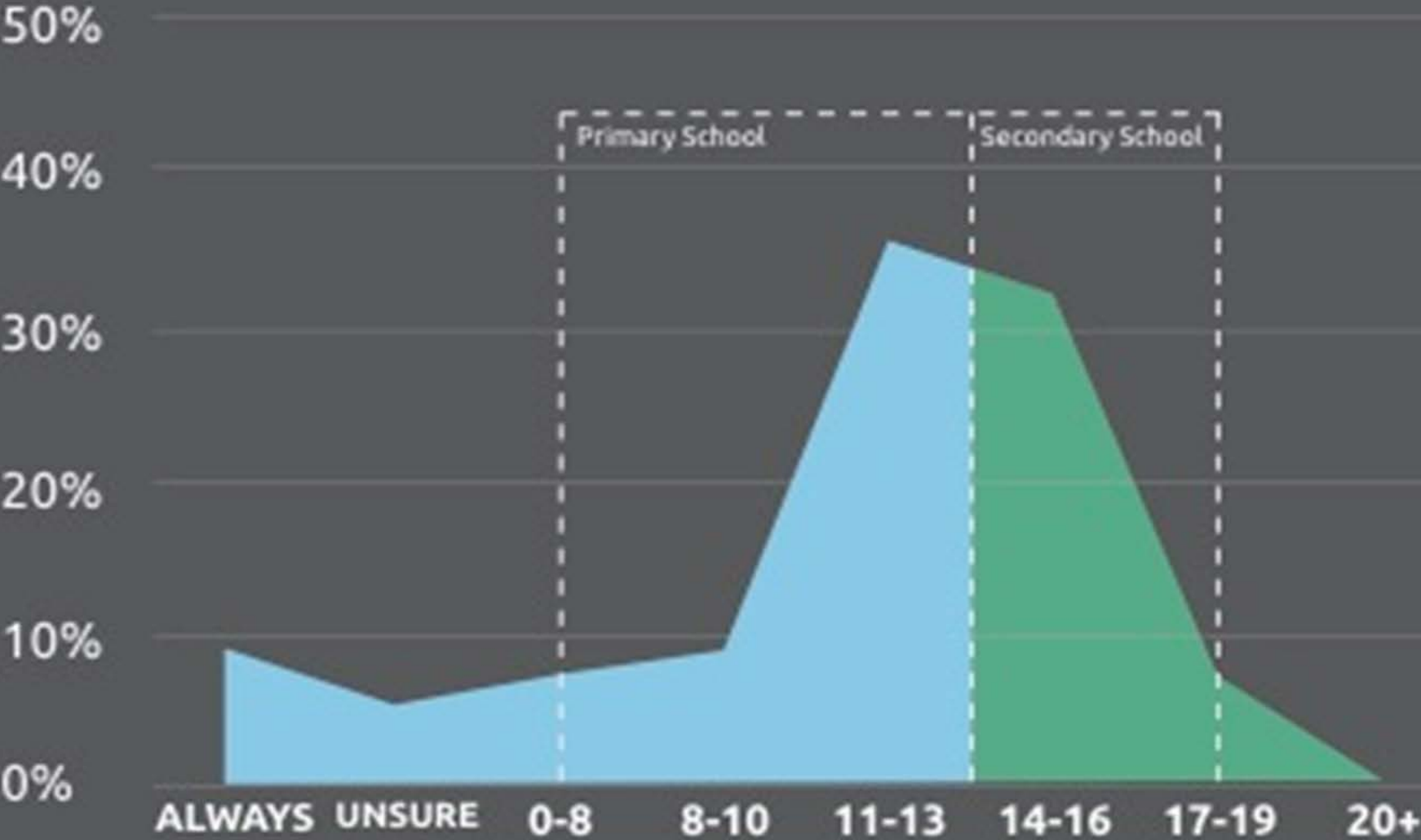
Produced by

- La Trobe University and University of New England, funded by beyondblue

Participants

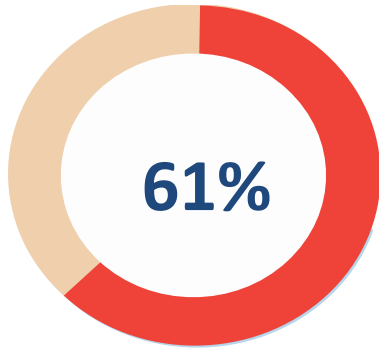
- 189 gender diverse and transgender young people aged 14-25 in Australia.

When did you first know?

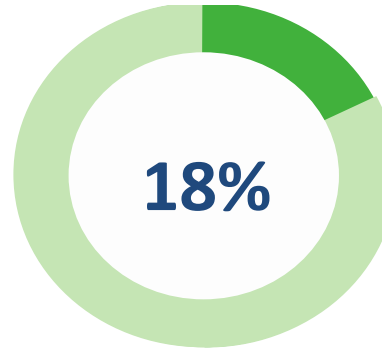


Experiences of LGBTI+ young people

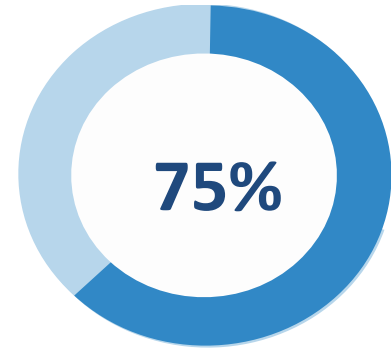
Same sex attracted



Verbally abused

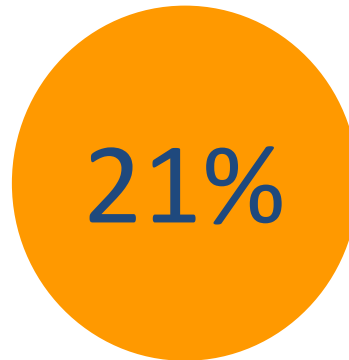
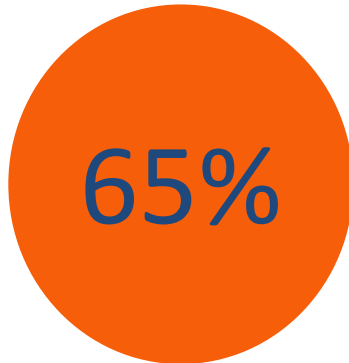


Physically abused



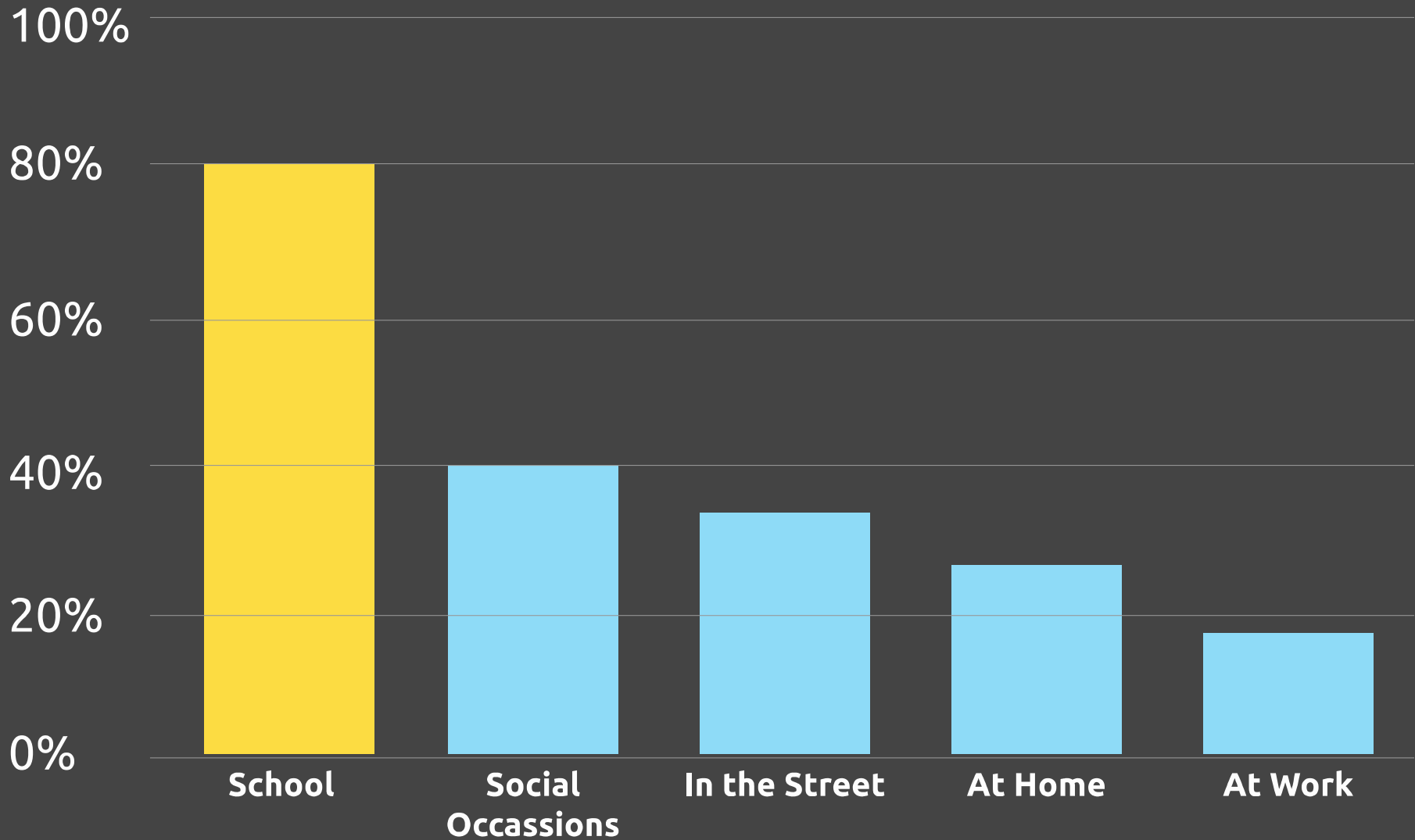
Experienced homophobia

Trans and gender diverse



thought about
suicide because of a
physical attack

Where did the abuse take place?



Safe Schools Do Better



3

Bullying and discrimination can impact students through:⁴



Poor mental health.



Poor academic achievement.



lower rates of attendance.



Higher rates of suicide.

4

Students at safe and supportive schools:⁵



Have better educational outcomes.



Are less likely to have poor mental health.

Join hundreds of other schools right across Australia. Commit to making a positive change in your school and get in touch with your Safe School Coalition state or territory provider today!

Small changes make a big difference



1. Challenge homophobic and transphobic language and behaviours
2. Give positive examples and avoid heteronormativity in conversation
3. Be available to support SSAIGD students
4. Make sexual and gender diversity visible
5. Support student led initiatives

What do we do?



**School
engagement**



Training
in and out of school
settings



Resources
Print and digital



**Individual
support**



**Student
led activities**



**Surveys
and evaluations**



www.qlife.org.au

Questions?

Keep in touch with us!



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Join the conversation.
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