

LGBTI Domestic & Family Violence

policy & practice

Australian Women's Health Conference

Moo Baulch

Sydney, May 2013

We are on Aboriginal land.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Elders, knowledge and expertise, LGBTIQ people at AWHC 2013.



Walking in the footsteps of activists who have fought for equality so that we are now able to work strongly in partnership with our allies from Women's Refuge Movement, Aboriginal Elders, other NGOs, government to

REPORT
HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA OR
GLBTI DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
TO ACON'S
ANTI VIOLENCE PROJECT

What do we do in the AVP?

- Casework & advocacy – LGBTI people who have experienced DFV, homophobia, transphobia etc.
- Training and toolkit – DFV services, Police etc
- Research, building the evidence base.
- Engage with LGBTIQ communities to increase awareness, campaigns etc.
- Work with mainstream organisations and interagencies to build their capacity.
- Work with government.

ACON's LGBTI DFV Project, 2012-2014

- FaCHSIA-funded. Follows on from ACON's previously funded same-sex domestic violence work.
- Work from paradigm that DFV comes from the same place as homophobia, transphobia and discrimination and from premise that perpetrators of DFV are overwhelmingly heterosexual cisgender men.
- Focus on training, resources and meaningful sustainable engagement with diverse LGBTI communities – intersex and trans*, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, CALD etc.

History of DFV work at ACON & Anti-Violence Project.

Phase one:

- Same Sex Domestic Violence Interagency.
- *There's No Pride* campaign launched, 2004.

There's No **Pride** In Domestic Violence



MOST GAY AND LESBIAN RELATIONSHIPS
ARE BASED ON LOVE AND RESPECT.
SOME ARE BASED ON ABUSE AND CONTROL.

Domestic violence is when one partner uses any form of abusive behaviour to get and maintain control over the other. Ongoing humiliation, threats, stalking, outing, withholding medication or treatments, verbal abuse, controlling finances, and physical and sexual violence are examples of domestic violence.

Domestic violence exists in our community.

24 Hour DV Line - 1800 65 64 63

FOR SAME-SEX AND
HETEROSEXUAL DV

For more info www.anothercloset.com.au / ACON 1800 063 060 / 9206 2000 (Mon-Fri, 9am-6pm)

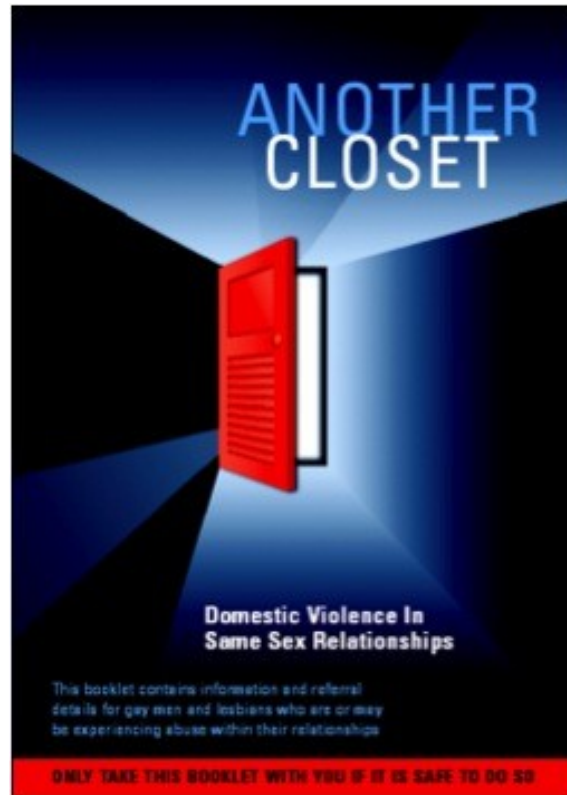


Phase two: *Another Closet*

www.anothercloset.com.au

- In 2004, the NSW SSDVI (now the LGBTIQ Domestic Violence Interagency) created Another Closet.
- Originally designed as a resource for gay and lesbian people experiencing DFV (later became a useful tool for service providers too).
- Website, booklet, personal stories and z-card. Website updated regularly.
- Biannual conference, Sydney: September 19-20th 2013.

Another Closet, 2004 – DV in gay and lesbian same-sex relationships



Phase three: SSDV Project, 2008

- Service mapping



- Survey



- Gap analysis & toolkit – *One Size Does Not Fit All*
- Training and capacity building

<http://www.acon.org.au/sites/default/files/Gap%20Analysis.pdf>

Phase four – 2012, LGBTI(Q) DFV

- Training/working with NSW Police – GLLOs, DVLOs, Regions & LACS.
- Raising awareness in diverse parts of LGBTIQ communities - Camp Out, Mardi Gras, RRR, Twenty10 etc.
- “*We’re Family Too*” – collaborative research project on homophobia and family violence in Arabic-speaking communities. www.wearefamilytoo.com.au
- Submissions to government on DFV trends and issues, Provocation, Victims Comp. etc
- Working with local DV services, Committees and DFV peaks, statewide orgs and wider networks to increase mainstream awareness.

New projects

- 2012 survey on LGBTIQ people's attitudes to and experiences of DFV service provision, access, informal support. 570 responses, compiling the results in partnership with the National Centre for HIV Social Research.
- Work with Organisation Intersex International Australia and the Transgender Anti-Violence Project to help mainstream sector better understand needs of intersex, trans* and gender diverse people (the travelling roadshow).
- Housing, work with specialist homelessness sector and WRM.
- Reviewing our resources – updating the most useful and creating new ones.

Tales from the Other Side: film project

- Working groups with key partners – WRM, Police, ICLC, Women's Legal Service, community members affected by DFV, filmmakers, ECAV, NSW Health, specialist organisations.
- Produce 3 pilots showing a range of diverse LGBTI experiences of DFV.
- Training tool for refuges, Police, other services.

Other work in 2013

- New campaign and resource targeting LGBTIQ friends, communities and informal supports.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander DFV Advisory Committee.
- Connecting with CALD support organisations to build their awareness of the context of family/domestic violence.
- Look at models for working with LGBTI perpetrators.
- Developing stronger networks with our partners.

Policy

- Partnership projects with specialist organisations, HRC, peaks, statewide orgs, Clearinghouses, Centres of Excellence etc.
- Research and creation of new best practice and policy for LGBTIQ people.
- NSW Government – DFV Reforms etc.
- Inclusion in federal policy agency practice through NSW Women’s Alliance – Centrelink, Medicare etc.

Practice

- Exploring new ways to deliver info – *Tales from Another Side*, expanding Another Closet sections on trans* and intersex.
- Participation at key mainstream Aboriginal community events, working with Aboriginal DFV specialists to create more culturally appropriate resources, access pathways etc.
- Community Safety Ambassador networks.
- Creating safe space for challenging conversations about the sticky topics – violence within our communities.

Challenges – 2013 and beyond

- Funding...
- Evidence base – building it and ensuring our diversity is included
- Convincing governments and policy makers that LGBTIQ is important and keeping it on the agenda
- Inclusion of LGBTIQ within a gendered framework
- Finding a language that includes all

Things to be proud of...

- Inclusion of gay, bisexual, trans* and intersex men in the NSW Men's Behaviour Change practice guide.
- Being a part of the NSW Women's Alliance.
- Intersex inclusion – lots to be done still.
- 2012 survey – largest body of evidence in Australia on LGBTIQ people and DFV.
- Influence at government level and community (from federal to grassroots RRR).

Questions, comments, resources, collaboration?

Moo Baulch

LGBTI Domestic and Family Violence
Anti-Violence Project, ACON

02 9206 2095

mbaulch@acon.org.au