

Date received:

Ref. Number:

Combating homophobic hate crime in Northern Ireland

→ the survey ←

This survey, conducted by the Institute for Conflict Research*, is about homophobic incidents occurring in Northern Ireland, and the ways that homophobic hate crime is being tackled. It has been commissioned by the Office of First Minister, Deputy First Minister at Stormont.

This questionnaire is for lesbian, gay or bisexual individuals living in Northern Ireland, **whether you have experienced homophobic harassment or violence or not.**

Please fill in one – and only one - questionnaire per person. Please read carefully, **particularly the section headings in black**, and complete all relevant sections. If you would like to write in more detail on a particular point, please use the space on the back cover.

ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED WILL BE COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL.

* The Institute for Conflict Research is an independent research organisation which specialises in working on issues related to both conflict and post-conflict societies. The Institute is a recognised charity managed by a board of directors drawn from the community, voluntary and academic sectors.

SECTION A: YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS

In this section we will ask you for information about yourself. This will be used to provide general information about respondents, and will not be used to identify individuals. As with the rest of the form, all information included in this section will be kept **COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL**.

1. How **old** are you? (Please tick one)

Under 16 16-20 21-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 60+

2. Are you: Male
 Female

3. How would you describe your **sexual orientation**?
(Please tick one.)

 Straight / heterosexual
 Gay
 Lesbian
 Bisexual
 Unsure
 Other – please give details below

4. How **open** are you about your **sexual orientation**?
(Please tick one for each section.)

With friends: completely open
 partly open
 not at all open

With family: completely open
 partly open
 not at all open

With work colleagues: completely open
 partly open
 not at all open

5. How would you describe your **ethnic background**?
(Please tick one.)

 White
 Chinese
 Irish Traveller
 Indian
 Pakistani
 Bangladeshi
 Black Caribbean
 Black African
 Black other
 Mixed ethnic group – please specify

 Other – please specify

6. Which **religion, religious denomination or body** were you brought up in? (Please tick one)

 Roman Catholic
 Presbyterian Church in Ireland
 Church of Ireland
 Methodist Church in Ireland
 Other – please specify

7. **Where** do you live? - please write the first half of your postcode (for example BT95)

— — — —

8. How would you describe the **local neighbourhood** in which you live? (please tick one)

 Mostly Catholic / Nationalist
 Mostly Protestant / Unionist
 Significantly mixed
 Not sure

9. Which of the following describes **the way you live** at the moment? (Please tick all that apply)

 I live alone
 I live with a partner
 I live with children
 I live with my parents
 I live with friends
 I live with other tenants
 I live in temporary accommodation
 I am homeless
 Other – details: _____

10. Are you: (please tick all that apply)

 In full time paid employment
 In part time paid employment
 Self-employed
 Houseworker
 Unemployed
 'Signed off' long term sick
 Retired
 Student
 Other – details _____

11. Please indicate **how much you will earn** this year – before paying tax or national insurance contributions (please tick one):

0 -£4,999	£5,000 -£9,999	£10,000 -£14,999	£15,000 -£19,999	£20,000 -£24,999	£25,000 -£29,999	Over £30,000
<input type="checkbox"/>						

12. What is the highest level of **educational qualifications** that you have reached? (Please tick one)

 I have no formal educational qualifications
 O-Levels / CSEs / GCSEs or equivalent
 A-Levels or equivalent
 NVQ / BTEC
 HND / Degree or higher
 Other – please give details below

13. Please indicate how you received this questionnaire:

 Sent to me by ICR
 Sent to me/given to me by another group
Name of group: _____
 Given to me by a friend
 Other – please give details below

SECTION B: EXPERIENCES OF HOMOPHOBIC HARASSMENT

In this section we will ask you about unpleasant incidents that have happened to you **BECAUSE SOMEONE THOUGHT YOU WERE LESBIAN, GAY OR BISEXUAL** but which may not have been crimes. This section deals only with homophobic **HARASSMENT**, such as verbal insults – the next section deals with violence.

14. Has any of the following **ever** happened to you in Northern Ireland? (*Please tick all that apply*).

N.B. Violence is dealt with in the next section.

- Intimidated by being followed on foot
- Intimidated by being followed by car
- Been 'stalked'
- Been verbally insulted or threatened
- Been blackmailed
- Received hate/abusive mail
- Received offensive/obscene phone calls
- Had offensive graffiti written about you
- Vehicle or other property vandalized
- Vehicle or other property stolen
- Other – details _____
- None of the above - **please go to Section C**

15. If any of the following has happened to you in the **last two years** in Northern Ireland, please indicate **number** of incidents by putting appropriate numbers in boxes:

- Intimidated by being followed on foot
- Intimidated by being followed by car
- Been 'stalked'
- Been verbally insulted or threatened
- Been blackmailed
- Received hate/abusive mail
- Received offensive/obscene phone calls
- Had offensive graffiti written about you
- Vehicle or other property vandalized
- Vehicle or other property stolen
- Other – *please give details below*

16. The following questions will ask about **one incident** that happened to you – please indicate what type of incident you will be referring to: (*please tick one*)

- Intimidated by being followed on foot
- Intimidated by being followed by car
- Been 'stalked'
- Been verbally insulted or threatened
- Been blackmailed
- Received hate/abusive mail
- Received offensive/obscene phone calls
- Had offensive graffiti written about you
- Vehicle or other property vandalized
- Vehicle or other property stolen
- Other – *please give details below*

In **which year** did this incident occur? _____

17. What made you think that this was a **homophobic** incident? (*please tick as many as apply*)

- I was in a lesbian/gay venue
- I was near/leaving a lesbian/gay venue
- I think I look lesbian/gay/bisexual
- They knew me
- I was in / near a known cruising area
- I was with lesbian/gay/bisexual people
- They called me names
- I don't know
- Other – *please give details below*

18. **At what time** did this incident happen? (*please tick one*)

- Between midnight – 3am
- Between 3am – 6am
- Between 6am – 9 am
- Between 9am – 12 noon
- Between 12 noon – 3pm
- Between 3pm – 6pm
- Between 6pm – 9pm
- Between 9pm – midnight
- I do not know

19. Were you the **only** victim of this incident?

- Yes
- No – *please indicate how many were victims of this incident (including yourself):* _____

20. Thinking about this incident, **where** did it happen? (*please tick one*)

- At work
- In the street near work
- At home – *who's home?* _____
- In the street near my home
- In the streets outside a lesbian/gay bar / club
- In a lesbian/gay bar / club
- In a general bar
- In the streets outside a general bar
- In the street elsewhere
- In a park/open space
- In a public toilet
- At school / college / university
- Other – *details:* _____

Please give details of where this happened to you – eg street name and city, or area (*OPTIONAL*)

21. About the person/people who did this to you: **how many** of them were there?

- There were _____ of them
- I do not know

22. About the person/people who did this to you: **who** were they?

- Neighbour(s)
- Other local resident(s)
- Friend(s)
- Relative(s) – *please specify* _____
- Your partner
- Work colleague(s) / client(s)
- Fellow student(s)
- Some other(s) you know
- Some other(s) you had seen before but didn't know
- Some other(s) you had never seen before
- Don't know – didn't see them
- Other – *details:* _____

23. Again, about the person/people who did this to you, please indicate their **age** and **sex**:

- SEX** Male Female Both Don't know
- AGE** Child (up to 16) Youth (16–25) Adult (over 25) Don't know

SECTION C: EXPERIENCES OF HOMOPHOBIC VIOLENCE

In this section we will ask you about physical or sexual assaults that have happened to you in Northern Ireland **BECAUSE SOMEONE THOUGHT YOU WERE LESBIAN, GAY OR BISEXUAL**. This section only deals with **VIOLENT INCIDENTS**, such as being hit – the previous section deals with harassment.

24. Has any of the following **EVER** happened to you in Northern Ireland? (Please indicate by ticking boxes where appropriate).

- Been spat on
 - Had something thrown at you
 - Attempted physical assault against you
 - Been mugged or robbed
 - Been physically assaulted
 - Been sexually assaulted / raped
 - None of the above – **Please go to Section D**
 - Other – *please give details below*
-

25. If any of the following has happened to you in the **last two years** in Northern Ireland, please indicate **number** of incidents by putting appropriate numbers in boxes:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Been spat on | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Had something thrown at you | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Attempted physical assault against you | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Been mugged or robbed | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Been physically assaulted | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Been sexually assaulted / raped | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other – <i>please give details below</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
-

26. The following questions will ask about **one incident** that happened to you – please indicate what type of incident you will be referring to: (*please tick one*).

- Been spat on
 - Had something thrown at you
 - Attempted physical assault against you
 - Been mugged or robbed
 - Been physically assaulted
 - Been sexually assaulted / raped
 - Other – *please give details below*
-

In which year did this incident occur? _____

27. What made you think that this was a **homophobic** incident? (*Please tick as many as apply*)

- I was in a lesbian/gay venue
 - I was near/leaving a lesbian/gay venue
 - I think I look lesbian/gay/bisexual
 - They knew me
 - I was in / near a known cruising area
 - I was with lesbian/gay/bisexual people
 - They called me names
 - Don't know
 - Other – *please give details below*
-

28. **At what time** did this incident happen? (*Please tick one*)

- Between midnight – 3am
- Between 3am – 6am
- Between 6am – 9am
- Between 9am – 12 noon
- Between 12 noon – 3pm
- Between 3pm – 6pm
- Between 6pm – 9pm
- Between 9pm – midnight
- I do not know

29. Were you the **only** victim of this incident?

- Yes
- No – *please indicate how many were victims of this incident (including yourself): _____*

30. About your **physical injuries**: (*please tick all that apply*)

- I had no injuries
 - I had bruises / black eye
 - I sustained cuts and/or scratches
 - I had broken bones
 - I had to have first aid administered
 - I had to attend casualty
 - I had to stay in hospital
 - I sustained other injuries – *please give details*
-

31. Still thinking about this incident, **where** did it happen?

- At work
- In the street near work
- At home – *who's home?* _____
- In the street near my home
- In the streets outside a gay bar / club
- In a gay bar / club
- In a general bar
- In the streets outside a general bar
- In the street elsewhere
- In a park/open space
- In a public toilet
- In school / college / university
- Other – *details:* _____

Please give details of where this happened to you – eg street name and city, or area (*OPTIONAL*).

32. About the person or people who did this to you: **how many** of them were there? (*Please indicate number*)

- There were _____ of them
- I do not know

33. About the person or people who did this to you: **who** were they?

- Neighbour(s)
- Other local resident(s)
- Friend(s)
- Relative(s) – *please specify* _____
- Your partner
- Work colleague(s) / client(s)
- Fellow student(s)
- Some other(s) you know
- Some other(s) you had seen before but didn't know
- Some other(s) you had never seen before
- Don't know – didn't see them
- Other – *details* _____

34. Again, about the person/people who did this to you, please indicate their **age** and **sex**:

- SEX** Male Female Both Don't know
- AGE** Child (up to 16) Youth (16–25) Adult (over 25) Don't know

SECTION D: REPORTING HOMOPHOBIC INCIDENTS

In this section we will ask you about your experiences of reporting homophobic incidents that have happened to you in Northern Ireland. **PLEASE THINK IN PARTICULAR ABOUT ONE INCIDENT** of homophobic harassment and/or violence that you may have written about in the previous pages.

35. **PLEASE THINK ABOUT ONE INCIDENT** that you have written about in the last two sections. **What type** of incident will you be referring to in the following questions: (please tick one). **There is space on the back page to write about this incident.**

- Verbal / written harassment
- Physical assault
- Sexual assault
- Damage to property/theft
- Other – please give details below

If you have not experienced a homophobic incident, please go to Section F.

36. Referring to this incident, please indicate if you **reported** it, by ticking the appropriate box(es)?

- Yes – to the police
- Yes – to a doctor / hospital
- Yes – to a housing agency
- Yes – to a LGB organisation

Name: _____

- Yes – to a victim support scheme

Name: _____

- No - I didn't report the incident – **please go to Q41**
- Other – please give details below

37. If you **did** report the incident to the **police**, how did you go about this? (Please tick one).

If you didn't report it to the police, please go to Q43.

- Approached police on street around the time of the incident
- Went to the nearest police station immediately
- Went to a police station some time later
- Phoned 999 immediately
- Phoned nearest police station immediately
- Phoned police station some time later
- Other – please give details below

38. If you **did** report the incident to the **police**, did you tell them that you believed it occurred because you are lesbian/gay/bisexual? (Please tick one)

- Yes – I brought up this issue
- No – it was not brought up by myself or the police
- No – but it was brought up by the police
- Other – please give details below:

39. If you **did** report the incident to the **police**, how was it recorded (to the best of your knowledge)?

- On a standard incident report form
- On a Homophobic Incident Report form (Form 80)
- It was not recorded - please give details below

Don't know

- Other – please give details below

40. If you **did** report the incident to the **police**, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with how they handled the matter? (Please tick one).

- Very satisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Fairly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Not sure

41. If you **did** report the incident to the **police**, what was the outcome? (Please tick one).

- I have heard nothing from the police since I reported the incident.
- The police got back in contact with me, and told me how they had followed up the incident – please give details below:

- _____
- _____
- Other – please give details below:

42. If you **did** report the incident to the **police**, how did your experience of them affect your readiness to report incidents in the future? (Please tick one).

- I am more likely to report a homophobic incident
- I am less likely to report a homophobic incident
- I am as likely to report a homophobic incident as before
- Not sure

43. If you **did not** report the incident to the **police**, or were reluctant to do so, was it because of any of the following reasons? (Please tick as many as are appropriate)

- Didn't want police to know my sexual orientation
- Didn't want anyone to know my sexual orientation
- Worried that police would respond in homophobic manner
- Didn't feel the police could help
- Didn't feel the police would have been interested
- Previous poor relationship with the police
- Fear of provoking reprisal or aggravating situation
- It was a private / personal / family matter
- Was too upset / traumatised to report it
- It wasn't convenient
- It was too trivial
- Non-cooperation with police for political reasons
- Homophobia is just a fact of life – not worth reporting
- The incident wasn't actually a crime
- Other – please give details below

44. If you **did** report the incident to **another organisation or person**, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with how they handled the matter (if you went to more than one, please respond for the organisation with which you had most contact)?

- Very satisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Fairly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Not sure

SECTION E: SEEKING SUPPORT AFTER HOMOPHOBIC INCIDENTS

In this section we will ask you about the **SUPPORT** you received after experiencing a homophobic incident.

45. After experiencing a homophobic incident, have you **ever sought support** from any of the following? (Please tick all that apply.)

- Partner
- Friend
- Family
- Doctor / hospital
- Passer by
- Neighbour
- Clergy
- Police
- Housing Agency
- Solicitor
- Legal advice group – please give details below

Name: _____

- LGB group – please give details below

Name: _____

- Victim support group – please give details below

Name: _____

- Other – please give details below

- No support sought – please go to Q48

46. If you did seek support, **what type** of help were you looking for? (Please tick all that apply.)

- Emotional support
- Counselling
- Medical help
- Legal advice
- Compensation
- Help to improve security / safety
- Mediation
- Self defence classes
- Other – please give details below



48. In general, **how satisfied** were you with the support you received? (Please tick one)

- Very satisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Fairly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Unsure

49. If you **did not** seek support, why was this? (Please tick all that apply.)

- I did not need it
- I did not know where to get help
- I did not want anyone to know about my sexual orientation
- It was a private / personal matter
- I was too upset to ask for help
- Previous bad experience of seeking help
- I was worried about receiving a homophobic response
- Don't know
- Other – details: _____

50. Please indicate **how you have been affected** by your experiences of homophobic harassment or violence. (Please tick as many as apply)

- I experienced stress and/or fear
- I needed medical attention
- I needed time off work
- I had to move house
- I have had nightmares
- I have been very angry
- I have suffered from depression
- I suffered no ill effects
- Other – please give details below:

- Don't know

SECTION F: YOUR PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY

In this section we will ask you to reflect on **HOW SAFE YOU FEEL**.

47. In general **how safe do you feel** in the following places? Please indicate by placing a number in each box as follows:

- 1 = I feel very safe,
- 2 = I feel quite safe,
- 3 = I feel quite unsafe,
- 4 = I feel very unsafe.
- 5 = Don't know
- 6 = Not applicable

- In your home
- In the streets outside your home /local neighbourhood
- At work
- In gay bars
- In the streets outside gay bars
- In bars generally
- In the streets generally at night
- In the streets generally during the day
- In cruising areas

51. **How likely** do you think it that you will be the victim of homophobic harassment or violence over the next twelve months? (Please tick one box.)

- Very unlikely
- Fairly unlikely
- Fairly likely
- Very likely
- Don't know

52. **How often** do you **worry about your safety**? (Please tick one box.)

- Always
- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never
- Unsure

SECTION G: ABOUT YOUR ATTITUDES AND KNOWLEDGE

In this section we will ask you about **your attitudes to and knowledge of** a number of different issues.

53. Please tick boxes to show whether you avoid doing any of the following in order to minimise the possibility of homophobic harassment or violence against yourself:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Holding hands in public | <input type="checkbox"/> | Always avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Never avoid |
| Telling people that I am gay | <input type="checkbox"/> | Always avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Never avoid |
| Appearing obviously gay | <input type="checkbox"/> | Always avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Never avoid |
| Using public transport at night | <input type="checkbox"/> | Always avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Never avoid |
| Leaving gay venues alone | <input type="checkbox"/> | Always avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Never avoid |
| Associating with (eg volunteering or attending) LGB organisations / informing others of association with LGB organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> | Always avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sometimes avoid |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Never avoid |

54. Please list below any other strategies you use to minimize the possibility of homophobic harassment or violence against yourself:

55. Please indicate if you would **generally** report the following types of homophobic incidents to the police (*please tick one box in each row*):

- | | Yes | No |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Verbal / written harassment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Physical assault | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sexual assault | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Damage to property / theft | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

56. If you **would not** report an incident to the police, or would be hesitant about doing so, is this because of any of the following reasons? (*Tick as many as are appropriate*)

- Don't want police to know my sexual orientation
- Don't want anyone to know my sexual orientation
- Worried that the police would respond in homophobic manner
- Don't feel the police could help
- Don't feel the police would be interested
- Previous poor relationship with the police
- Fear of provoking reprisal or aggravating situation
- Non-cooperation with police for political reasons
- Homophobia is just a fact of life – not worth reporting
- Other – *please give details below*

57. Did you know that the police have a special form (Form 80) for recording homophobic incidents?

- No, I did not know about it
- Yes, I have heard something about it
- Yes, I have seen a copy of the form
- Yes, I have used one

58. Have you seen the police leaflet: 'Homophobic Incidents – Protecting Your Rights!' (either the one produced by the RUC or by the PSNI)?

- No, I have no knowledge of this leaflet
- No, I have not seen it, but have heard of it
- Yes, I have seen a copy of this leaflet

59. Please write below the names of any lesbian, gay or bisexual organisations that you know of.

60. Please write below the names of any lesbian, gay or bisexual organisations which you are a member of, or whose services you have used.

61. What do you think needs to be done to combat homophobic harassment in Northern Ireland? (*Please tick as many as are appropriate*).

- Self defence classes
- Education for acceptance in schools
- Public awareness raising
- Assertiveness training
- Use of personal alarms
- Online reporting of homophobic incidents
- Better ways of reporting incidents
- Telephone helpline for victims
- More sympathetic police
- More sympathetic local councils
- More discussion within LGB community on community safety
- Higher profile for Community Involvement police officers
- More police on street around gay venues
- More police patrolling gay cruising areas
- Schools tackling homophobic bullying
- More CCTV cameras
- Other(s) – *please give details below*

Please use the following space to write further comments, or to write about homophobic incidents which you have experienced. Continue on another page if necessary – and please attach it to this questionnaire.

THANK YOU for giving your time and effort to filling in this questionnaire. We realise that some of the questions may have brought back distressing or traumatic memories. Should you wish to talk to someone about these experiences, there are a number of organisations able to offer support:

Organisations offering counselling and support

Foyle Friend	Drop-in centre for LGBT individuals in Derry.	Ph: 028 7126 3120
The Rainbow Project	Counselling, advice and advocacy for gay and bisexual men	Ph: 028 9031 9030

Organisations offering informal support

GLYNI	Safe space for LGB individuals aged 16 – 25.	Ph: 028 9027 8636
NIGRA	Offering informal support to LGB individuals.	Ph: 028 9066 5257
Queer Space	Social space supporting the LGBT community	www.queerspace.org.uk
Victim Support	Providing a range of services to all victims of crime	Ph: 028 2563 0784

Telephone helplines

Cara Friend	Helpline for gay and bisexual men	Ph: 028 9032 2023
Lesbian Line	Helpline and social support for lesbians and bisexual women	Ph: 028 9023 8688
The Samaritans	Confidential telephone counselling hotline	Ph: 028 9066 4422
Nightline	Information and listening service for students	Ph: 028 9023 1177

Please return this questionnaire to the following address

**The Institute for Conflict Research
Unit 14
North City Business Centre
2 Duncairn Gardens
Belfast BT15 2GG**

Ph: 028 9074 2682
WWW: www.conflictresearch.org.uk
Email: training@conflictresearch.org.uk

Please contact us if you need additional copies – this questionnaire is also available to be completed online at the website address above.