



mindout

The National LGBTI Mental Health
& Suicide Prevention Project

Continuing Intersex awareness

Webinar 1: Understanding Intersex

Presenter: Bonnie Hart

Wednesday 23rd November 2016

Webinar 2: Intersex Human rights

Presenter: Morgan Carpenter

Wednesday 7th December 2016



To register, email charlie.willbridge@lgbtihealth.org.au





INTERSEX



With Your Guide:

Bonnie Hart

President, AISSGA

(Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome Support Group, Australia)

And all-round awesome person!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land. I recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of and pay respects to their Elders, past and present.



I would also like to acknowledge my intersex Elders, past and present - recognising their strength, resilience and capacity



WHAT IS INTERSEX?

The term intersex refers to people who are born with genetic, hormonal or physical sex characteristics that are not typically 'male' or 'female'.

Intersex people have a diversity of bodies and gender identities

- Up to 1.7% occurrence in human births
(Anne Fausto-Sterling, 2000)



XY CHROMOSOMES

- Complete Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome (CAIS)
- Partial Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome (PAIS)
- 5-alpha-reductase Deficiency (5-ARD)
- Swyer Syndrome/ Mixed Gonadal Dysgenesis (MGD)
- Leydig Cell Hypoplasia
- Persistent Müllerian Duct Syndrome
- Hypospadias, Epispadias, Aposthia, Micropenis, Buried Penis, Diphallia
- Polyorchidism
- Cryptorchidism

intersex
community
socials

monthly meetings in Sydney
details: oii.org.au/social





XX CHROMOSOMES

- de la Chapelle/XX Male Syndrome
- MRKH/Vaginal (or Müllerian) agenesis
- XX Gonadal Dysgenesis
- Uterus Didelphys
- Progestin Induced Virilization



XX or XY CHROMOSOMES

- Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH)
- Ovo-testes (formerly called "true hermaphroditism")
- Kallmann syndrome/Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism (HH)
- Aphallia
- Aromatase Deficiency
- Cloacal Extrophy





NEITHER XX or XY CHROMOSOMES

- Klinefelter Syndrome, 48, XYY Syndrome
- Turner Syndrome (or Monosomy X)
- XY/XO mosaics and xy-Turner's Syndrome
- Triple-X Syndrome (also Tetrasomy X)
- Jacobs/XYY Syndrome

or spontaneously occurring...

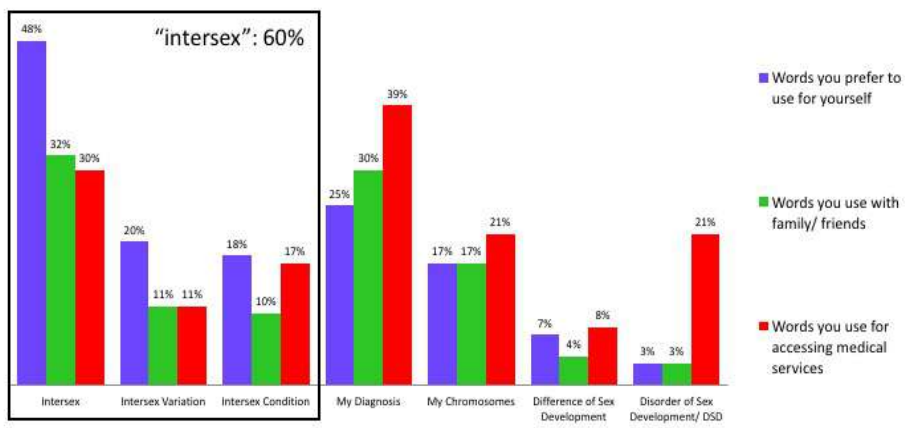


REFERENCE

Intersex Stories and Statistics from Australia, 2016. Tiffany Jones (UNE), Bonnie Hart (AISSGA), Morgan Carpenter (OII Australia) & Gavi Ansara (National LGBTI Health Alliance)

n = 272

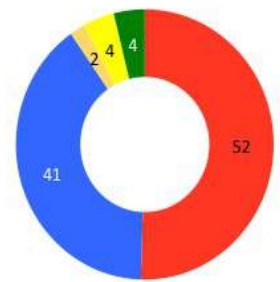
Sex characteristics



Note: multiple choices possible

Sex assignments and gender identities

Reported sex at birth



Sex now

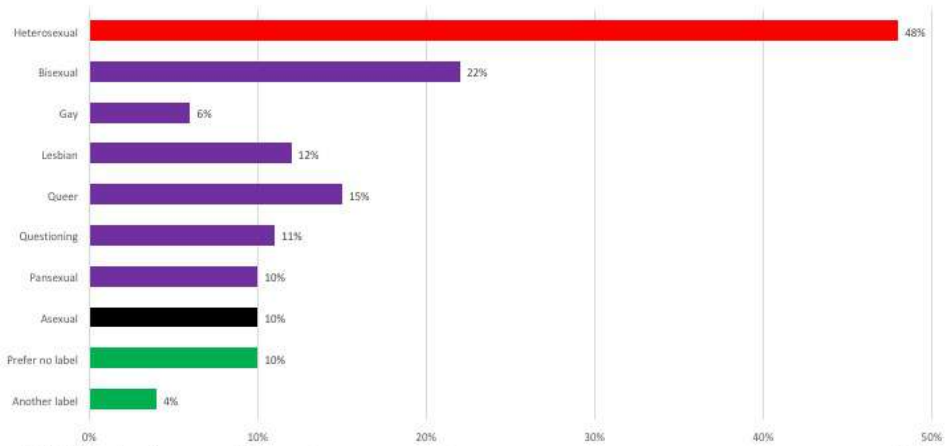


- F
- M
- X
- Unsure
- Other option

Complexities of asking about birth assignment:
 "I was christened male, but reassigned female at day 5, and then realigned back to my male self at age 29."

Note: Multiple choices possible

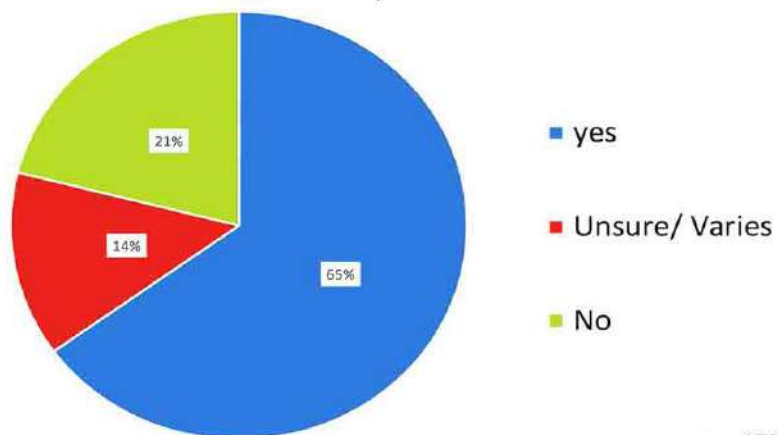
Sexual orientations



Multiple choices possible; note response rate.

n=176

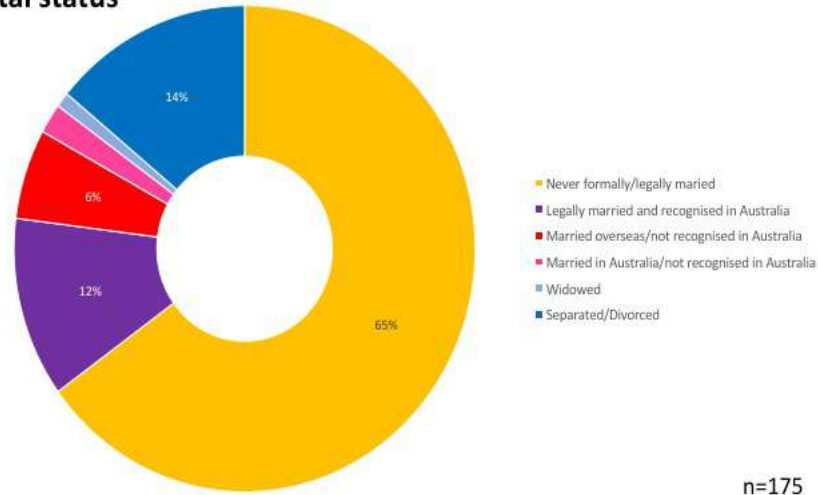
Intersex variation/treatment impact on sexual desire



n = 175



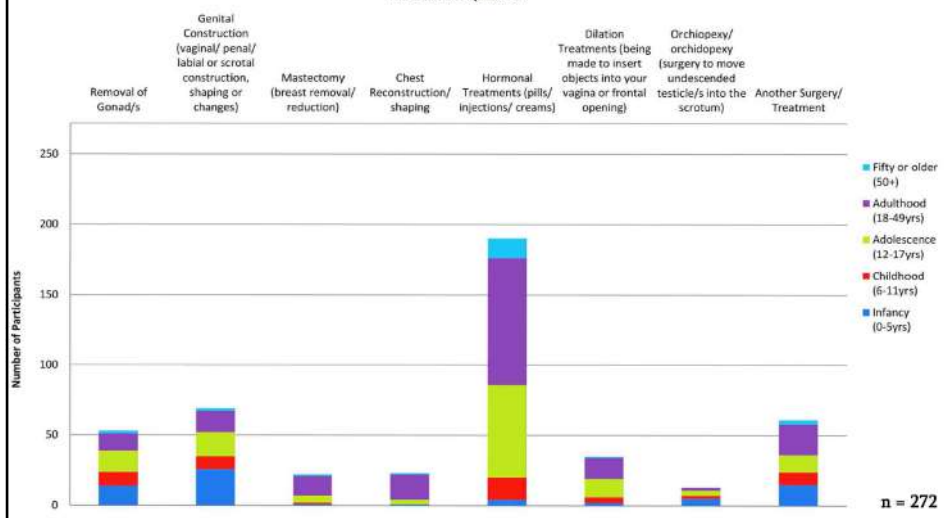
Marital status



n=175

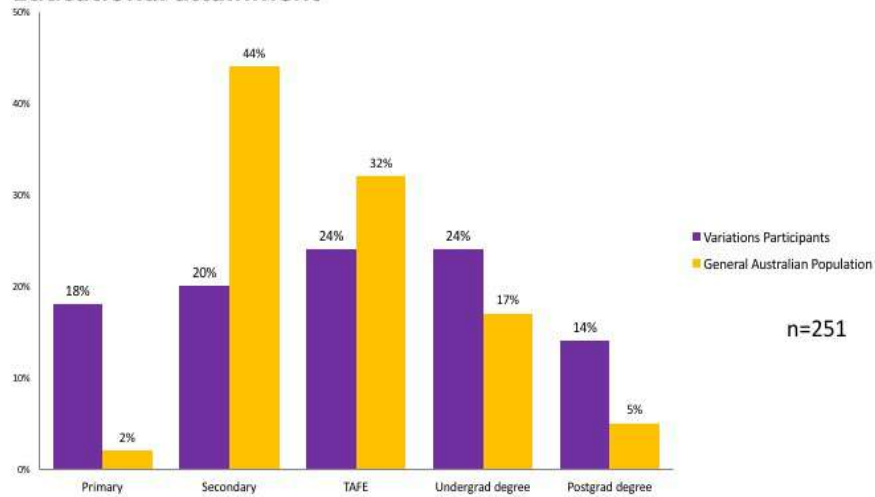


Interventions Experienced

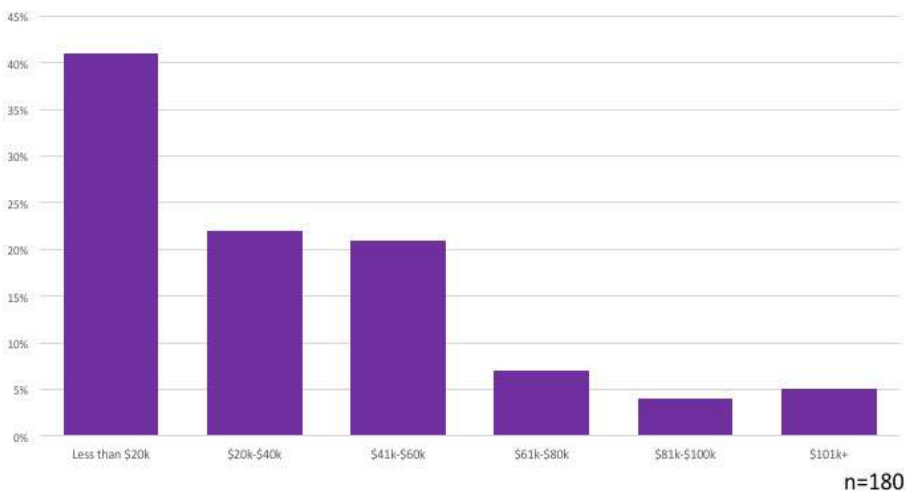


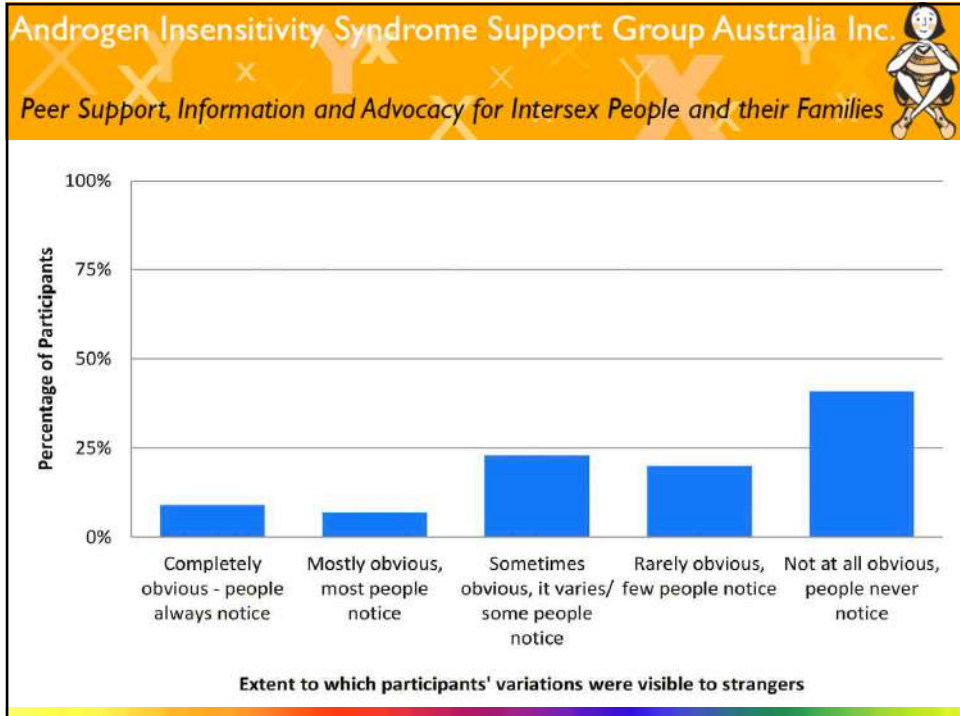
n = 272


Educational attainment



Income






Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome Support Group Australia Inc. 

Peer Support, Information and Advocacy for Intersex People and their Families

MENTAL HEALTH

- 59 % rated present mental health as good or better
- depression, anxiety & PTSD
- 12 % unemployed
- 42 % thoughts of self-harm
- 26 % engaged in self-harm
- 60 % suicidal ideation
- 19 % attempted suicide



Comment: 'Curing' intersex is damaging and common
 Intersex, the I in LGBTI, is often invisible, assumed to be about sexual orientation or gender identity. In fact, intersex has more to do with the body. Intersex people are born with sex characteristics that don't fit stereotypical expectations for males or...

www.sbs.com.au



ISSUES

Health

- Self Acceptance - language
- Medical Pathologisation
- Surgery – what : when
- Maintenance - HRT / bone density
- Sexual health
- Access to services / Referrals



This Is What It's Like To Discover You're Intersex As A Teen

Two intersex 20-somethings shared their stories with MTV News in honor of Intersex Awareness Day.

WWW.MTV.COM



ISSUES

Psychosocial

- LGBTI Inclusion
- Stigma
- Family duress
- Isolation / secrecy / disclosure
- Access to support
- Young people
- Intimacy





INTERSEX PEOPLE IN SOCIETY

- Families
- Education
- Employment
- Sport
- Media
- Aged Care



AND BEYOND...

“Nothing about us without us”

Visibility - Growing public awareness

Peer support and advocacy

International networks

Representation + Inclusion





HUMAN RIGHTS

- Bodily autonomy
- Informed Consent
- Recognition
- Representation
- Marriage equality
- Protection:

Legislative
Policy



Intersex rights addressed at the UN Human Rights Council for the first time

THE rights of intersex people were discussed at a recent UN Human Rights Council meeting in Geneva, marking the first time that it had been mentioned at this level...

STAROBSERVER.COM.AU



THANK YOU!

<http://www.aissga.org.au/>

bonnie@aissga.org.au



I invite your questions ☺