

**Question 4: If you feel comfortable, please provide an example of the discrimination you experienced in relation to education [Optional]:**

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I was declared by the headmaster to be the most hated boy in the school.

I was denied access to surgical specialty training in the 1980s because I was gay and might get HIV.

after i transitioned i didnt feel as though i could continue as a teacher

Had my opinions on women's issues dismissed by the lecturer because "You're a man"

I'm a teacher and i have been discriminated by two principals I worked under who did not like gays

Catholic school in the 90s. Told teachers and headmasters about homophobia me and my friend received. We were told to act less girly (by the female deputy headmaster) so we'd fit in better. My friend was so horrified, he quit school that day, never to complete his education. I pressed on to finish yr 12, but without my only friend.

Teachers would comment that other boys should stay away from me because they couldn't be sure of what I'd do.

Verbal abuse from a couple of students in high school/college.

I was given detention and threatened with suspension for revealing I was attracted to girls at a Christian high school. I was forced to endure hands-on prayer to try to rid me of the homosexual demons.

I went to a public school and the school chaplain, who was obviously religious, was friendly towards me until she learned I was bisexual and pagan, then she avoided me and told people I was going around trying to "convert" people.

Discriminated against by female members of faculty for not conforming to ideals of homosexuality or being able to be objectified by them as a heterosexual male. Also lack of understanding in general from faculty as to the lack of support available to adult LGBTIQ community members who have to financially support themselves while studying and are isolated or disjointed from their family dynamic of birth.

I went to RMIT in 2015 to do a diploma course. The school was supportive and inclusive but some fellow students were openly discriminatory and were not disciplined by the school.

Just being gay and they abuse out of class room or to and from class to home

I had a teacher constantly misgender me and feminise my name, then when I complained about it, she refused to teach me. The RTO backed her, and I have formally complained.

My children are treated differently because their dad is gay.

As a gay man who teaches in a Catholic school i have to be very discreet about my true self. I am out to my friends but have to be careful with parents and the students. It breaks my heart each and every time I have to be vague about my partner of 8 years.

I was fired from my job when I came out publically and they also banned me from coming within 5km of the school, which given the size of my town, means I can't go to a most of the town. I'm currently looking at moving

Went to a close-minded and bigoted semi-private High School where I was pushed around by students and rejected for particular perks and academic goals with what I found out years later (from an old ally teacher of mine) was my sexuality.

No reference to safe sex for same sex couples, ever.

Physical and emotional abuse.

I work in education. [deleted – identifying information] College in [deleted] has provided me with an employment Manifesto, etc that describes in Section 3, their definition of marriage between a male and a female, etc.

It didn't happen within the last 12 months, but when i was in grade 7 my teacher would tell the class about how he thought that gays were perverted and wrong. He did this on multiple occasions during lessons, including a time when he told us all that he wrote countless letters to the government to discourage them from legalising same-sex marriage. At the time I identified as a lesbian and he was one of the main reasons I developed a strong fear of being outed.

My school sent me to the councillor [sic] in case I was a lesbian. Like I was sick and needed my head examined. Like I was sick.

My teachers not understanding the importance of my preferred name and pronouns.

This is complicated because I was not out in high school, but I found addressing gender issues in counselling with a chaplain at a non-religious college to be soul-crushing and the chaplain was dismissive and ignorant. In adulthood, I came out during a trade apprenticeship with a very large mining company, and my contract was not extended to ensure I could complete the trade certificate after experiencing bullying and isolation which hindered my learning.

It was through my time in the student union and working with university staff on bathroom policies where people were openly in favour of discriminating in bathrooms. That's changed now, but it was pretty hairy for a while there.

School kids calling me gay, trying to prompt me into admitting I was gay

I asked my sexual education teacher in year 9 or 10 (can't remember which), if we were going to be covering more than just heterosexual sex and relationships. and her response was something along the lines of "Well I don't think those people deserve to exist"

I attempted to study teaching earlier this year but had to drop out because my area was mostly studied in private schools which are all religious.

My religious education teacher stopped speaking to me directly and began speaking to me via the person next to me when I came out as gay in year 10

I do not feel comfortable asking my tutors and lecturers to use my preferred pronouns. In addition, I do not feel safe talking to other students about my transgender status or sexuality

unless I already know them well enough to know that they would be okay with it.

Was asked in an accusing manner in front of a class if I was sure about my gender.

Mis use of bathrooms got attacked and abused

Well for one there's no same sex sex education

I've been told on several occasions to simply pretend I'm not intersex or a lesbian, while others can discuss having hetero-relationships that there's also "no such thing" as different genders/fluidity/spectrum

being reported to teachers for holding hands with my partner, being called into the student support teachers office and having her tell me that I would be happier in life if I was "having sex with a man" instead of my girlfriend

Was not taught anything in relation to safe sex with another woman because it was deemed "inappropriate" they also refused to refer me to places I could find this information

Misgendering.

I was always accused of being gay in high school and teased...

Only what I mentioned earlier about being picked on at school.

Ostracised by classmates fearing I would come onto them.

Rather than in-your-face discrimination, it is continually giving you messages that gay = bad or sinner. Plus all other people are included in daily conversation/engagement, but the queers are made invisible as though we do not even exist - e.g. no mention is made that we even exist, nor of our loving relationships, which are made out to not even exist. Promotion of invisibility and non-representation effectively invalidates and demoralises us. To be respected fully, you must be acknowledged as first existing, and secondly, to be of equal worth and standing to everyone else - this cannot happen if you are made to feel invisible.

A teacher I had picked on me constantly after I came out as gay and had a girlfriend. She would internally suspend me and yell at me for any reason possible. She also tore up my English homework - she had never done any of this until she found out I was gay.

Paper graded unfairly. Teacher commented they liked gay used metaphorically rather than literally. Challenged grade and assessed by other teacher and got higher mark

Sexualized bullying. Teachers knew but did nothing. Gays were always negative

Actually happened from being a lesbian mother. My daughter has two mothers and we are excluded from all the other parental social gatherings and most people move away from us when picking my daughter from school

As a student I had teachers approach my friends telling them not to associate with me as I may make them "one of them gays" my complaints of homophobic harassment ignored. As a parent I was not allowed to be emergency contact for my stepson

I attend [deleted – identifying information], and to date, our records show no genderqueer / trans / intersex / non binary / third gender etc person has ever graduated from the College of Law. Purely statistically, this is wrong. I am in negotiation with the Uni to try and change my general enrolment status from F to X so I can graduate as X but it is difficult. The legislation recognising a third gender only applies to people born in [deleted]. I was born in [deleted – identifying information], although I am a citizen. I have a letter from my GP stating I am X, but I have not and have no interest in being diagnosed as gender dysphoric, as I am perfectly happy with my gender identity and have no desire to transition as I am not trans. This puts me in a difficult grey area with the law. Of course, the [university] is welcome, as a corporation enacted by legislation in and of itself, to create policy allowing people like me to identify as X. But they seem to be hiding behind the veil of excessive administrative obstacles, and the College of Law is extremely socially conservative (no surprises there). It has been a difficult journey, but one that I will continue. Not being trans or intersex, and clearly passing as a 'woman', AND being a domestic student, give me huge advantages over many trans and intersex people. I want to graduate as an X not because I want to be the first, but because I want to make a political statement - because it is performative in that manner. And because I want to make it easier for my trans and intersex peers to make the journey too. It is law reform in a lived sense - a small but important contribution to our shared causes.

Changed exam conditions with legal name and gender. They provided solution of change name at university. Although, if you do that and your name and gender are different at university and Centrelink, you lose Centrelink. Not to mention it costs money to change name and gender legally (I was also born in NSW). Sort of defeats purpose of changing name for low SES queer people.

I had a long phone conversation with a music teacher at a Christian college all about offering me a job teaching singing there (one-to-one). The teacher was very enthusiastic and said it would simply need the approval of the school Principal (I was very well qualified and very experienced). However, his reply came back that they would definitely not employ a transgender person.

I had to drop out of college because people would constantly bully me and laugh at me, calling me a "lesbian Slut"

Was told I would never get a job as a gay man in my area of study

I gave the example earlier, but my whole school life was spent either being bullied due to my sexuality or taking steps to avoid it. It had a long lasting impact on my personality and mental health.

I have been made to feel bad because of who I was, Made my identity be a joke, And countless other things

Diversity days celebrating only race but not sexuality, gender, socio economic status etc. Not being allowed to mention sexuality or gender other than straight in assemblies or other mass school events. Sex education only catering for straight people. The assumption that everyone in the school is straight. Lack of support for queer people and the feeling that queer people should stay quiet about who they are and not mention love, whereas straight people are able to mention their love life and talk about it openly.

At school we were taught that LGBT+ folk were diseased by our school chaplain. It was very isolating.

The school told me to act less gay

I live in a boarding house, and I was not allowed to attend a LGBTQI charity event because "the age gap (12-25 year olds) was too big" despite being allowed and supported in other 12-25 year old groups that are not specifically LGBTQI based. This is because as a school representative, I have to uphold the religious values that the school promotes. Other experiences include small talk and unintentionally-offensive comments from other students to students and myself.

During sex education, in 1984, experiencing both dialogues advocating heteronormativity and homophobic threats of violence, at an all-boy's school.

Left out, bullied

Heterosexual focus in health education

I was told being gay was unnatural and wrong by teachers at a Lutheran school.

Not ready to support transition of my trans child.

white male teacher could never use my name, all other female students were addressed directly by their name, i was always spoken to as "mate"..

Bullied at school

Lack of sex education especially for lgbtqi folk, constantly told that was living in sin, had to hide my relationships from people, physical violence at school. Had the option of 2 months of detention for skipping formal because my partner was same sex or conform and take an opposite sex partner (my friends out of protest all skipped which i was so happy for). Teachers forcing binary clothing options (girls only allowed to wear skirts, not slacks, and boys opposite), once again, detention for months until they realised i wasn't going to budge on the subject)

As a teacher I was transferred by my employer from a small mining town as a solution to ongoing harassment for being gay.

Filling out forms and listing my preferred name, including being outed on my first day by the wrong name being called

I was banned from using either bathrooms at school because I was transgender. Whenever I needed to go to the bathroom, I'd have to go ask for a key for the staff toilets at the office.

My principal ([deleted – identifying information] who is in jail for child molestation) told me to "tone it down", told me to break up with my boyfriend at the time

I was deeply discriminated against during my religious education at both primary and secondary school. This was at a Catholic School. It had left deep psychological wounds.

While they didn't say it directly, a colleague and myself were demoted from our positions within the space of a year. Apparently, it was because of 'performance'. I beg to differ. We work in education.

I wasn't out in school but I was targeted cause I was "stereotypical". Verbal

I had to deal with a parent ensuring I did not talk about non heterosexual relationships in sexual education. They were very derogative and took it from a religious perspective

I actually experienced way more abuse for my sexuality at the non-denominational high school I attended until year 10. When I moved to a Jewish school I was not bullied by anyone for sexuality in my class. But was bullied by a member of another (and more conservative) religious school that we did programs alongside... I was heavily bullied for being gay by boys in the grades above me at my first school, as well as for being Jewish. Some/half of this involved physical violence.

The poem thing, I wrote a poem on LGBT and came third in a competition which means me and second and first place were supposed to read it at assembly but they told me unless I wrote a new poem only first place would present this year.

I did not receive any obvious negativity from the majority of people I encountered at university (over three degrees). This was with the exception of one particular group – [redacted]! And curiously even this was largely from only one particular cohort - students from [redacted]. I don't know why this particular group were so judgemental and discriminatory, I can only assume there was a cultural bias? This was in the 1990s, so perhaps things have changed since then.

I was pretty closet at school, but I frequently got in trouble in sex ed for challenging hetero and cis normative assumptions being made by the teacher. That included being yelled at, sent out of class and threatened with physical violence. They didn't want it talked about that's for sure.

Refusal to see beyond that constraints of the heteronormative gender binary/encouraged exclusion on the grounds of religion

My high school HPE teacher was teaching sex education and wouldn't answer any of my questions about lesbian sex and told me things like to stop being rude and threatening to send me to the deputy principal's office

At work certain people high up didn't like me expressing myself

As a student on placement I experienced bullying by a facilitator

I was asked to leave the school because they discovered I was gay and were uncomfortable with me being around children.

Asked my supervising tutor for a reference for an LGBT scholarship. She refused because she didn't think it was appropriate.

Should be kept in the wardrobe

The Sex-Ed at high school was minimal. But for anyone who was not straight or cis-gendered, myself included, it didn't exist. The internet became my best (but not always reliable) friend.

my queer child was outed by the school to me and the school refused to address my child's needs until I caused a huge fuss. Even then, it took longer because of my 'agenda' being queer myself

Refusal to use preferred pronouns

School was awful. Students gave me a hard time, beat me and teachers didn't want to know about it. One used to say I was edited and different

I attempted to create a safe space for lgbtqia+ students and went through all of the appropriate avenues and went through verbal abuse from my principal and heads of the school. They denied the group because they said they'd lose political support, lose parent support, lose financial support, the program would "cause mass hysteria" was "radical" and "extremist", among a host of other "reasons" which were personal attacks on myself and the other person who was helping me in the process. They told us that the way we were raised was wrong, asked if we were gay, asked if it were just a group for us to be gay together in, asked if there were really any other lgbtqia+ youth in the school and when questioned on their poor sex Ed program, they told us it was not their responsibility. We told them of the homophobic and transphobic violence we face at school and they didn't believe us. We were denied a formal safe group (like a GSA) because it made them uncomfortable.

All girls religious schools are rampant with homophobia, not to mention transphobia (only AFAB people allowed, etc) A more technical discrimination, when enrolling for my course this year, only half of the enrolment forms had an 'other' option for gender identity. I was allowed to identify as nonbinary for only half of my educational paperwork

A few boys were making fun of my gender in maths class and the teacher did nothing about it, also in PE they say you have to go to one side if your a female and the other if your male, being transgender I sat out until everyone started yelling at me

I was kicked out of a compulsory scripture class because a "friend" told the teacher I was gay

Not allowed to wear the boys school uniform

Told not to bring ANY date to school ball.

I only got called a fag when I was in a junior year of high school other than that I think they grew up

Teachers assuming kids were gay when they weren't and instead of being an accepting role model they just ignored those kids learning assistance or support in the classroom

University lecturer teaching about gender identity at University referred to transwoman as males

Exclusion from social activities

While being interviewed for a school, I was told that for my 'safety and comfort, as well as the other students and staff', I should use the single-stall disabled toilet, rather than the male (my chosen gender) toilets.

Extensive bullying.

Many straight male teachers exhibit the same homophobia as young boys do in the playground. They stay away from the gay students and clearly are uncomfortable around them, making it hard

for these teachers to develop any connection to their lgbtq students

The religious boarding school that I attended had explicit rules against homosexual students, which carried the threat of expulsion (a sanction that was imposed on a fellow student)

Anti-gay slurs and physical threats at a Catholic residential college

When I was teaching, at my last school, I was constantly bullied and harassed for being an openly gay teacher. The abuse got so bad that I had a mental breakdown and had to resign from teaching. It has taken years of therapy, that is still ongoing, to begin to recover from it.

A teacher said homosexuals are not people and actively prevent awareness or assessments regarding the LGBT+ community

I attended a religious high school (2003-2007). Discrimination was daily, from schoolchildren and staff, and ranged from forcing me to pretend that I was a girl, to physical abuse, threats of rape & murder, theft, exclusion & a lot of reinforcement that I wasn't normal. I got a boyfriend and pretended that I was a cis-gendered female to make it stop. I also self-harmed hundreds of times and tried to kill myself twice.

Being told I'm going to hell.

I went to Catholic school, we were encouraged not to be out, and all sex education was focussed on cis and straight people. At university, my interest in queer theory was dismissed regularly, and my department sided with a rape apologist student (causing a walk out of the women and queer students in that department)

Choir conductor, was told by a chorister that I am unfit to do my job because of my sexuality

Went to an all-boys school even though I am not a boy and the teachers and other students enforced heterosexual masculinity incredibly strictly. Also my more recent discrimination is not direct discrimination, it's related to my uni using my legal name instead of my real name, and the thought of either getting called by my deadname or coming out freshly to every new person I met caused me tonnes of stress and meant I never went to an entire subjects tutorial sessions, and I failed that subject, probably as a result of that.

At school I would be misgendered and deadnamed despite the fact I've already informed people, at work despite all informing them and my name tag saying Adam, I was misgendered. At home sometimes during an argument, despite how supportive my parent can be I will be deadnamed and misgendered. In public people sometimes do it too.

Sexual education was purely about straight relationships, when the teacher was asked about other relationships and safe sex within those, they said they wouldn't as it may cause issues with parents. I therefore got no relevant sexual education. I was also not allowed to take a same sex date to the grade 11 or 12 ball.

I have been told I'm "going to hell" by the school priest

Same sex couples aren't allowed at school balls

I wasn't allowed to see my friends or girlfriend at recess or lunch. The school also rang my mum and my ex's dad up and told them they were getting complaints about us hugging in the park. They told us we weren't allowed to see each other at school. They made my ex go to the school psychologist because of it.

Being called gay and faggot at school

Had a full on argument with my Religious Education teacher about why I prefer to relate more to the satanic bible. And a very strong point of that for me was (I'm a victim of rape) that the bible tells us as women that we have to bow down to every man and be at his beck and call etc etc. the satanic bible says that any sex committed outside of a consenting, reciprocative understanding is to be punished how they deserve. And I got kicked out of class because the teacher didn't want to recognise that I was right.

There were several classmates that made generalised homophobic/transphobic comments

I work as a lecturer/tutor, was asked not to reveal trans status to students for fear of a social media storm.

Have been told I was weaponising my trans status to further personal endeavours when asking for trans-friendly changes to curriculum are made.

A religious teacher in high school would refuse to help me and would mark me down. I didn't realise it was as bad as it was until a student teacher approached me about it and another teacher who would cross mark my work said she was a lot harder on me than with other students.

I had a teacher at my catholic high school who would fail me because she suspected I was queer, and because I wrote my assignments on queer issues.

When I asked lecturers to stop mocking people who are different and stop mocking the idea of safe spaces for people, I was not told about further optional tutorials which helped us learn new skills and study techniques

Comments made during the Christian Perspectives program at my school; that gays are the product of a dysfunctional family, that when the Lord comes all of the sinners and the gays will be swallowed into a black hole

Kicked out of Home at 15, I was on my own in 1970 on streets so had to learn to survive

I had a facilitator who tried to make my placement hell. She broke the rules of the placement to give me bad reports. I fought her through the university... And won

School counsellor (Catholic school) openly dismissed LGBT issues and concerns stating they're not warranted or needed in a school environment. Told me to keep concerns to myself.

My son was bullied in year 7 when it got around that I'm gay. I complained to the school but no visible action was taken. We ended up changing schools. Both schools are Qld public schools

Alienated because I came out

I was not allowed to bring someone of the same sex to my year 12 formal as it was a Catholic high school.

As a teacher, was not allowed to mention my same-sex partner when students asked even though teachers in opposite-sex relationships could talk about their partners.

I have to lie and appear straight at work because of my boss's religious views. I had to leave my high school because of religious views and bullying from students and teachers.

I was unable to participate in school events and activities, not provided with relevant sex or health education.

Forming assessment in a gender-split way which forces me (non-binary person) to participate as part of the gender group assigned to me at birth. My data being void in statistics class because I answered "other" on the preliminary gender question. Transphobic comments in lectures

Tried to come out to a teacher, he threatened to beat me up if I finished my sentence.

Lack of inclusive language. Use of homophobic jokes. Transphobic casual comments.

My friend goes to a Catholic school and is bisexual. Her music teacher gives her shit about being bisexual and says that she is sinning and she will be going to hell.

Most people get to attempt their education in an environment where their social group isn't used as a slur or the butt of jokes or for abuse dozens of times a day, every day, years on end. Not me, not the group of people I belonged to.

There was an incident that occurred and my best friend at the time told my deputy principal that I was gay, so when I came in to be asked about what happened he asked if I was gay, I said yes and he replied with we can send you to the councillor [sic] to get that fixed

Physical and verbal bullying and harassment. Name callings such as homophobic slurs or physical harm

My (then) girlfriend and I were repeatedly targeted by our Catholic high school for "failing" to conform to their ideas about gender, despite those not being openly expressed anywhere. In some cases we received detention, after-school detention and in-school suspensions. It was tantamount to bullying by staff if not explicit bullying by staff. It was not safe for anyone to be "out" as LGBT there.

I had a Christian lecturer who did not approve of same-sex couples having children.

I wasn't allowed to go to the bathroom in which I identified as. And was not allowed to wear the female school uniform.

I used this as my first example. I'm a pre-service teacher. Transphobic comments from students targeted because of my obvious sexuality and general queer appearance. Lack of response on part of the faculty. Subsequent bullying and hostility directed towards me from faculty for making their lives difficult.

Our school "counsellor" was getting us to do debating in religious studies class back in about year 9. We covered a few controversial topics such as abortion, but then we came to same sex marriage and every student in the class said they were for it, but the teacher said she didn't approve of it and thought it wasn't natural and shouldn't happen. After class I was talking to one of my friends who had recently come out to me as bisexual and he said he was previously thinking of going to talk to her about some struggles he was facing with coming out, but obviously he couldn't talk to her any more about that. Fortunately a few years later when I had finished school, I went to a memorial for the Orlando shootings and I saw her there with the local priest (who is known for being very supportive to the lgbta+ community), so it seems she has changed her opinion! Yay! Another thing though, I noticed as a young bisexual, I never learnt in health class how to have safe sex with people my gender. I had to google it.

Bullying, misgendering and being told I would have to go in the girls group for a gender split day at school.

Harassment all through my high school life

Being called out in class because of my sexuality and being told that I would not be able to complete the course

My teacher saw that i held my girlfriend's hand and kissed her on the cheek at our school-run cafe (as she was training me for work there) and she accused us of theft and inappropriate behaviour.

School councillor [sic] told other parents I was a bad influence and to keep their kids away from me

My school advised me to not take up woodwork and metal work because it was for "real boys"

We were pushed out of school due to a homophobic teacher. They had us suspended for standing up for ourselves.

When I asked my teachers about gay sex in relation to health classes I was scoffed at or ignored. My high school set up new school rules of no hand holding because our principal saw two girls holding hands. Quite often we were told in school assemblies that our school would hold up the teachings of the bible to its utmost capability and then overheard some teachers talking about how the school was trying to weed out non compliant students (ones that were openly gay)

From students and teachers turning a blind eye to the attacks

My teachers began shipping me with all of my classmates and making me uncomfortable about my sexuality.

If you are including garden variety sexism under the banner of gender identity, my entire education and career has been dogged by sexism and to a lesser extent, homophobia though sometimes its difficult to tease out the two.

Principal reluctant to allow an LGBT+ support group in the school because it can be seen as 'propaganda'

Transgender: my issue i had was the teachers when I came out became very close minded and my request for acceptance was declined as i wanted to wear the female uniform I would have been happy with that I wasn't requesting usage of other genders bathrooms or anything. It really offended me. one time on work placement for high school I was placed in a disability company with working with disability and within the first 3 weeks of placement I was doing a fantastic job, I was really motivated and done more work than the actual paid employees, I was going to get a promotion to team leader (ironically as a high school student on placement) and my supervising teacher said to the head teacher that I had got no work done and then I was fired (on the schools behalf to the company) which upset me a lot.

No gender-neutral toilets and general lack of supporting facilities. Teachers felt as though it was appropriate to send an email to the whole staff about my gender identity (and got it wrong), and then all of them felt as though they could openly discuss my gender with me, which honestly made me feel incredibly uncomfortable and my privacy invaded (even if not strictly discrimination, it most definitely affected me negatively)

At my University, [redacted] in [redacted], my application for a Queer Collective was denied for four consecutive years. No written reasons for the decision were made available, though explanations from administrative staff liaising with me an a group of LGBTIQ students ranged from 'the group excludes straight students' to 'the very nature of an LGBTIQ students network offends the objects of a Catholic University'. Not only were the usual decision making processes not followed, there was no consistency in the decision making process followed in each successive application. Moreover, the decision makers in each instance refused to consider that the objects of the proposed Queer Collective were expressly constrained by the very objects of the University which they claimed was in conflict. For context, the University is able to approve or deny specific events and activities of a student club from time to time, after affiliation and thus refusal of affiliation is only justified where the objects (i.e. the purpose) of a club are innately opposed to the objects of the University. Catholic doctrine prohibits unjust discrimination - certain acts of an individual can offend the Catholic ethos of a University, but the mere existence of a group (even an explicitly LGBTIQ group) with general objects of mutual support and fostering safe spaces does not conflict with Catholic doctrine. Indeed such blanket discrimination against LGBTIQ persons on the basis of their identity rather than their actions is in clear breach of Catholic doctrine, to say nothing of the anti-discrimination Act. The decision(s) were motivated by prejudice, in which the very person of Queer students is politicised and represents anti-Catholic sentiment. The lack of due process, intellectual rigour, candour or consultation in this decision; compounded by the symbolic rejection of our group and others like us at a very official level was distressing to me and to a number of other students. At a more immediate, interpersonal level, discrimination against LGBTIQ students at [redacted] can be still more overt. On one instance, I and some friends were gathered in a common courtyard of the university celebrating 'Wear It Purple' day. A member of non-academic staff approached us and challenged our right to be there without University approval. For context, this was a large area in which some fifty students were gathered in small groups having lunch. When we refused to move on, the staff member sought out a priest on campus, who harangued us about the fact that the University is built on church land and we cannot be there. This instance is not uncommon to the University - at times, LGBTIQ students are at risk of being confronted and publicly policed for the slightest representation of their LGBTIQ identity in a common space.

I walked into a classroom and one of the boys said can anyone else smell cock breath

Not being provided with education on same-sex safety in PDHPE, even upon request. And being told to just "not try it" because there's "no safe way" to have sex with a person of the same gender.

Had to push hard to be allowed to wear my chosen uniform despite unisex uniform policies being DET required in NSW

Being unable to wear the uniform I wanted to

I'm a trans boy who use to go to an all girls catholic high school I was told not to come out by the school counsellor and that there was nothing to be done that could help me. I wasn't aloud [sic] to wear the sports uniform which was shorts and was forced to wear the dress. I had many teachers comment on my short hair in a negative way

Not being taken seriously due to my orientation, my identity being dismissed, stereotyping

A teacher said the word lesbian was a rude word and he is the social justice leading teacher

"you're a fucking dyke, quit looking at me in the change rooms"

the school purposefully bans any pride we could have and does not allow kids to spread awareness on Purple Day. They say being gay is a sin.

One of my university professors constantly referenced my sexuality in a mocking and degrading sense

Kicked out of school halfway through my hsc due to learning difficulties and 'alternative lifestyle' aka they think I'm a severely dyslexic satanist lesbian (I'm a very dyslexic, atheistic, ftm trans person)

Just teachers not knowing my sexuality, yet saying to the whole class that anything other than a man and a woman together is wrong, also the students saying right to my face that if they found out any of their friends wasn't straight it'd be so awkward, as they wouldn't know if they were being friendly or hitting on them anymore... made me feel alienated as i felt like if they know i was bi they would perceive me as a creep

I was bullied for being bisexual severely and the teachers all knew and only one teacher tried to help me

As a university tutor who teaches first years in social and cultural analysis and social science, my students may be a little naive. Being femme, they may not guess I am a lesbian, and some of them are a little freer with their homophobic language and opinions

Refusal to accept preferred name and pronouns. Largely non religious school, however.

I go to a Catholic school and the teachers were happy with relationships between straight people, but my ex girlfriend and I were not allowed to even hug.

I was at a christian private school in north sydney, we had lessons in religion that focused on why being gay is wrong and how you can change

A science teacher at my public school ridiculed homosexuality when teaching about gametes. He said how sperms cannot join together and that should tell us why homosexuality doesn't make sense. He knew I was gay and it seemed like he was talking to me directly in front of the class.

Public Schools provided no mention of being gay, or how to deal with sexuality when I was younger. My first girlfriend and I made quite the couple as far as the school was concerned and other children were warned by their parents to stay away from us.

[redacted] High School was not exactly a safe space for an open homosexual-male student. Student culture was very homophobic. There were no educational support programs for LGBTIQ students at the School. Many teachers were homophobic, especially the scripture teachers from Hillsong...

I was bullied in a job I held in a christian organisation. I wasn't protected under the anti discrimination law because my lifestyle didn't fit in with their christian values. I took the bullying and harassment to as far as I could. I ended up leaving the job because I couldn't win

Singling me out in subjects and snide comments

At university, I had a straight male lecturer / year coordinator who was quite fascinated by my sexuality and singled me out for negative treatment whenever possible

i went to [redacted] Anglican School, someone found out about my girlfriend who was at another Anglican school, rumours were spread and eventually the P.E. Teacher asked me to start changing in the disabled bathroom instead of the girls changeroom because it made the other girls uncomfortable and they didn't want to have an incident. so i just kept forgetting to bring my P.E. gear and sat out most of the lessons getting misbehaviour notes and friday detentions for not having my P.E. gear rather than have people talk about why i couldn't use the girls changeroom

When I was at school, and in about year 9 or 10, one of the thugs of the school was coming out of the toilets as I was going in. He looked at me sideways, and sneered "Yeah, and I bet ya sit down to piss!". I am a gay male.

Being told by a teacher that asexuality isn't a thing.

It was too long ago to be relevant but I was called a poofter by a Brother at my high school

At my school, words such as 'faggot' are used and people make jokes about transgendered people.

Fellow students telling people that I did not deserve to be in the same space as other people

I had been on school council for several years and was expected to be the next president - until I came out. It wasn't overt, but I was definitely discouraged from putting my name in for the role.

Was called out in the middle of a class as the "butch lesbian" and everyone turned to me. I then had endless rumours spread throughout the rest of my secondary and part of my uni life

Harassment based on my private life

In high school in the 90's I was told that being gay was making me a target for bullies and that I should consider what that meant for my education

Treated badly by teachers and students at my school.

being forced to argue against marriage equality when I repeatedly said I was uncomfortable with it. when we (finally, after a high school career of campaigning for it) instigated our schools SGA the posters were repeatedly torn down

it was only ever small, seemingly unconscious comments like "girls can't so this.." or "you're acting like such a girl", which would often be directed towards the guys as if being feminine was a bad thing

I believe a teaching contract was not renew partly because of my orientation.

Abusive comments in early /late childhood.

It was prior to coming out as transgender but I was also referred to as a 'stain on society' and that 'queers like me deserve to burn in hell'.

Told I could not be a guide for younger students and primary school students because I didn't fit their views of a model student, despite being a high achieving student who has never been in trouble with the school

One of my university lecturers misgendered me in an assessment and accidentally outed me as trans to my supervisor. When I pulled her up on it she brushed it off as though it was nothing.

Uni won't use my preferred name which I changed legally but since my deadname is still my legal first name they ignored my requests.

Constant bullying in high school to the point where people who I didn't even know were verbally abusing me.

Not being allowed to bring my partner to my debutante ball, also have had rumours spread.

A teacher requested I had a class change because he didn't feel comfortable having a "fag" in his classroom

When my children were ready to start primary school, one of the schools we were going to check out was the local catholic school. A couple of mums from the kinder had older kids there and they said we should look at it because it was a really lovely school. Very long story but the short version. The principal said he had to discuss with the parish priest whether we could attend the school the priest took it to the local bishop. The result we could not attend the local school because our values were not the same as theirs.!!! I was brought up catholic and I can assure you that the only difference between our values and the church is that we embrace differences and

inclusion and the church doesn't. My kids are both happy at the local state school.

Just indirectly listening to catholic teachers speak how being gay is unnatural. I also heard many students and teachers use insults with gay connotations. It is the high school vernacular.

Was outed in a catholic high school at age 15 by a parish priest.

a teacher told me homosexuality only happens because people were sexually abused as children

People telling me I was inherently bad because of my queerness

Christian [redacted] Brisbane, as it was known as at the time of my attendance, is a homophobia ridden school. If you were believed to be gay you had no chance of a good education. Students were allowed to bully you because you could not go to the teachers as the school had a tradition of informing parents and outing unprepared kids. Even when you had the support of good teachers, which was rare in that place, they could do only so much because they could only protect you so far. I was lucky where a few good teachers convinced me to leave and demand a change of schools. They are the ones who helped save my life. I would not have survived another two years in the homophobic discriminatory hell hole and my parents would not have been able to handle the school outing their daughter (even years later coming out to them had a major impact).

My child was judged by a Christian school

Was forced into taking a female partner to the school end of year celebration, where people took their relationship partners, me and my boyfriend were made to take other female partners because it was "against the school policy and religion"

All of the harassment and bullying, generally happened at school

Found it I didn't get a student representative role because the one of the people picking didn't think a gay person should be leading new students

As a student, religious high school, sex ed. The topic of my sexuality (known at that time, and not much cared about by the student body beyond "hey, that exists") was brought up by another student in relation to something. The teacher expressed that bisexuality is not real. On homework, tests, assignments, class discussion, etc from that point on he would reaffirm this belief anytime her thought someone was acknowledging bisexuality, and would take marks off if he suspected someone thought it was real.

Peers being homophobic.

I'm working through applications to teach and update my gender and names through the DET portals, it's impossible to do without calling the department and requesting personally, which they were still unable to do until it was escalated over the course of several months so that I could even BEGIN my application...

i was told to not come into school wearing the clothes i would like to present in and was demoted in my school musical because 'i did not dance and sounds like the gender i identify as'

Teachers treating me as a special case and bullying from other students

Being told not to hold hands with my girlfriend and not being told that when holding a boys hand.

As a highly qualified TAFE teacher when I accepted redundancy when TAFE ran into trouble in 2011 I tried to find contract employment within the sector. This is common practice amongst TAFE teachers. I found opportunities had completely dried up in my case alone.

I lied and said I was straight to stay at the school. They don't allow gay people at all

Took part in a public speaking competition, wrote a speech on equal rights for LGBTQIA individuals. Was told "that isn't a very [school name] topic". (The school was an Anglican school in Sydney's eastern suburbs). When I came out at school, not only students but also some teachers made very inappropriate comments to me. One staff member interrogated me about what kinds of sexual feelings I was having; I was 13 and felt very pressured and uncomfortable, I started crying. The staff member didn't seem to see anything wrong with the questions they were asking.

Using toilets, being stared at, called a freak, being told I'm stupid, being outed

My workplace would not give me further education to further my career

teacher was very anti lgbt

Un inclusive language and blatant refusal to discuss homosexual perspective during class discussions regarding community services. Lecturers ignoring discrimination in administrative forms and directly from other students in front of a class. Assess to services.

School formal

When considering enrolment of my children in kindergarten and primary school we were constantly required to explain our family formation when completely forms or listen to comments (misguided rather than overtly discriminatory) about "not having other families like yours" or how they find our families 'interesting'.

Kicked out of religion class for being transgender

School was hell, I left because if I had've stayed I would have killed myself.

I was looking into doing a course in journalism and I mentioned I was transgender. From that point on, I felt the person I spoke to was dissuading me from participating in the course as a student.

Nothing as serious as stated prior, just the word 'faggot' thrown at me constantly.

I was asked to keep my status as a lesbian a secret because the parents at the school may become abusive towards not only myself and my family, but the school community as a whole.

Was asked to step down from running a crèche for fear of me being a bad example for the kids.

Marked down in Sex Ed for being honest about my sexuality, sent to chaplain about my 'issue'.

I felt i was discriminated against due to be different.

When I went to university in the late 1970s, because I was openly gay, I was singled out for rough treatment, verbal abuse and ridicule by some straight male students.

I went to a school called [redacted] High in Qld, i was abused at school, bashed, spat on, all while having to put up with the harassment and the teachers almost joining in on the jokes that would happen around me. There was no one and nothing I could do about it apart from hate myself that even bit more.

Just teenagers back in the 80's being dicks

Was not recognised as my son's parent at public school in 2009

Not seen as suitable for job I was already doing

As a young mum, I and my kids suffered other parents homophobia, eye balls rolling and turned backs. My kids had parents keep friends away from them, for parties sleep overs etc. My name was mud.

I was singled out by a priest who attempted to engage in sexual activity with me and when rejected singled me out in front of a school assembly to cast doubt regarding my "moral compass" because I publicly identified as gay.

I went to catholic schools in the 70's. Our teachers were openly homophobic. Sex education was a hateful joke

It was overseas at university. It involved cis male students from [redacted]. You can't really blame them given where they are from. But the university didn't deal well with it and it was very traumatic.

improper sex education (teaching as if there is only hetero-intercourse) being told intercourse must have "penetration" to be counted

My 11yr old niece had a mufty day at her catholic school. I painted a pair of white shoes in rainbow pride colours. With PRIDE in black marker on them. She loved them, showed them off to her teachers who told her they were not appropriate school wear. And from more comments from her adult teachers she was so upset she had taken them off some time during the day and kept them off until we left the school. She told me her teachers would look angry at her and when I came to collect her I was told to pick her up from outside school grounds from now on (all other parents picked their children up from outside the classroom doors)