Same or Both-Sex Attracted young people in Aotearoa/New Zealand

The results show that same or both-sex attracted young people face discrimination and stigma challenges in their environments, including higher rates of bullying and violence and barriers to seeking healthcare. These challenges are linked to health problems and risk-taking behaviour. To change these statistics, we need to create safe environments for sexuality and gender diverse young people.

In Youth 2000 all students were asked the question "Which are you sexually attracted to?" with the response options: "the opposite sex", "the same sex", "both sexes", "not sure", or "neither".

**Positives**

- 34% same or both-sex attracted young people are more likely to volunteer.
- 2 out of 3 report that their friends care about them a lot.
- 87% report that their parents care about them a lot.
- 81% report that school is OK or better.

**Challenges**

- 58% of same or both-sex attracted young people were afraid that they would be hurt or bullied.
- 35% have been unable to access healthcare when they wanted to.
- 43% of same or both-sex attracted young people have been hit or harmed by another person.

**Impacts**

- 4x as likely to experience significant depressive symptoms.
- 4x as likely to have attempted suicide in the last 12 months.
- 20% have drunk alcohol at least weekly in the past month compared to 8% of opposite sex attracted young people.

**References**
