Trade union members' perception of discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation

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ARBETSLIVSRAPPORT NR 2004:15
ISSN 1401-2928

Research programme: Working lives in urban areas

Head of programme: Ewa Gunnarsson



The National Institute for Working Life

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PREFACE

This report is derived from the research that the National Institute for Working Life is conducting under the theme *Working Lives in Urban Areas*. The theme covers research on current issues concerning problems and development opportunities in working life in the city. In the research, great emphasis is given to aspects such as gender, class, ethnicity, "race" and sexual orientation to examine causes of social exclusion and inclusion.

For several years, interest organisations for homo- and bisexuals have requested that studies should be conducted on their members' working and living conditions. One reason is that there are indications that the health status among these groups is worse than among the heterosexual population. This led to that the government in December 2002 commissioned the National Institute for Working Life to conduct a study on homo- and bisexual women and men's working conditions. Within the framework of *Working Lives in Urban Areas*, a comprehensive questionnaire study, *Working Conditions and Vulnerability*, was carried out in 2003 and several in-depth studies were started. This report is based on the questionnaire study, which is part of the government commission.

In this report, we will present the extent to which women and men belonging to different trade union organisations perceived that discrimination occurred in the workplace because of sexual orientation. The report includes analyses of social support and homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace, as well as analyses of association between discrimination, lack of social support, health and openness.

The first chapter starts with a description of the project organisation in terms of who participated in the project, who answered the questionnaire and what questions were answered. Then we will discuss norms in society and homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in workplaces in different labour market sectors. Finally, we will describe differences in trade union membership in Sweden and discuss the role of trade unions to counteract discrimination in workplaces because of sexual orientation.

In the second chapter, we will present and comment on the results of the questionnaire study. In the tables, data are presented separately for each central trade union organisation. Furthermore, we will describe some differences between trade unions belonging to the same central organisation. We will also present and comment on the results from the analyses of association between discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation, lack of social support, health and homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace.

In the third chapter, we will discuss the conclusions that can be drawn from the results presented in this report.

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter we will discuss:

- Organisation of the project
- Norms in society
- Openness about sexual orientation
- Trade union membership in Sweden
- Role of trade unions to counteract discrimination

Organisation of the project

Project group

The project group consisted of researchers from the National Institute for Working Life and the University of Gothenburg, one representative of the Ombudsman against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation (HomO), and representatives of two Equal projects that were started in Sweden to counteract discrimination because of sexual orientation. One of the projects, *Homosexuals and Bisexuals in the Care System*, is directed towards municipal services with focus on the pre-school and elderly care. More information is found on the web site www.rfsl.se/equal. The other project, *Normgiving Diversity*, is directed towards the church and the defence and police services. More information is found on the web site www.normgivande.nu.

Participants in the survey

To get a clear picture of what the situation is like in workplaces in terms of discrimination because of sexual orientation, we were anxious to include both a large number of persons of the population, as well as a large number of persons who were homo- and bisexual in the study. The result was that we combined a sample of the population with a sample of interest groups for homo- and bisexual women and men.

Through the cooperation with representatives of the two Equal projects, we could also reach a large number of persons from the occupational areas that are included in their projects. Therefore, the sample of the population came to consist of the following two parts:

- Approximately 9 000 randomly selected persons aged between 18-64 who lived in Sweden in March 2002.
- Approximately 11 000 randomly selected persons aged between 18-64 who in 2002 worked in municipal elderly care and pre-school/child care, the police service, the total defence service, and the Church of Sweden. From each sector, 2 000 persons were selected, including 1 000 conscripts.

As some persons came to be listed in both samples, and as some had moved or died, totally 20 218 persons of Sweden's population received an invitation to participate in the survey. Of those 20 218 persons, 10 458 persons responded to the questionnaire, which corresponds to approximately 52 per cent.

Women and men in the interest groups were members of the Swedish Federation for Gay and Lesbian Rights (RFSL) and other organisations for homoand bisexuals. The questionnaire also reached interest groups where homo- and bisexual women and men are strongly represented in certain occupations, for example teachers, doctors and police officers. Therefore, we wish to point out that in the presentation of the results, the share of homo- and bisexual women and men in the different central trade union organisation is very relative.

Totally 7 443 persons who were members of interest groups received an invitation to participate in the study. Of those responded 3 315 persons, or 45 per

cent. One explanation why fewer women and men who were members of interest groups compared with women and men in the population group responded to the questionnaire is that the interest organisations themselves took care of the distribution to their member because of confidentiality reasons. Therefore, it was not possible to send reminders to those who did not answer within the prescribed time.

This report comprises those women and men who stated that they were members of a trade union, which means 4 601 women and 4 670 men.

The questionnaire

The questionnaire used in the study was worked out by persons in the project group who have broad knowledge of homo- and bisexual women and men's working and living conditions in society.

In this report, we will present the results of the analyses of the following questions that were asked in the questionnaire:

- Do you belong to a trade union? If yes. What trade union?
- How well do the following statements agree with the situation in your workplace? Some of my colleagues have prejudices against homo- and bisexual women and men. Response alternatives: completely, partly, don't know, a little, not at all.
- Do discrimination/harassment because of sexual orientation occur in your workplace in the form of disparaging and ridiculing opinions about a homo- or bisexual colleague? Response alternatives: yes, no, don't know.
- Does it happen that your superior shows appreciation for something you have done? (Same question was asked about colleagues and other persons they meet at work.) Response alternatives: every day; a couple of days per week; one day per week; a couple of days per month; never or seldom the last three months; not relevant (e.g. have no superior).
- Do you regularly see you colleagues out of work? Response alternatives: yes, to a high extent; yes, to a certain extent; no, to a small extent; no, never.

- How open are you about your homo- or bisexuality in your workplace (in relation to superiors, colleagues and subordinates, if any)? Response alternatives: completely open, relatively open, not open at all.
- In general, would you say that your health is excellent, very good, good, not so good or poor?

Norms in society

Today people are being discriminated in working life because of their sexual orientation. This is most apparent in the everyday relationships between colleagues. In a more hidden way, it takes place through the structures that keep traditional norms alive that only heterosexuality is self-evident and normal. Everyone who does not live in accordance with the norm risks being questioned, made invisible or discriminated in other ways.

Discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation can for example take the form of ridiculing homo- and bisexual women and men through taunts or sarcasms. The taunts or sarcasms do not necessarily have to be directed at any particular person, but they function more as a confirmation of one's own belief that everyone is heterosexual because it is "normal". Many superiors and coworkers take for granted that all employees live, or at least would like to live, in heterosexual relationships. The coffee break is one situation where the heterosexual relationship is confirmed and presented as self-evident, for example in stories about what the family has done during the weekend or holiday. In this way, boundaries are clearly marked for what is considered to be the right way to live. Those who live with a partner of the same sex may then come to be excluded, as they do not fit into the pattern.

Notions of what "normal" sexuality is change continuously over time. The most characteristic notion today is perhaps the one that all people are heterosexual. Consequently, all people are also treated as if they were, which means that homoand bisexual women and men are being ignored in an invisible way. Discrimination is often seen as direct or open attacks on persons or groups. Therefore, it can be difficult to discover this "tacit" form of discrimination, which also explains

why the heterosexual community does not experience discrimination because of sexual orientation as a problem. Awareness of this type of discrimination is considerably lower than awareness of discrimination for example because of sex or ethnicity.

Openness about sexual orientation

Jargons in the form of ridiculing or "funny" jokes about homo- and bisexual women and men can make it difficult for the homo- or bisexual woman or man to be open about her/his sexual orientation in the workplace.

Our definition of being "open" is that the homo- or bisexual woman or man has told about her/his sexual orientation for some or all persons in the workplace. Of those openly homo- and bisexual women and men who participated in the study, slightly more than half were completely open about their sexual orientation in the workplace, and almost half were relatively open. Of those who were open about their sexual orientation in the workplace, more than half were also open towards other persons they met at work.

The degree of openness is a good measure of how safe homo- and bisexual women and men feel at work. With this in mind, we will take a closer look at the extent to which the homo- and bisexual women and men who participated in the survey were open about their sexual orientation towards persons they came in contact with through their jobs.

- ➤ Within the pre-school towards parents and children: 7 per cent of both women and men.
- ➤ Within elderly care towards clients and their relatives: 4 per cent of women and 10 per cent of men.
- ➤ Within the Church of Sweden towards parishioners: 15 per cent of women and 12 per cent of men.
- ➤ Within the police service towards persons they met on duty: one of ten women and 16 per cent of men.

➤ Within the defence service towards persons they met on duty: one of ten men.

It could be interesting to note that although the percentage rates throughout are low, individuals were most open within the Church of Sweden.

When we look at the openness towards colleagues, the share of homo- and bisexual women and men who were open about their sexual orientation was larger. Within the pre-school, approximately every third woman and man was open about her/his sexual orientation in the workplace, and within elderly care slightly more than every fourth woman and every third man. Both within the Church of Sweden and the police service, openness was somewhat greater, with almost two-fifth of women and almost half of men. Within the defence service, slightly more than every third homo- or bisexual man was open about his sexual orientation in the workplace.

In-depth analyses of the questionnaire material have shown that a majority of the homo- and bisexual women and men who were open about their sexual orientation in the workplace perceived that their openness contributed positively to their work. Typical of workplaces where these women and men worked was the absence of discrimination because of sexual orientation. On the other hand, it was also shown that 40 per cent of those who were not open refrained from participating in conversations with colleagues or other persons they met at work because they wanted to avoid that their private life became known. Still, as many as 70 per cent believed that almost all their colleagues knew about that they were homo- or bisexual. The results on openness about sexual orientation in the different trade union organisations are presented in Chapter 2.

Trade union membership in Sweden

Approximately 80 per cent of all employees in Sweden are members of a trade union. Internationally, this is an unusually high figure. In the other Nordic countries, the density of union membership is approximately the same as in Sweden, while the corresponding figure only is 25 to 35 per cent in countries such as Great Britain, the Netherlands, Italy and Germany. One explanation why the

figure is so high in Sweden is that besides many blue-collar workers, also many white-collar workers are organised in trade unions. In Germany and Japan, it is common that blue- and white-collar workers belong to the same trade union, which has led to that many white-collar workers refrain from joining a union as they find it difficult to identify themselves with the blue-collar dominated trade unions.

In Sweden, there are three central trade union organisations: the Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO), the Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees (TCO), and the Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations (SACO). Together they have about 3.8 million members. There are certain differences in union density between the organisations. For example, somewhat more blue-collar than white-collar workers belong to a trade union. In 2003, the share of blue-collar workers belonging to a union was 83 per cent and the share of white-collar workers 78.5 per cent. Both among blue- and white-collar workers, more women than men are union members. The lowest union density is found among male white-collar workers, but still the rate is as high as 74 per cent.

Sectors in the labour market that have the highest union density are the manufacturing industry and the public sector. Within the manufacturing industry, slightly more than 90 per cent of the blue-collar workers belong to a union and almost 80 per cent of the white-collar workers. In the public sector, union density among blue- and white-collar workers is about the same, i.e. about 90 per cent among both.

Also the size of the workplace plays a role for the density of union membership. In workplaces with not more than five employees, slightly more than 60 per cent belong to a union, while in workplaces with more than 500 employees the corresponding figure is 90 per cent. As to the age, more older than younger employees belong to a union. Among employees younger than 25 years of age, only 57 per cent belong to a union, while the share successively grows with age to amount to 90 per cent among 45 and 64 year-olds.

The questionnaire study also showed that the density of union membership differed between hetero-, homo- and bisexual women and men, as well as between members of interest groups and homo- and bisexual women and men in the population group (Tables 1 and 2).

Table 1. Trade union density among hetero-, homo- och bisexual women and men

Home con blockdar women and men					
		Share of	Share of		
		hetero-	homo- and bi-		
	Number	sexuals	sexuals		
Women	6 135	76%	71%		
Men	6 397	69%	74%		

Table 2. Trade union density among homo- and bisexual women and men

		Share of	Share of
		interest	population
	Number	groups	group
Women	1 308	72%	51%
Men	2 040	74%	60%

Taken together, there are no major differences in union density among the women and men who participated in the study. However, if we compare heterosexual women with homo- and bisexual women in table 1, we can see that the share of union membership is higher among women in the first group than in the second, while the situation is the opposite for men.

Furthermore, comparisons in table 2 show that the share of union membership is higher among members of interest groups than among homo- and bisexual women and men in the population group. Findings from previous analyses of the questionnaire material may offer one explanation for this difference. Then it was found that the level of education among members of interest groups was higher than among homo- and bisexuals in the population group. Moreover, awareness of discrimination because of sexual orientation was greater among members of interest organisations than among homo- and bisexual women and men in the population group.

Role of trade unions to counteract discrimination

The first Swedish law against *discrimination in working life*, the Equal Opportunities Act, entered into force in 1980. The law prohibits discrimination in the workplace because of sex. In 1999, further acts were supplemented to prohibit discrimination in the workplace because of disability and ethnicity, as well as *prohibition against discrimination because of sexual orientation*. It is the trade unions that should look after that the legislation is applied.

The oldest legislation, the prohibition against discrimination in the workplace because of sex, is the area in which the trade unions' work has come furthest. In view of the results that this report will present concerning the latest legislation, the prohibition against discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation, the trade unions' work has so far not led to any greater results.

There is an important explanation for this. Discrimination because of sexual orientation is simply not a subject that is brought up for discussion in workplaces. Some people may perhaps consider this a taboo subject, others perhaps choose not to protest because they fear being associated with homo- or bisexuality. Although internal education efforts have been started in many places, there are still significant shortcomings in the application of the law. Here the trade unions and the trade union representatives have an important function to fill. It consists of:

- through education efforts increase knowledge about homo- and bisexuality;
- ➤ through education efforts increase awareness of that discrimination because of sexual orientation often occur both in workplaces and in society as a whole; and
- through looking after that the legislation is applied.

RESULTS

In this chapter, we will present the results from the analyses of discrimination because of sexual orientation, social support, including social interaction with colleagues after work, and homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace. We will also present and comment on the results from the analyses of association between discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation, lack of social support, health and homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace. In the tables were descriptive statistics is presented; data are presented separately for each central trade union organisation. Furthermore, we will describe some differences between trade unions belonging to the same central organisation.

The central trade union organisations are:

- The Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO)
- The Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees (TCO)
- The Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations (SACO)
- Other unions, which comprise the Association of Management and Professional Staff (Ledarna) and the Central Organization of Swedish Workers, the Syndicalists (SAC syndikalisterna)

The number of respondents to each question is indicated in the tables. When more than one question is presented in the same table, the average number of respondents to these questions is indicated. As a different number of persons has responded to the various questions, the number of respondents indicated in the tables is accordingly different. The results are presented separately for women and men.

Test analyses, so-called Chi square tests, were performed to control the reliability of the results. In order not to burden the report with lots of numbers, we have chosen not to present the results from the test analyses. The differences

between groups presented in the text are all statistically significant. This means that the differences are statistically significant with 95 per cent confidence.

Central trade union organisations

To the question about whether colleagues had *prejudices* against homo- and bisexual women and men, it was shown that almost half of all homo- and bisexual women and men in all central trade union organisations experienced that their colleagues had prejudices (Table 3). Corresponding share among heterosexual women and men was about one-third. The perceptions of whether colleagues were prejudiced differed most between heterosexual and homo- and bisexual women respectively men, however among men to a lower degree, within the Trade Union Confederation and Other unions. Generally, there was greater agreement among men, regardless of sexual orientation, than among women about what the situation was like in the workplace in this respect.

To the question about whether *harassment* occurred in the workplace in the form of disparaging and ridiculing opinions about homo- and bisexual women and men, it was shown that somewhat more than one-fourth of the homo- and bisexual women and men in all central trade union organisations experienced that this was the case (Table 3). Corresponding share among heterosexual women and men was slightly more than one-tenth. Also the perceptions of whether harassment occurred differed most between heterosexual and homo- and bisexual women respectively men within the Trade Union Confederation and Other unions. It also ought to be mentioned here that men to a greater extent than women experienced that discrimination occurred in the workplace both in the form of harassment and prejudices among colleagues.

Tablel 3. Discrimination in the form of prejudices and harassment in the workplace.

			Prejudices		Hara	assment
		Number	Hetero	Homo/bi	Hetero	Homo/bi
Women	Trade Union Conf.	1 427	23%	51%	4%	27%
	Conf. of Prof. Empl.	1 810	29%	53%	11%	34%
	Conf. of Prof. Assoc.	706	29%	46%	13%	28%
	Other	47	19%	67%	0%	38%
Men	Trade Union Conf.	1 212	34%	53%	12%	30%
	Conf. of Prof. Empl.	1 482	35%	46%	13%	26%
	Conf. of Prof. Assoc.	970	36%	46%	16%	25%
	Other	92	41%	53%	14%	33%
Total		7 746	31%	49%	12%	28%

Social support in the workplace is of great importance for individuals' well-being at work and their health. Therefore, the participants were asked whether their superior, colleagues and other persons they met at work showed appreciation for something they have done. It is remarkable that around three-fourth of all women and men, regardless of sexual orientation, in all central trade union organisations reported lack of social support from their superiors (Table 4). Likewise, it is remarkable that around half of all participants reported lack of social support from colleagues and other persons they met at work. A larger share of women than men, regardless of sexual orientation, experienced lack of social support from superiors. Otherwise, women and men answered relatively similarly to this question.

Table 4. Lack of social support in the workplace.

			From superiors		From colleagues		From other	
		Number	Hetero	Homo/bi	Hetero	Homo/bi	Hetero	Homo/bi
Women	Trade Union Conf.	1 305	80%	81%	54%	52%	40%	43%
	Conf. of Prof. Empl.	1 750	78%	72%	57%	50%	48%	38%
	Conf. of Prof. Assoc.	682	77%	75%	63%	47%	53%	50%
	Other	45	68%	81%	55%	41%	54%	39%
Men	Trade Union Conf.	1 121	76%	72%	52%	48%	51%	38%
	Conf. of Prof. Empl.	1 429	75%	66%	55%	44%	52%	43%
	Conf. of Prof. Assoc.	939	70%	71%	56%	45%	52%	44%
	Other	89	74%	72%	54%	58%	62%	60%
Total		7 360	73%	70%	53%	47%	47%	42%

Social interaction with colleagues after work is another important aspect of relationship between colleagues. To this question, women and men, regardless of sexual orientation, answered relatively similarly (Table 5). The majority of trade union members in all central trade union organisations do *not* socialise with colleagues after work.

Table 5. No social interaction with colleagues after work.

		Number	Hetero	Homo/bi
Women	Trade Union Conf.	1 342	72%	65%
	Conf. of Prof. Empl.	1 790	73%	70%
	Conf. of Prof. Assoc.	687	67%	68%
	Other	37	91%	71%
Men	Trade Union Conf.	1 130	75%	71%
	Conf. of Prof. Empl.	1 456	75%	70%
	Conf. of Prof. Assoc.	951	71%	73%
	Other	89	66%	68%
Total		7 482	70%	70%

Those who in the questionnaire stated that they were homo- or bisexual also got the question whether they were *open about their sexual orientation in the workplace* (Table 6). Among members of interest groups in all central trade union organisations approximately three-fourth answered that they were open about their sexual orientation in the workplace. The situation proved to be very different for homo- and bisexual women and men in the population group. There the share of those being open in the workplace was considerably lower and it also differed a lot between the central trade union organisations.

Table 6. Homo- and bisexual women and men who are open about their sexual orientation in the workplace.

		Interest groups		Population group	
		Number	Share	Number	Share
Women	Trade Union Conf.	208	80%	23	35%
	Conf. of Prof. Empl.	284	78%	17	53%
	Conf. of Prof. Assoc.	210	78%	9	22%
	Other	25	76%	0	0%
Men	Trade Union Conf.	312	73%	25	48%
	Conf. of Prof. Empl.	458	75%	18	61%
	Conf. of Prof. Assoc.	408	73%	8	50%
	Other	17	77%	1	0%
Total		1 922	76%	101	50%

Summary: A strong impression from these results is that there were no major differences between the central trade union organisations concerning the members' perceptions of discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation, social support, including social interaction with colleagues after work, and homo- and bisexual women and men's openness. However, there were large differences in the extent to which heterosexual and homo- and bisexual women and men experienced that discrimination occurred in the workplace because of sexual orientation. Among the participants, agreement was greatest about lack of social support in the workplace.

The Swedish Trade Union Confederation

The largest share of members of the different unions belonging to the Trade Union Confederation (LO) who answered that they had colleagues who were prejudiced against homo- and bisexual women and men was found in traditionally maledominated LO unions. The largest share of members who answered that harassment occurred in the form of disparaging and ridiculing opinions about homo- and bisexual women and men was found in the same LO unions. At the same time, members of these unions reported, roughly, lack of social support from superiors, colleagues and other persons they met at work to a larger extent than members of the other LO unions.

In the different LO unions, the share of members who answered that they had colleagues who were prejudiced was generally larger than the share of members who answered that harassment occurred. Members reported lack of social support from superiors to a higher extent than lack of social support from colleagues and other persons they met at work.

The majority of members of most LO unions, e.g. about 70 per cent of the members of the Swedish Municipal Workers' Union and the Union for Service and Communications Employees, do not socialise with colleagues after work.

The share of homo- and bisexual women and men who were open about their sexual orientation in the workplace was smallest in male-dominated LO unions. For example, only 57 per cent of the homo-and bisexual members of the Swedish Metal Workers' Union were open, compared to for example 77 per cent of the members of the Swedish Municipal Workers' Union.

The Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees

The largest share of members of the different unions (with more than 10 respondents) belonging to the Confederation of Professional Employees (TCO) who answered that they had colleagues who were prejudiced against homo- and bisexual women and men was found in the Swedish Policemen's Union, the Swedish Union of Financial Sector Employees and the Swedish Union of Journalists. The largest share of members who answered that harassment occurred in the workplace in the form of disparaging and ridiculing opinions about homo- and bisexual women and men was found in the Swedish Policemen's Union, the Swedish Union of Financial Sector Employees and the Swedish Actors' Equity Association. In all TCO unions, the share of members who answered that they had colleagues who were prejudiced was generally larger than the share of members who answered that harassment occurred.

Generally, the members of the different TCO unions reported lack of social support from superiors to a larger extent than lack of social support from colleagues and other persons they met at work.

The majority of members of most of the TCO unions, e.g. about 72 per cent of the members of the Swedish Union of Teachers and about 82 per cent of the

members of the Swedish Union of Local Government Officers, do not socialise with colleagues after work. In the same unions, the share of homo- and bisexual women and men who were open about their sexual orientation in the workplace was 67 respectively 79 per cent.

The Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations

The largest share of members of the different unions belonging to the Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations (SACO) who answered that they had colleagues who were prejudiced against homo- and bisexual women and men was found in the Swedish Association of Army, Navy and Air Force Officers, the Association of Church of Sweden Employees and the Swedish Association of Scientists. The largest share of SACO members who answered that harassment occurred in the workplace in the form of disparaging and ridiculing opinions about homo- and bisexual women and men was found in the Swedish Association of Army, Navy and Air Force Officers, the Swedish Association of Scientists and the Swedish Agricultural Graduates' and Teachers' Association. In all unions, the share of members who answered that they had colleagues who were prejudiced was generally larger than the share of members who answered that harassment occurred.

Generally, members of the different SACO unions reported lack of social support from superiors to a larger extent than lack of social support from colleagues and other persons they met at work.

The majority of members of most of the SACO unions do not socialise with colleagues after work, e.g. 71 per cent of the members of Jusek, a Swedish Association of Graduates in Law, Business Administration and Economics, Computer and Systems Science, Personnel Management and Social Science, and 78 per cent of the members of the Swedish Association of Graduates in Social Science, Personnel and Public Administration, Economics and Social Work. In the same trade union organisations, the share of homo- and bisexual women and men who were open about their sexual orientation in the workplace was 76 respectively 78 per cent.

Other unions

Other unions comprise the Association of Management and Professional Staff (Ledarna) and the Central Organization of Swedish Workers, the Syndicalists (SAC syndikalisterna).

About 46 per cent of the members of the two unions answered that they had colleagues who were prejudiced against homo- and bisexual women and men. The share of members who answered that harassment occurred in the form of disparaging and ridiculing opinions about homo- and bisexual women and men was considerably lower, about 20 per cent. In both unions, a considerably larger share of homo- and bisexual than heterosexual women and men reported that they had colleagues who were prejudiced and that harassment occurred. A larger share of the members of Ledarna experienced lack of social support at work compared to the Syndicalists.

About 70 per cent of the members of both unions did not socialise with colleagues after work. The share of homo- and bisexual women and men who were open about their sexual orientation in the workplace was larger among members of the Syndicalists than among members of the Ledarna, i.e. 79 respectively 63 per cent.

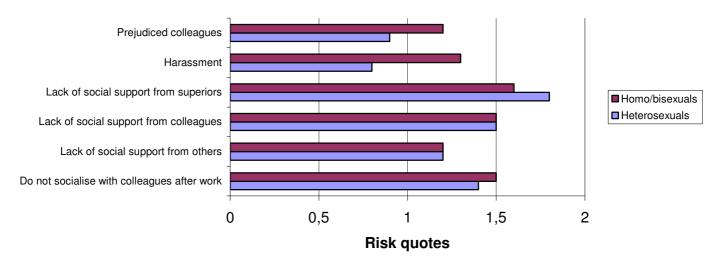
Association analyses

Based on the results presented above, we have performed analyses to examine whether associations could be found between discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation, lack of social support, health and homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace.

In the figures below, scales of risk rates from 0 to 2, respectively from 0 to 3,5 are indicated. Risk rate 1 means no increased risk, and risk rate 2 a doubled risk. In Figure 1, this means 100 per cent increased risk of developing poor health, and in Figure 2, the increased extent to which the conditions examined contribute to that homo- and bisexual women and men are not open about their sexual orientation in the workplace. The risk rates mentioned in the text are statistically significant.

In Figure 1, it can be clearly seen that there are associations between lack of social support in the workplace and increased risk of poor health for all individuals who participated in the study. Concerning lack of social support from superiors and colleagues, the increased risk of poor health is between 50 and 75 per cent. As shown in the figure, lack of social support from superiors increases the risk of poor health most among heterosexual women and men. Discrimination because of sexual orientation increases the risk of poor health only among homo- and bisexual women and men. Prejudiced colleagues and harassment increase the risk of poor health with 30 respectively 40 per cent.

Figure 1. Increased risk of poor health among heterosexual and homoand bisexual women and men

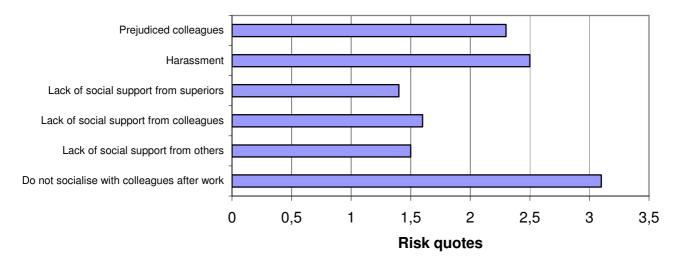


In previous analyses of the questionnaire material, it was shown that the increased risk of poor health was 30 per cent higher among homo- and bisexual women and men who were not open about their sexual orientation in the workplace compared with those who were open. This is important to keep in mind when we look at conditions that contribute to that homo- and bisexual women and men are not open with their sexual orientation in the workplace (Figure 2).

Among homo- and bisexual women and men who did not socialise with colleagues after work, it was three times more common that they were not open about their sexual orientation in the workplace. It is perhaps less surprising that

prejudiced colleagues and harassment had a large influence on the extent to which homo- and bisexual women and men were open about their sexual orientation in the workplace. Lack of social support also plays a great role, but it is interesting to note that in this respect lack of social support from superiors was comparatively less important.

Figure 2. Conditions that contribute to that homo- and bisexual women and men are not open with their sexual orientation in the workplace



Summary: Lack of social support in the workplace is a large risk factor for developing poor health. For homo- and bisexual women and men, discrimination in the form of prejudices and harassment means further increased risk of poor health. Homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace is strongly associated with discrimination and lack of social support in the workplace.

DISCUSSION

Discrimination in workplaces because of sexual orientation is socially unacceptable and forbidden in law. In this report, we have shown that almost half of the homo- and bisexual members in all central trade union organisations experienced that they had colleagues who were prejudiced against homo- and bisexual women and men. Although a large share of all members answered that they had colleagues who were prejudiced, they experienced proportionately little harassment in the workplace. One area where this difference is particularly apparent is the Association of Church of Sweden Employees. In spite of the important role that ethical issues have within the Church, as many as 73 per cent of the homo- and bisexual women and men answered that they had colleagues who were prejudiced against homo- and bisexuals, but "only" 17 per cent that discrimination because of sexual orientation *de facto* occurred in the workplace.

Basically, this is very much a matter of lack of knowledge and insight. For example, those who are not aware of the "tacit" form of discrimination, consequently do not experience this form of discrimination as a problem.

It was extremely uncommon that harassment in the form of disparaging and ridiculing opinions about homo- and bisexual women and men occurred in workplaces at the same time as there were no colleagues who were prejudiced against homo- and bisexual women and men. Only slightly more than 10 per cent of those who answered that harassment occurred in the workplace stated that they had no prejudiced colleagues.

To increase the understanding about the type of workplaces where discrimination occur because of sexual orientation, we also performed comparative analyses with workplaces where discrimination occurred because of sex, ethnic background and disability. It was apparent that in those workplaces where discrimination because of sexual orientation occurred to a large extent, also these other forms of discrimination occurred to a large extent.

It is serious that such a large share of members of all central trade union organisations experienced lack of social support, above all from their superiors.

The results from the analyses of association between lack of social support in the workplace and health emphasise how urgent it is to take measures to improve the situation.

In the questionnaire sent out, no concrete questions were asked about how union representatives acted regarding discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation. During autumn 2004, however, results will be presented from a study where homo- and bisexual women and men have answered questions about whether they have been exposed to discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation, and if they have, how they treated the situation. Hopefully, the results of that study will throw more light on how the union representatives and the trade unions ought to handle the situation in the future. What we do know today, however, is that in order to improve the working climate for homo- and bisexual women and men, the trade union organisations have an important task in counteracting discrimination in workplaces because of sexual orientation.

The question about homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace has been given a lot of attention in this report. The reason is that there is an apparent association between discrimination and homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace. By not being open, the risk increases of developing poor health, as well as it contributes to fewer social activities with colleagues after work. From in-depth analyses of the questionnaire material, we have seen that considerably fewer homo- and bisexual women and men who are not open about their sexual orientation socialise with colleagues after work than those who are open. It could be interpreted as if women and men who are not open withdraw from such social interaction that may "reveal" their sexual orientation. Still, as many as 30 per cent answered that they would like to be more open.

An important general conclusion that can be drawn from the results presented in this report is that discrimination in workplaces because of sexual orientation occurs to a large extent, above all in the form of prejudiced colleagues. Moreover, it was apparent that there is a large discrepancy between perceptions of that colleagues were prejudiced and that harassment occurred in the workplace. This could be interpreted as if there is a difference between thought and action.

Therefore, it is important to work both against prejudices and discriminating actions against homo- and bisexual women and men in the workplace.

REFERENCE LITERATURE

For further information, we refer to:

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Forsberg G, Jakobsen L, Smirthwaite G (2003). Homosexuellas villkor i arbets-livet (Working life conditions of homosexuals). The University of Karlstad.

Kjellberg A (2003). Arbetsgivarorganisationer och fackföreningar i ett föränderligt arbetsliv (Employers' organisations and trade unions in a changing working life). In von Otter C (ed.) *Ute och inne i svenskt arbetsliv*. Forskare analyserar och spekulerar om trender i framtidens arbetsliv (Out and in, in Swedish working life. Researchers analyse and speculate about trends in future work). Work life in transition, 2003:8 p. 345-376, the National Institute for Working Life, Stockholm.

Robertsson H, Bildt C (2004). Befolkningsstudier och sexuell läggning (Population studies and sexual orientation). In Anna-Clara Ohlsson and Caroline Olsson (eds.) *Den akademiska garderoben* (The academic closet).

Utmaningen – facklig organisering och opinionsbildning. Rapport från en opinionsundersökning om förtroendet för de fackliga organisationerna (2003) (The challenge – trade union membership and formation of public opinion. Report from an opinion survey on trust for the trade union organisations). Temo, Stockholm.

SUMMARY

This report is derived from the research that the National Institute for Working Life is conducting under the theme *Working Lives in Urban Areas*. The theme covers research on current issues concerning problems and development opportunities in working life in the city. In the research, great emphasis is given to aspects such as gender, class, ethnicity, "race" and sexual orientation to examine causes of social exclusion and inclusion.

For several years, interest organisations for homo- and bisexuals have requested that studies should be conducted on their members' working and living conditions. One reason is that there are indications that the health status among these groups is worse than among the heterosexual population. This led to that the government in December 2002 commissioned the National Institute for Working Life to conduct a study on homo- and bisexual women and men's working conditions. Within the framework of *Working Lives in Urban Areas*, a comprehensive questionnaire study, *Working Conditions and Vulnerability*, was carried out in 2003 and several in-depth studies were started. This report is based on the questionnaire study, which is part of the government commission.

In this report, we will present the extent to which women and men belonging to different trade union organisations perceived that discrimination occurred in the workplace because of sexual orientation. The report includes analyses of social support and homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace, as well as analyses of association between discrimination, lack of social support, health and openness.

A strong impression from these results is that there were no major differences between the central trade union organisations concerning the members' perceptions of discrimination in the workplace because of sexual orientation, social support, including social interaction with colleagues after work, and homoand bisexual women and men's openness. However, there were large differences in the extent to which heterosexual and homo- and bisexual women and men experienced that discrimination occurred in the workplace because of sexual

orientation. Among the participants, agreement was greatest about lack of social support in the workplace.

Lack of social support in the workplace is a large risk factor for developing poor health. For homo- and bisexual women and men, discrimination in the form of prejudices and harassment means further increased risk of poor health. Homo- and bisexual women and men's openness about their sexual orientation in the workplace is strongly associated with discrimination and lack of social support in the workplace.

An important general conclusion that can be drawn from the results presented in this report is that discrimination in workplaces because of sexual orientation occurs to a large extent, above all in the form of prejudiced colleagues. Moreover, it was apparent that there is a large discrepancy between perceptions of colleagues being prejudiced and that harassment occurred in the workplace. This could be interpreted as if there is a difference between thought and action. Therefore, it is important to work both against prejudices and discriminating actions against homo- and bisexual women and men in the workplace.



Working Conditions and Vulnerability

Most of us spend a large part of our lives at work and naturally it is important that the work environment is designed as good as possible for all of us. Still we know that sometimes bullying and discrimination occur and that certain groups are more exposed than others.

The National Institute for Working Life has been commissioned by the Government to perform this study. The study is part of the efforts to counteract discrimination or offensive behaviour because of sexual orientation. In its turn, the National Institute for Working Life has instructed Statistics Sweden to conduct this questionnaire survey. Those behind the questionnaire are the National Institute for Working Life and the development projects Normgiving Diversity and Homo- and Bisexuals in the Care System, which constitute parts of the EU Equal programme. Among others, the Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees, the Swedish Trade Union Confederation, the Swedish Federation for Gay and Lesbian Rights and the Swedish Armed Forces are taking part in the projects. We are interested in all people's experiences, both those of heterosexuals as well as those of homo- and bisexuals.

You are one of approximately 20 000 persons who have received the questionnaire. In the selection to the survey, the register of the total population was used and a partial selection was carried out using the register of the National Service Administration.

The survey is addressed to everybody, also to you who at present are doing your military or civil service (in case you demobilised not more than 3 months ago, consider the company or similar where you did your service as your present workplace).

Of course, participation is voluntary, but still we ask you to take your time to answer the questions. Your answers are important and cannot be replaced by somebody else's. By answering the questions, you contribute to valuable new knowledge.

All answers are treated so that the personal integrity is protected and so that it is not possible to see what individual persons have answered. Information given is protected by the Act on Personal Data (1998:4) and the Official Secrets Act (Chap. 19 § 4 the Official Secrets Act [1980:100]).

Please return the filled in questionnaire form as soon as possible, preferably within a week, in the prepaid reply envelope. If you wish, you can choose to answer the questionnaire via the Internet. The same integrity protection is valid regardless if you choose to fill in the hard copy of the questionnaire or answer via the web. If you choose to answer via the web, you will find your personal user name and password at the top of the page. The name of the link is https://www.h.scb.se/aliarbetsvillkor.

Best regards,

Carina Bildt Project leader/The National Institute for Working Life



If you have any questions about the survey you are welcome to call:

Carina Bildt 08-619 68 11, (070-658 60 70) National Institute for Working Life (ALI)
Gunilla Ljunggren 08-5069 4584 Statistics Sweden (SCB)

The Equal Project Normgiving Diversity

Krister Fahlstedt 08-788 77 49 Swedish Armed Forces

Elisabet Qvarford 070-333 02 08 Swedish Confederation of Professional

Employees (TCO)

The Equal project Homo- and Bisexuals in the Care System

Vincent Andersson 08-797 26 58 Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO) Anette Sjödin 070-776 45 28 Swedish Federation for Gay and Lesbian

Rights



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You are one of approximately 8 000 persons who have received the questionnaire through an association. Statistics Sweden has no access to any of the associations' registers. Therefore, some of you will receive the questionnaire enclosed with the member magazine through RFSL and some through HBT organisations' membership registers, distributed by the project leaders at the Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees. The questionnaire is also sent to a random selection of the Swedish population. This means that some of you may receive more than one questionnaire. In that case, we ask you to answer only one of them.

The survey is addressed to everybody, also to you who at present are doing your military or civil service (in case you demobilised not more than 3 months ago, consider the company or similar where you did your service as your present workplace).

Of course, participation is voluntary, but still we ask you to take your time to answer the questions. Your answers are important and cannot be replaced by somebody else's. By answering the questions, you contribute to valuable new knowledge.

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Swedish Federation for Gay and Lesbian

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Please mark with a cross only one answering alternative to the questions unless otherwise is stated.

QUESTIONS ABOUT OCCUPATION, FORM OF EMPLOYMENT AND SECTOR

1	What is your present occupation? Several answers can b	e give	1.
1	Gainfully employed % of full time	6	Studying % of full time
2	Unemployed % of full time	7	Work through labour market measures
3	Sick leave for more than 3 months	8	Temporary disability pension/early retirement pension
4	Old-age pension	9	Pension agreement or similar
5	Parental leave % of full time	10	Liable for total defence service Other
2	You who are not gainfully employed at present, when did	you le	ave your last job?
1	Year		
2	I have never had a job		
last j	ce. It also concerns you who can answer the questions be ob (if you left your job less than two years ago or if you fothers can go directly to question 38.		•
3	What form of employment do you have at present?		
1	Permanent employment (permanent tenure)	5	Self-employed, not hired
2	Hourly-paid employment	6	Liable for total defence service
3	Vacancy		Work through labour market measures
4	Other time-limited employment (project, etc.)	8	Other
4	Who is your present employer?		
1	Government authority/office	6	Other public services
2	Company or foundation wholly owned by the State	7	Swedish Church
3	Municipality	8	Private company
4	Company or foundation wholly owned by the		
	municipality	9	Interest organisation/ association
5	County council	10	Other employer

5	In what sector do you work	κ?			
1	Childcare	6 IT	11 Restaurant/hotel		
2	Construction	7 Agriculture/			
		animal farming	12 Sick care		
3	Defence service	8 Church/religious			
		society	13 Manufacturing		
4	Graphic arts	9 Media	14 Transport		
5	Trade	10 Police service	15 Education		
			16 Elderly care		
17 Oth	ner, what?				
6	What is your profession? (engineer, military man/woma		gineer, fireman, nurse, priest, police, IT		
7	What are your main work to	asks? (State at the most 5 work	tasks)		
	-	•			
4	•••••				
5					
J	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
J					
J		STIONS ABOUT THE WO			
8	QUE	STIONS ABOUT THE WO			
	QUE	STIONS ABOUT THE WO	RKPLACE		
	QUE Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly	STIONS ABOUT THE WO	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean		
8	QUE Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly	STIONS ABOUT THE WO in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholn	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean		
8 1 2 3 3	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the	STIONS ABOUT THE WO in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholn same place	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean 1)		
8 1 2 2	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the How many years have you	STIONS ABOUT THE WO in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholn	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean 1)		
8 1	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the How many years have you 1 year or less	STIONS ABOUT THE WO in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholn same place	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean 1)		
8 1 2 3 3	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the How many years have you 1 year or less 2-4 years	STIONS ABOUT THE WO in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholn same place	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean 1)		
8 1	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the How many years have you 1 year or less 2-4 years 5-9 years	STIONS ABOUT THE WO in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholn same place	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean		
8 1	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the How many years have you 1 year or less 2-4 years	STIONS ABOUT THE WO in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholn same place	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean		
8 1	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the How many years have you 1 year or less 2-4 years 5-9 years	in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholm same place worked at your present works	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean 1)		
8 1	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the How many years have you 1 year or less 2-4 years 5-9 years 10 years or more	in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholm same place worked at your present works	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean		
8 1	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the How many years have you 1 year or less 2-4 years 5-9 years 10 years or more How many persons work a	in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholn same place worked at your present works	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean 1)		
8 1	Is your workplace situated department, unit or similar Yes, I commute weekly Yes, I commute daily (e.g. No, I live and work in the How many years have you 1 year or less 2-4 years 5-9 years 10 years or more How many persons work a 1 (I myself) 4	in another place than where y from Enköping to Stockholm same place worked at your present workp	PRKPLACE You live? With workplace we mean 1)		

11	How is the distribution of gender at your workplace?						
1	Almost all are women (81-100 %)						
2	A large part are women (61-80 %)						
3	Approximately as many women as men (between 40 and 60 %)						
4	A large part are men (61-80 %)						
5	Almost all are men (81-100 %)						
12	How is the distribution of hetero-, homo- and bisexuals at your workplace? (as far as you know)						
	Almost all are heterosexuals (81-100 %)						
¹ 🗀	A large part are heterosexuals (61-80 %)						
²	Approximately as many heterosexuals as homo- and bisexuals (between 40 and 60 %)						
3 🗀							
⁴ ∐ - □	A large part are homo- or bisexuals (61-80 %) Almost all are homo- or bisexuals (81-100 %)						
5 L	Don't know						
6	Doll t Kilow						
13	Is your closest superior a woman or a man?						
1	Woman						
2	Man						
3	I have no superior						
14	Do you have a managerial position?						
1 4							
1 📙	Yes						
2	No ── GO TO QUESTION 16						
	15 If yes, how many persons are placed directly under you?						
	₁ 1-5 persons						
	$_{2}$ 6-20 persons						
	₃ 21 persons or more						
16	Do you have any contacts in your work with persons not employed at your workplace (e.g. customers, clients, passengers, pupils)? With workplace we mean department, unit, etc.						
1	Almost all the time 4 Approximately 1/4 of the time						
2	Approximately ³ / ₄ of the time ₅ A little, approximately 1/10 of the time						
3	Half the time 6 No, not at all						
17	How physically straining do you normally perceive your work is?						
	Mark with a cross the appropriate number on the scale. Number 6 means no strain at all – e.g. lie on						
	the bed. Number 20 means maximal strain – e.g. run as fast as you can a longer distance.						
6	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20						
6 	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20						
Very	, Very Fairly Some Straining Very Very,						
very	light light straining straining very						
light	straining						

18	18 Demands and control at work							
					No	No		es
					never	seldom	sometimes of	ften
a	Does your work demand that you work ve		1	2	3 4			
b	Does your work demand that you work ve	-	.?		1 📙	2	3 4	Ш
c	Does your work demand a too large work				1	2	3 4	
d	Do you have enough time to get your wor				1	2	3 4	
e	Do conflicting demands often occur at you	ur work	?		1	2	3 4	
f	Can you learn new things in your work?				1	2	3 4	
g	Does your work demand skill?				1	2	3 4	
h	Does your work demand ingenuity?				1	2	3 4	
i	Does your work demand that you do the s	ame thi	ng over	•				
	and over again?				1	2	3 4	
j	Do you have freedom to decide <i>how</i> to pe	•	our wo	rk?	1	2	3 4	
k	Do you have freedom to decide <i>what</i> to pe	erform						
	in your work?				1	2	3 4	Ш
-		Every	A couple	e One day	A couple	e Never or	Not relevant	
		day	of days per	per week	of days per	seldom the last three		
			week		month	months		
19	Does it happen that your superior							
	shows appreciation for something						П.,	
	you have done?	1	2	3	4	5	6 Have no superior	
20	Does it happen that your colleagues							
	show appreciation for something							
	you have done?	1	2	3	4	5	6 Have no colleagues	
21	Does it happen that your subordinates						concagues	•
	show appreciation for something						□	
	you have done?	1	2	3	4	5	6 Have no subordinat	es
22	Does it happen that other persons show appreciation for something							
	you have done (e.g. patients,							
	customers, clients, collaborators,							
	passengers, pupils?	1	2	3	4	5	6 Have no contacts w	ith
							others	

Below follows some statements on how you experience that you and others behave towards each other at your workplace.

		Comple	- Partly	Don't	A little	Not
23	To what extent do you agree with the following statements?	tely		know		at all
23	To what extent do you agree with the following statements?					
a	I like my workplace.	1	2	3	4	5
b	My work is my life.	1	2	3	4	5
c	I think my work has a central place in my life.	1	2	3	4	5
d	I think I could get another job if I became unemployed.	1	2	3	4	5
e	On the whole I like my job.	1	2	3	4	5
f	I worry about becoming unemployed in the future.	1	2	3	4	5
g	Most of the personal goals I set up have to do with my job.	1	2	3	4	5
h	I have strong bonds to my present job that would be					
	hard to cut.	1	2	3	4	5
i	I worry about having to leave my job earlier					
	than I want to.	1	2	3	4	5
j	Most of my interests in life have to do with my job.	1	2	3	4	5
k	I'm satisfied with my overall work situation.	1	2	3	4	5
1	Several of the most important events in my life					
	have to do with my present job.	1	2	3	4	5
m	I worry about losing my job within the next year.	1	2	3	4	5
n	I like my present work tasks.	1 🔲	2	3	4	5
o	I wish I could have a higher degree of employment					
	security.	1	2	3	4	5

24	24 How well do the following statements agree with the situation at your workplace?					
		Comple tely	e- Partly	Don't know	A little	Not at all
a	Women's and men's contributions are equally valued.	1	2	3	4	5
b	My colleagues would prefer to avoid cooperating with homo- or bisexual women.	1	2	3	4	5
c	Homo- and bisexual colleagues can be open about their sexual orientation.	1	2	3	4	5
d	Disabled persons get the support they need.	1	2	3	4	5
	I have colleagues who believe that homo- and bisexual men not really are suitable for working in my profession.	1	2	3	4	5
f	My colleagues would prefer to avoid cooperating with persons with immigrant background.	1	2	3	4	5
g h	At my workplace open homo- and bisexual persons have advanced to executive positions. Colleagues with immigrant background are fully	1	2	3	4	5
i	accepted. Some of my colleagues have prejudices against homo-	1	2	3	4	5
1	and bisexual women and men.	1	2	3	4	5
j	What women and men say is equally valued.	1	2	3	4	5
k 1	I have colleagues who believe that homo- and bisexual women not really are suitable for working in my profession. Colleagues with immigrant background often get the	1	2	3	4	5
	most boring work tasks. Disabled persons get the least qualified work tasks.	1	2 2	3 3	4 4	5 5
	Female and male superiors have equal authority.	1	2	3	4	5
o	It is only on the surface that disabled persons are accepted.	1	2	3	4	5
p	My colleagues would prefer to avoid cooperating with homo- or bisexual men.	1	2	3	4	5
25	Do you regularly see your colleagues out of work?					
1 2 2 3 4 4 C	Yes, to a high extent Yes, to a certain extent No, to a small extent No, never					

How do you experience that the attitudes towards homo- and bisexuals generally are						
	go, u. o	Very positive	Fairly positive	Fairly negative	Very negative	Don't know
26	at your workplace?					
a T	owards women	1 🔲	2	3	4	5
b T	owards men	1	2	3	4	5
27	within your profession?					
a T	owards women	1	2	3	4	5
b T	owards men	1	2	3	4	5
28	in society as a whole?					
a T	owards women	1	2	3	4	5
b T	'owards men	1	2	3	4	5
30	Does it happen that people talk a breaks? With workplace we mea				orkplace,	e.g. during coffe
₁	Yes, mostly in a positive sense	ın departinent, ül	UI SIIIII	ıaı.		
' □ □ 2 □	Yes, both in a positive and nega	ative sense				
,	Yes, mostly in a negative sense					
4□	No, never					
5	Don't know					

31	Does it happen that people talk about couple relationships and family life at your workplace, e.g. during coffee breaks?					
1	Yes, but mostly about heterosexual couples					
2	Yes, both abo	out hetero- and homosexual couples				
з 🗌	Yes, but mostly about homosexual couples					
4	No, never					
5	Don't know					
32		en that parties etc. are arranged at your wo the possibility to – or are expected to – in			nployees living in	
1	Yes					
2 3	No Don't know	GO TO QUESTION 35				
	1	If yes to question 32. Who are welcome? Mainly heterosexual partners Both heterosexual and homosexual partner Mainly homosexual partners Don't know		. sometime	as 2 (Savaral	
	If yes to question 32. Does your partner go with you sometimes? (Several alternatives can be given) Yes No, I don't want to					
	3 🔲	No, usually partners do not go				
	4	No, we would not feel comfortable				
	5	No, she/he doesn't want to				
	6	I have no partner				
35		ation/harassment because of sexual ccur at your workplace in the form of	Yes	No	Don't know	
		d ridiculing opinions about exuals in general?	1	2	з	
ä	a homo- or bise	d ridiculing opinions about exual colleague?	1	2	3	
ŀ	not paying any notice to the presence of a homo- or bisexual colleague? 1 2 3					
7	when it would	a homo- or bisexual college have been natural to do that?	1	2	3	
	_	ork-related information from exual colleague?	1	2	3	
-						

36 Does any other form of discrimination/harassment occur at your workplace?					
¹ Yes					
2 No					
₃ Don't know					
37 Are you yourself exposed to any other form of discrimination/harassment? Yes No					
a From managers/superiors 1 2					
b From colleagues 1 2					
c From subordinates 1 2					
d From other persons you meet in your job 1 2					
QUESTIONS ABOUT HEALTH					
38 In general, would you say that your health is					
Excellent					
2 Very good					
3 Good					
4 ☐ Not so good					
5 Poor					
39 How long have you in total been on sick leave during the last three months?					
₁ 1-7 days 4 29-90 days					
2 8-14 days 5					
□ 15-28 days					
40					
40 If you have been on sick leave the last three months. How many times? Once					
2 ☐ Twice or more					
2 Twice of more					
41 If you have been on sick leave the last three months, was it because	of				
a work-related illness/disorder of physical or mental nature? Yes					
1 Yes 2 No					
2 ☐ NO 3 ☐ Don't know					
Have you stayed at home because of illness during the last three months without having reported yourself sick (e.g. instead taking compensatory leave or holiday)?					
Never → GO TO QUESTION 44					
2 Once					
$3 \square$ 2-3 times					
4 times or more					
43 If you have stayed at home because of illness without having reported yourself	÷				
sick during the last three months, was it on any occasion because of a work-					
related illness or disorder of physical or mental nature?					
1 Yes					
2 No					
₃ Don't know					

SOME BACKGROUND QUESTIONS

44	Are you a
1	Woman
2	Man
45	How old are you?
1	20 years or younger 5 51-60 years
2	21-30 years 6 61-64 years
3	31-40 years 7 65 years or older
4	41-50 years
46	What is your highest completed education?
1	Nine-year compulsory school or similar
2	Upper secondary school/vocational school
3	Post-upper secondary school/vocational school
4	University/college 20-119 points
5	University/college 120 points or more
47	Do you have children under 18 years of age (own, partner's or in common) who all the time or partly live with you?
1	Yes, 1 child
2	Yes, 2 children
3	Yes, 3 children or more
4	No, no children
48	What was the size of your annual income in 2002?
1	At the most SEK 100 000 4 SEK 300 001 – 400 000
2	SEK 100 001 – 200 000 5 SEK 400 001 – 500 000
3	SEK 200 001 – 300 000
49	Do you belong to a trade union?
1	Yes
2	No
	47 If yes. What trade union?
	1

50	Are you religiously active? (Several alternatives can be given)				
1	Yes, I take part in service, prayer, etc.				
2	Yes, I have a commission of trust in a religious society/church or similar				
3	No				
51	What is your ethnic background?				
1	Born in Sweden, both parents born in Sweden				
2	Born in Sweden, one or both parents born in another country				
3	Born in another country than Sweden				
52	In what part of Sweden do you live?				
1	Norrland				
2	Svealand				
3	Götaland				
53	In what kind of city or community do you live?				
1	Stockholm (with neighbouring suburbs) 5 Medium-sized city (approx. 20 000-50 000 residents)				
2	Gothenburg (with neighbouring suburbs) 6 Small town/densely populated area (approx. 5 000-20 000 residents)				
3	Malmö (with neighbouring suburbs) 7 Village, sparsely populated area (less than 5 000 residents)				
4	Another big city (more than approx. 50 000 residents)				
54	Do you live in a couple relationship?				
	Yes → GO TO QUESTION 55				
2	No, but I have done that before GO TO QUESTON 56				
3	No, I have never done that				
	55 If yes to question 54. What kind of couple relationship do you live in? Yes No				
	a) Married to a person of the opposite sex.				
	b) Cohabit with a person of the opposite sex. 1 2				
	c) Permanent partner of the opposite sex,				
	but we do not live together.				
	d) Registered partnership with a person of the own sex.				
	e) Cohabit with a person of the own sex.				
	f) Permanent partner of the own sex, but we do not live together.				
	56 If no to question 54. Would you like to live in a couple relationship?				
	¹ Yes				
	₃ Don't know				
57	Are your sexual feelings, thoughts and fantasies directed				
ال ا	solely towards men 4solely towards womenmostly towards men 5mostly towards women				
2 <u> </u>	mostly towards men 5mostly towards womenboth towards men and women 6 The sex does not matter				
ٽ <u>ا</u>	I have no sexual feelings, thoughts or fantasies				

58	Are your sexual activities directed		
1	solely towards men	4	solely towards women
2	mostly towards men	5	mostly towards women
3	both towards men and women	6	The sex does not matter
		7	I'm not sexually active together with anybody
59	How do you define your sexual or	entatio	on?
1	Heterosexual	4	Other
2	Homosexual	5	I don't define my sexual orientation
3	Bisexual		
		sexual	will now get some more questions. To the rest of you,
we s	ay:		
	Thank you for your	r par	rticipation!
	QUESTIONS TO YOU WHO D	EFINE	E YOURSELF AS HOMO- OR BISEXUAL
60			E YOURSELF AS HOMO- OR BISEXUAL Disexuality with the family you grew up with?
60			
60 1	How open are you about your hom		
60 1 2 3	How open are you about your hom Very open		
1 2	How open are you about your hom Very open Fairly open		
1 2	How open are you about your hom Very open Fairly open	no- or b	pisexuality with the family you grew up with?
1	How open are you about your hom Very open Fairly open Not open at all	no- or b	pisexuality with the family you grew up with?
1	How open are you about your hom Very open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your hom	no- or b	pisexuality with the family you grew up with?
1	How open are you about your hom Very open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your hom Very open	no- or b	pisexuality with the family you grew up with?
1	How open are you about your home. Very open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your home. Very open Fairly open Not open at all	no- or k	Disexuality with the family you grew up with? Disexuality among friends?
1	How open are you about your hom Very open Fairly open Not open are you about your hom Very open Fairly open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your hom	no- or h	pisexuality with the family you grew up with?
1	How open are you about your hom Very open Fairly open Not open are you about your hom Very open Fairly open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your hom	no- or h	Disexuality with the family you grew up with? Disexuality among friends? Disexuality at your workplace (in relation to managers,
61 1 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	How open are you about your home. Very open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your home. Very open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your home. colleagues and possible subording	no- or h	bisexuality with the family you grew up with? bisexuality among friends? bisexuality at your workplace (in relation to managers,
1	How open are you about your home. Very open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your home. Very open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your home. Completely open Completely open	no- or h	bisexuality with the family you grew up with? bisexuality among friends? bisexuality at your workplace (in relation to managers,
61 1 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	How open are you about your home. Very open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your home. Very open Fairly open Not open at all How open are you about your home. Completely open Relatively open	no- or h	Disexuality with the family you grew up with? Disexuality among friends? Disexuality at your workplace (in relation to managers, With workplace we mean department, unit or similar.

	63 If you are open at your work	place, do you experience it as
	₁positive?	
	2negative?	
	₃both positive and negative	2?
	₄□neutral?	
64	How open are you about your homo- or bisexuality (customers, pupils, collaborators, patients, etc.)?	r in relation to persons you meet in your work
1	Completely open	
2	Relatively open	
3	Not open at all	→ GO TO QUESTION 66
4	I don't meet customers, clients or similar	
		mo- or bisexuality towards customers, s or similar whom you meet in your work, do
	₁positive?	
	2negative?	
	₃ both positive and negative	e?
	4neutral?	
66	When did you tell that you are homo- or bisexual a	t your workplace?
1 🔲	During the employment interview 4	Other
2	☐ When I started at my workplace 5☐	Have not told
3	When I had worked for a while	

	If you have chosen not to be open about your hom has your decision been influenced by the following					what	extent
		No extent	Almost no extent	Certain extent	Large extent	Very large extent	Not appli- cable
a I w	ant to separate between my work and						
my	private life.	1	2	3	4	5	6
b Th	en I would hear a lot of silly jokes.	1	2	3	4	5	6
c In	that case I would no longer be allowed to do						
cei	tain tasks.	1	2	3	4	5	6
d In	that case some of my colleagues would freeze		_				
	e out.	1 🔲	2	3	4	5	6
	lleagues have nothing to do with it.	1	2	3	4	5	6
	en I would risk to be exposed to threats and/or	_			_		_
	blence.	1 📙	2	3	4	5	6
-	would negatively affect my professional career.	1 📙	2	3	4	5	6
	that case people would gossip about me.	1	2	3	4	5	6
	would negatively affect my relations to customers,				. —	_ [. 🗆
	pils, collaborators, patients and other persons. that case my colleagues would treat me worse.	1	²	3 🔲	⁴	5 <u> </u>	6
•	on't want to be known as the homosexual at	1	2	3	4	٥	6
	e job.	.□	2	3	√ □	5	6
	en I could not stay on working at this workplace.	1□	2	3	\equiv	5	6
m Then it would spread outside the job and I don't		'Ш	- ا	ى	Т	~ Ш	° Ш
	int that.	1	2	3	4	5	6
	How many of those working at your workplace do bisexual?	you thin	k know	about tl	hat you	are ho	omo- or
1	All ₅ No	ne					
2	Almost all 6 Do	n't kno	W				
3	About half 7 I h	ave no c	colleagu	es			
4	Some						
	Does it happen that you refrain from participating i persons at your workplace) because you want to a bisexual is being known or questioned?						
1	Yes, with colleagues						
2	Yes, with other persons (e.g. customers, pupils, co	llaborat	ors, pat	ients or	simila	r)	
3	No, never		•				
_							

70	How many of the customers, pupils, collaborators, patients or similar whom you meet through your work do you think know about that you are homo- or bisexual?
1	All 5 None
2	Almost all 6 Don't know
3	About half 7 I meet no other people than my colleagues
4	Some
71	Does your closest superior know about that you are homo- or bisexual?
1	Yes
2	No
3	Don't know
4	I have no superior
72	Does your subordinates know about that you are homo- or bisexual?
1	Yes
2	No
3	I don't know
4	I have no subordinates
73	Would you like to be more open about your homo- or bisexuality?
1	Yes, with the family I grew up with
2	Yes, among friends
3	Yes, at work
4	No, I don't want to be more open
5	I'm already completely open
_	
74	Have the surrounding attitudes towards homo- and bisexuals influenced your choice of profession?
1	Yes, to a large extent
2	Yes, to a small extent
3	No, not at all
75	Have the surrounding attitudes towards homo- and bisexuals influenced your choice of workplace?
1	Yes, to a large extent
2	Yes, to a small extent
3	No, not at all
76	Have you at any time during the last four years been discriminated/harassed at a workplace because of your sexual orientation?
1	Yes
2	No 7
3	Don't know GO TO QUESTION 78

	77 If yes: Have you been discriminated by
	Yes No
	colleagues?
	managers?
	subordinates?
	others you meet in your job? 1 2
78	Has it ever happened to you that you have been forced to leave a workplace because you are homo- or bisexual?
1	Yes
2	No
3	Don't know
79	Has it ever happened to you that you have been moved from one work task to another because you are homo- or bisexual?
1	Yes
2	No
3	Don't know
80	The fact that you are homo- or bisexual, has that been the reason for, or contributed to, that you have not been promoted at a workplace?
1	Yes
2	No
3	Don't know
81	The fact that you are homo- or bisexual, has that been the reason for, or contributed to, that you have been pay discriminated at a workplace?
1	Yes
2	No
3	Don't know
82	Do you suspect that you on any occasion not got the job you had applied for because the employer knew that you were homo- or bisexual?
1	Yes
2	No
3	Don't know
83	Do you think that your homo- or bisexuality is perceived as an asset at work?
1	Yes
2	No
3	Don't know

84	If you have got into difficulties in working life because you are homo- or bisexual, how did you handle them?
I han	dle difficulties by:
•••••	
•••••	

Thank you for your participation!