

Private Lives 4

The research is being carried out by the following researchers:

Role	Name	Organisation
Chief Investigator	Prof Adam Bourne	Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society School of Psychology & Public Health La Trobe University
Co-investigator	Dr Ruby Grant	
Co-investigator	Dr Natalie Amos	
Co-investigator	Dr Jordan Hinton	
Co-investigator	A/Prof Joel Anderson	
Co-investigator	Dr Gene Lim	
Co-investigator	Jami Jones	
Co-investigator	Dan Powell	
Co-investigator	Dr Adam Hill	
Co-investigator	Prof Ashleigh Lin	
Co-investigator	Shakara Liddelow-Hunt	
Co-investigator	A/Prof Ruth McNair	Department of General Practice and Primary Care The University of Melbourne
Co-investigator	A/Prof Julie Mooney-Somers	School of Public Health Faculty of Medicine University of Sydney
Research funder	This research has received funding from the Department of Health, Disability and Aged Care	

1. What is the study about?

Private Lives 4 is a national study exploring the health and well-being of LGBTIQ+ adults in Australia aged 18 and over, and is funded by the Australian Government of Health, Disability and Aged Care. The survey will ask you a broad range of questions about your health and well-being as well as who you go to for help and support if you need it. This is the 4th time the survey has been conducted in Australia and aims to deliver a better understanding of LGBTIQ+ communities in Australia today. **The findings of this research will inform policy, health, support, and other services to help protect and promote the health and well-being of LGBTIQ+ people.**

Do you have an intellectual disability? Would an Easy Read version of the survey help you? Visit:

https://latrobearcshs.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5w1QRIxPpsGR4W?source=PL4

2. Do I have to participate?

Being part of this study is voluntary. If you want to be part of the study we ask that you read the information below carefully and ask us any questions.

You can read the information below and decide at the end if you do not want to participate. If you decide not to participate this won't affect your relationship with La Trobe University, the University of Melbourne, the University of Western Australia, University of Sydney, the Department, or any other organisation or group promoting the study.

If you choose to participate in the study, you will be asked to indicate your consent at the beginning of the survey. Please feel free to discuss this study and your participation with others before consenting, if you wish to do so.

3. Who is being asked to participate?

You can complete the survey if you are:

- Aged 18 or older
- Identify as LGBTIQ+
- Live in Australia

4. What will I be asked to do?

If you want to take part in this study, we will ask you to answer a series of questions related to health and well-being. Questions will specifically cover your background (e.g. education, ethnicity etc.), as well as a variety of experiences such as experiences of family, intimate partner, and sexual violence, harassment and discrimination, drug and alcohol use, access to support services, engagement in LGBTIQ+ communities, thoughts about suicide, and 'coming out'. The survey also contains sections specifically for trans and gender diverse people, people with disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. You will only be served these questions if they are relevant for you.

The survey will take approximately 30 minutes of your time to complete, and you are encouraged to complete the survey in a space that is private and comfortable for you. You can take breaks if you need to and come back to the survey where you left off.

This survey is anonymous meaning that we won't ask for any information that could be used to identify you. You can choose not to answer any question if you do not feel comfortable.

5. What are the benefits?

The responses you give will help to inform the work of policy makers, LGBTIQ+ service providers, health professionals and many others who seek to protect and improve the health and well-being of LGBTIQ+ people in Australia.

6. What are the risks?

With any study there are (1) risks we know about, (2) risks we don't know about and (3) risks we don't expect. If you experience something that you aren't sure about, please contact us immediately so we can discuss the best way to manage your concerns.

Name/Organisation	Position	Telephone	Email
Dr Ruby Grant	Private Lives 4 Research Team	-	private.lives@latrobe.edu.au
Professor Adam Bourne	ARCSHS director	03 9479 8732	a.bourne@latrobe.edu.au

We have listed the risks we know about below. This will help you decide if you want to be part of the study.

- There is a potential risk of emotional distress in discussing your experiences of mental health and/or experiences of harassment and discrimination.
- The surveys may elicit culturally-restricted information from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The surveys will not be asking for this information, but this information could be shared through open-text responses. Responses to open-text questions from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants will be analysed by Indigenous researcher/s on the project team and overseen by an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Governance group.

7. What will happen to information about me?

We will **collect** information about you in ways that will not reveal who you are.

We will **store** information about you in ways that will not reveal who you are.

We will **publish** information about you in ways that will not be identified in any type of publication from this study.

We will **keep** your information for at least 16 years after the project is completed. After this time we will destroy all of your data.

The storage, transfer and destruction of your data will be undertaken in accordance with the [Research Data Management Policy](https://policies.latrobe.edu.au/document/view.php?id=106/) <https://policies.latrobe.edu.au/document/view.php?id=106/>.

The personal information you provide will be handled in accordance with applicable privacy laws, any health information collected will be handled in accordance with the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic). Subject to any exceptions in relevant laws, you have the right to access and correct your personal information by contacting the research team.

8. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander data sovereignty

Consistent with principles of Indigenous Data Sovereignty, the project has engaged an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander governance structure, by which a Governance group of LGBTIQ+ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people oversee plans for data access and storage what as well as happens with that data at the conclusion of the project. Additionally, the project has received ethics approval from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) (REC-0603) and the Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee (WAAHEC) (HREC 1476)

9. Will I hear about the results of the study?

The results will be written up in a report that will be freely available by December 2026, and can be downloaded from the website of the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society at La Trobe University (<https://www.latrobe.edu.au/arcshs>). It will also be promoted via our social media channels on Facebook and LinkedIn. Sign up for our newsletter via our website so that you don't miss it.

10. What if I change my mind?

You don't have to answer all the survey questions if you don't want to. There are a few things, like your age and your gender/sexuality that we need to know to make sure we're reaching the right people. Otherwise, everything else is optional.

If you start the survey then decide it's not for you, that's totally fine. You can just quit out of the browser. But because the survey is anonymous, we will not be able to tell which answers were yours, so once you've started, we can't remove your answers.

11. Who can I contact for questions or want more information?

If you would like to speak to us, please use the contact details below:

Name/Organisation	Position	Telephone	Email
Dr Ruby Grant	Private Lives 4 Research Team	-	private.lives@latrobe.edu.au
Professor Adam Bourne	ARCShS director	03 9479 8732	a.bourne@latrobe.edu.au

12. What if I have a complaint?

If you have a complaint about any part of this study, please contact:

Ethics Reference Number	Position	Telephone	Email
HEC25389	Senior Research Ethics Officer	+61 3 9479 1443	humanethics@latrobe.edu.au

REC0603	Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) Human Research Ethics Committee	+61 2 6246 1111	ethics@aiatsis.gov.au
HREC1476	Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee (WAAHEC)	+61 8 9227 1631	ethics@ahcwa.org

13. Support Services

If this research has brought up upsetting memories or emotions, please contact the following organisations for support:

- **QLife:** LGBTIQ mental health support, information and referrals through phone counselling or webchat (qlife.org.au) – Ph: 1800 184 527
- **Lifeline:** Crisis Support (www.lifeline.org.au) – Ph: 13 11 14
- **Headspace:** Online and phone support. Information and resources on mental health and LGBTIQ+SB people (headspace.org.au)
- **BeyondBlue:** Mental Wellbeing (www.beyondblue.org.au) – Ph: 1300 224 636
- **Kids Helpline:** Online and phone support and information for young people, 5-25 years (kidshelpline.com.au) – Ph: 1800 55 1800
- **13YARN:** Information and support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in all states and territories (www.13yarn.org.au) – Ph: 13 92 76
- **Brother to Brother:** Phone support line for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men (<https://dardimunwurro.com.au/brother-to-brother-crisis-line/>) – PH: 1800 435 799
- **Yarning Safe'n'Strong:** Counselling services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (<https://www.vahs.org.au/yarning-safenstrong/>) – Ph: 1800 959 563