



Burning Issues 2: Listening to the Voices of the LGBT Community in Ireland

SURVEY INTRODUCTION

Burning Issues 1

In 2009, the National LGBT Federation (NXF) conducted a survey to find out what was really important to LGBT people in Ireland. This was the first time a survey had ever been conducted of LGBT people to identify the key priorities of the community. The research report, *Burning Issues: Listening to the Voices of the LGBT Community in Ireland*, provided an in-depth overview of the attitudes and opinions of LGBT Ireland that informed our work and the policy priorities of our community.

Burning Issues 2

In 2015, after years of activism, marriage equality, gender recognition and changes to Section 37 of the Employment Equality Act to protect LGBT staff in religious run institutions were realised. Following these momentous gains, in the election year 2016, the NXF is asking "what is next for LGBT Ireland and what is important to YOU"?

Survey Instructions

This survey will take about 10–20 minutes of your time to complete. At the beginning of the survey, please answer some questions concerning age, sexuality and community, to enable us to check if the survey is relevant to you. The survey audience is members of the LGBT community who are 14 years of age or older and resident in Ireland.

If it is relevant, you can skip any question you would prefer not to answer, by choosing the option 'skip question' or by leaving the comment box blank.

Most of the questions ask you to choose one answer from the options provided. Some questions ask that you type in your answer in your own words in the comment box provided.

Unless the question advises otherwise, please choose only one response category.

If you do not see a response category that is right for you, we would be grateful if you could type in your comments in the box provided.

We wish to reassure you that all your responses are treated in the strictest of confidence. Your answers will be grouped with others for statistical purposes, no individual answers will be recognised or associated with you. Thank you sincerely for your time, interest and participation.

Burning Issues 2 is supported by a grant from the Community Foundation for Ireland



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INFORMED CONSENT

* 1. Do you agree to participate in this survey by providing your informed consent?

Yes

No



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RESIDENCE

* 2. Do you currently reside, or have you resided within the past 2 years in?

- Republic of Ireland
- Northern Ireland
- Other country



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AGE

* 3. What is your age?

- 13 or younger
- 14–17
- 18–25
- 26–35
- 36–45
- 46–55
- 56–65
- 66 or older



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LGBT COMMUNITY

In this section we are asking you some initial questions to check that the survey is relevant to you

* 4. Are you lesbian or gay, or bisexual, or transgender, or non-binary, or inter-sex, or queer, or pan-sexual, or asexual?

Yes

No

Other (please type in)



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GENDER

* 5. How do you identify your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Transgender
- Intersex
- Non-Binary
- Other (please type in)



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TRANSGENDER

* 6. How do you identify your gender?

- Male
- Male with a trans history
- Female
- Female with a trans history
- Other (please type in)



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SEXUALITY

* 7. How do you identify your sexuality?

- Lesbian
- Gay
- Bisexual
- Queer
- Straight
- Asexual
- Other (please type in)



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QUEER

* 8. Would you like to tell us a little about what queer means to you?

- No
- Yes (please type in)



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DESCRIBING OUR COMMUNITY

* 9. How do you think our rainbow community should be described in the 21st century?

The identity term that is used to describe our community has been evolving since the advent of gay liberation and lesbian feminism in the early 1970s. The National LGBT Federation has been part of this evolutionary process. The original name of the organisation was the National Gay Federation. This was changed in 1991 to the National Lesbian and Gay Federation. In 2014, we changed our name to the National LGBT Federation, or NXF for short.

Throughout this survey we use the term LGBT, which stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, as it is currently the term that is most generally understood and used within the community and wider Irish society. However, we understand that there are a wide variety of terms that people use to describe our rainbow community and we would like you to tell us what YOU think is the most appropriate one to use.

- LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender)
- LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer)
- LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex)
- LGBTQI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex)
- Queer
- Other (please type in)



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TOP THREE BURNING ISSUES FOR YOU

10. What do you think is the most important issue for the LGBT community in Ireland? (Please tell us in your own words)

11. What do you think is the second most important issue for the LGBT community in Ireland? (Please tell us in your own words)

12. What do you think is third most important issue for the LGBT community in Ireland? (Please tell us in your own words)



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TOP TEN BURNING ISSUES

* 13. Ten of the issues which have already been identified as relevant to the LGBT community in Ireland are listed below. For each of these issues, please tell us how important the issue is to you on a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 is least important and 7 is most important.

	1: Least Important	2	3	4	5	6	7: Most important	Don't know/skip question
Equality for LGBT people in health; including mental health, sexual health and repealing the blood donation ban for gay/bisexual men	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equality for LGBT parents and families	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equality for LGBT people at work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participation of LGBT people in politics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Prevention of bullying and violence against LGBT people, for example, hate crime legislation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support for LGBT community services outside urban areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support for older LGBT people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support for people coming out	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support for younger LGBT people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support for oppressed LGBT people outside Ireland	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please type in)



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WORK, STUDY AND COMING OUT

* 14. What is your employment status? (Please choose one option)

- Work full time
- Work part time
- Self employed
- Earn all income from investments and dividends and not employment
- Farmer
- Full time student
- Work full time in the home
- Unemployed
- Labour market training scheme or internship
- Retired
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)



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'OUT AT WORK'

* 15. Are you 'out' at work? (Please choose one option)

- Yes, to all of my colleagues, including my manager
- Yes, to all of my colleagues, but not my manager
- Yes, to some of my colleagues
- No, I do not feel comfortable about coming out at work
- No, I do not see any need to come out at work
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)



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'OUT' AT SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

* 16. Are you 'out' at school, college or university? (Please choose one option)

- Yes, to all of my classmates and my teacher or lecturers
- Yes, to all of my classmates but not my teacher or lecturers
- Yes, to some of my classmates
- No, I do not feel comfortable coming out at school, college or university
- No, I do not see any need to come out at school, college or university
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)



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COMING OUT

* 17. At what age did you first come out?

- 13 or younger
- 14-17
- 18-25
- 26-35
- 36-45
- 46-55
- 56-65
- 66 or older
- I am not 'out'
- Skip question

* 18. "It is easy for me to be 'out' in my daily life." What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 19. "I am more comfortable and feel safer on the street as an LGBT person following the success of the marriage equality referendum." What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)



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CHILDREN, PARENTS AND FAMILIES

* 20. Do you have children?

- Yes, from a previous opposite-sex relationship
- Yes, from a same-sex relationship as the biological parent
- Yes, from a same-sex relationship as the non-biological parent
- Yes, as an adoptive or foster parent
- No
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)



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* 21. If you don't have children, do you intend to have children in the future?

- Yes, definitely
- Yes, probably
- Undecided
- Probably not
- Definitely not
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 22. "Fertility, assisted reproduction and maternity services in Ireland are fully inclusive of LGBT people who wish to have children." What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 23. Currently there is no legislation in Ireland to regulate surrogacy, which is defined as the practice by which a surrogate mother gives birth to a baby to be raised by a couple or an individual who cannot have children.

What do you think of the following statement on surrogacy? "I believe surrogacy services in Ireland should be..."

- Prohibited in all circumstances
- Permissible only for altruistic surrogacy where the surrogate is a family member, friend or acquaintance and there is no commercial transaction or payment for the service
- Permissible for both altruistic and commercial surrogacy, with strong legal safeguards to prevent the exploitation of the surrogate mother in Ireland or abroad
- Permissible as a commercial transaction that is not regulated by the State
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

24. What central change is necessary – if any – for LGBT parents and prospective parents to be treated equally in Irish society? (Please tell us in your own words)



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SUPPORTING LGBT YOUNGER PEOPLE

* 25. "Schools in Ireland should teach a curriculum that is fully inclusive of LGBT students." What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 26. "Schools in Ireland today are safe places and are fully inclusive of LGBT students." What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 27. "The Irish education system should be reformed so that no child is excluded because of their religion or non-religion." What do you think of this statement, do you?

Question courtesy of the Equate, B&A national survey of the Irish population, December 2015. More information available at: www.equateireland.ie

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)



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SUPPORTING LGBT OLDER PEOPLE

* 28. "Health, social and care services for older people in Ireland are fully inclusive of LGBT people and respectful of their relationships." What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

29. What central change is necessary – if any – to ensure that LGBT older people are treated equally in Irish society. (Please tell us in your own words)



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LGBT MIGRANTS

* 30. "Ireland is a welcoming country for LGBT migrants." What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 31. "The LGBT community in Ireland is welcoming of LGBT migrants." What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)



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LGBT COMMUNITY, HISTORY AND THE SCENE

* 32. Are you active in an LGBT community group?

- I was active before the marriage equality referendum
- I have been active since the marriage equality referendum campaign
- I am not active, but I would like to get involved in the future
- I am not active as there is no LGBT group in my area
- I have no interest in becoming involved in an LGBT group
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 33. Are there enough LGBT support and community services in your local area?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)



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LGBT COMMUNITY SUPPORTS, HISTORY AND PRIDE

* 34. What type of LGBT community supports and services are needed in your local area? (Please choose any that are required)

- Counselling Service
- Disability group
- Community centre
- Mental health service
- Migrants group
- Parenting group
- Peer support group
- Older LGBT support group
- Sexual health service
- Social outings or activities
- Sports group
- Trans support group
- Youth group
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 35. 'It is important to me that LGBT history in Ireland is documented and preserved for future generations.'

What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 36. What is the purpose of LGBT Pride?

- Pride is important as LGBT people are not yet fully equal in society
- Pride is important as a celebration of our community history and to mark how far LGBT people have travelled on the road to equality
- Pride is an important community celebration to celebrate sexual diversity along with our straight friends and family
- Pride is no longer necessary
- Don't know/skip question
- Other, please type in

* 37. Are there enough opportunities for you to socialise in entertainment settings with other LGBT people in your local area?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)



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SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SETTINGS

38. What type of social opportunities or settings do you think are missing? (Please tell us in your own words)

* 39. "There is still a need for a separate LGBT scene and venues where LGBT people can socialise together." What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)



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SUPPORT FOR OTHER GROUPS EXPERIENCING DISCRIMINATION

In addition to the LGBT community, a range of groups in Irish society have historically experienced discrimination and marginalisation, e.g. women, disabled people, travellers, and people living in poverty. In this section we are asking you about support for other groups experiencing discrimination.

* 40. "It is important to me that the LGBT community supports equality for other groups in Irish society who experience discrimination". What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)



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41. Are there any particular groups that experience discrimination in Irish society, which should be supported by the LGBT community? Please tell us about the top three groups that are important to you.

Group 1

Group 2

Group 3



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POLITICS AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

* 42. What political party or candidate do you intend to give your first preference vote to in the next general election?

- Anti-Austerity Alliance/People Before Profit
- Fianna Fáil
- Fine Gael
- Green Party
- Labour
- Renua Ireland
- Sinn Féin
- Social Democrats
- Independent candidate
- I can't or won't vote
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 43. What political party has done the most to advance LGBT equality in Ireland?

- Anti-Austerity Alliance/People Before Profit
- Fianna Fáil
- Fine Gael
- Green Party
- Labour
- Renua Ireland
- Sinn Féin
- Social Democrats
- Don't know

* 44. "I am more likely to vote for a political party with a strong record of support for LGBT equality". What do you think of this statement, do you?

- Agree strongly
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Disagree strongly
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 45. Are you a member of a political party?

- Yes
- No
- Skip question

* 46. Has the success of the marriage equality referendum encouraged you to become actively involved in campaigning on other political issues?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know/skip question



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GCN

In this section we are asking you about your use of media. The National LGBT Federation is the publisher of GCN, the Irish LGBT publication of record, which has been published as a free, monthly magazine for our community since 1988.

* 47. Do you read GCN magazine?

- Every issue
- Regularly
- Occasionally
- I am not aware of GCN
- I choose not to read GCN
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)



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* 48. How do you usually read GCN?

- Hardcopy print
- Online on a PC, laptop or mobile device
- Through the GCN app
- Skip question

* 49. Would you be prepared to fund GCN to ensure its financial survival as the oldest, non-profit, LGBT community magazine in the world?

- Yes, by paying a cover price for the magazine or app
- Yes, by making a donation to GCN
- No, GCN should remain free to the reader
- Don't know/skip question
- Other (please type in)

50. What do you like about GCN? (Please tell us in your own words)

51. What central change is necessary – if any – to improve GCN? (Please tell us in your own words)

* 52. Are you aware of the following LGBT magazines or websites? (Please choose each one of which you are aware)

- Advocate magazine
- Autostraddle
- Attitude magazine
- Eile Magazine
- Gaire
- Gaelick
- Gay Times (GT) magazine
- Gay Northern Ireland (GNI) magazine
- Out Magazine
- Pinknews
- Queerid
- Running Amach
- The Outmost
- Skip question

* 53. Where do you access your LGBT information? (Please choose any of the following which you access regularly)

- Advocate magazine
- Autostraddle
- Attitude magazine
- BuzzFeed
- Broadsheet.ie
- Eile Magazine
- Facebook
- Gaire
- Gay Times (GT) magazine
- Gaelick
- GCN
- Guardian
- Huffington Post
- Journal.ie
- Pinknews
- Out magazine
- Queer ID
- Running Amach
- The Irish Examiner
- The Irish Independent
- The Irish Times
- The Outmost
- Twitter
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)



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ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

54. Do you have any additional comments that you would like to make as part of this survey? (Please tell us in your own words)



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DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

Finally, it would be very helpful if you could tell us a bit about yourself.

We wish to confirm that the survey is completely anonymous, no personal details or individual answers will be shared with any third party. The results will be presented in an aggregated form and no individual will be identified or associated with their individual responses. At the end of the survey you have the option to provide your email, if you would like to receive a copy of the final report. Furthermore, you can provide your contact details, if you would be interested in participating in an upcoming Burning Issues 2 workshop across Ireland. If you provide your contact details, they will not be associated with your answers and they will only be used for contacting you in the manner that you have requested.

* 55. What is your relationship status?

- I am married
- I am in a civil partnership
- I am in a relationship of longer than one year
- I am in a relationship of less than one year
- I am single
- I am divorced
- I am widowed
- I am a surviving civil partner
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 56. What is your nationality?

- Irish
- British
- National of other EU Member State
- National of Non-EU State
- Skip question



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EU NATIONALITY

* 57. What is your nationality (EU Member State)?



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NON-EU NATIONALITY

* 58. What is your nationality (non-EU State)?

* 59. How many years have you lived in Ireland?

- Less than 1 year
- 1 to 5 years
- 6 to 10 years
- More than 10 years
- All my life

* 60. In which county do you live in Ireland?

* 61. What is your ethnic or cultural background?

- White (Irish)
- White (Irish Traveller)
- White (Non-Irish; any other White background)
- Black or Black Irish (African; any other Black background)
- Asian or Asian Irish (Chinese; any other Asian background)
- Other, including mixed background (please type in)

* 62. What is your religion?

- Atheist/no religion
- Agnostic
- Buddhist
- Catholic
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Protestant
- Taoist
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 63. What is the highest level of education that you have completed to date?

- Some primary education or less
- Completed primary education
- Completed lower secondary level (Intermediate/Group/Junior Certificate, GCSEs)
- Completed upper secondary level (Leaving Certificate, A Levels)
- Completed undergraduate third level education (Diploma, Degree)
- Completed postgraduate third level education (Diploma, Masters)
- Completed postgraduate third level education (Doctorate)
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 64. Do you own or rent your accommodation?

- Own with mortgage or loan
- Own outright
- Rent, private landlord
- Rent, public housing
- Rent, voluntary co-op housing body
- Live with family rent free
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 65. Do you have a substantial disability that is a lasting condition?

- Yes
- No
- Skip question
- Other (please type in)

* 66. Would like to participate in one of the follow up, Community Focus Groups that will be held in April in Cork, Dundalk, Galway, Kilkenny, Limerick, Mullingar or Sligo (the Dublin Focus Group is full).

- Yes
- No



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BURNING ISSUES 2 COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS ACROSS IRELAND

67. Please type in your contact details. Your information will not be used for any other purpose. Please note that if you are between the ages of 14-17, parental/guardian permission will be required to attend a workshop.

Name

Address

Email

Phone number

* 68. You have now reached the end of the survey. Thank you for time and patience. Please let us know if you would like to receive by email the Burning Issues 2 research report, once it has been published?

No

Yes (Please type in your email)