

Socio-Economically Convenient 'Coming-Out' Decision of India's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Community

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Abstract: *The present study examined the self-disclosure of sexual orientation or 'coming out' process of 48 lesbians, 56 gays and 44 bisexual participants from Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai of India. The participants are those individuals who are searching romantic same sex relationships through various online dating sites. This study was conducted over a period of five years (2012-2017) and structured face-to-face or telephonic interview methods were used. The basic objectives of the study were coming-out of lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals of Indian metro cities and the crucial factors which catalyzed the acceptance process for their families. According to study it is clearly visible that gay participants are most likely to come out and bisexual participants are least likely to come out, however even in metro cities the high qualification cannot influence the acceptance decision of the family members. As per study often financial stability of participants plays the intriguing part in the acceptance decision of the family members. As a result among lesbians stress is a rampant issue. Meanwhile present study does not reveal the post coming-out period's acceptance scenario of sexual minorities who lives in small towns or rural areas where participants are not self-independent.*

Key Words: *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Homosexual, LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) Community, Sexual Minorities, Coming Out, Marriage of Convenience (MoC), Sexual Orientation.*

1. INTRODUCTION:

'Coming Out' is a term or more precisely a phrasal verb that is most popularly used by LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) people as a metaphor to describe their self-disclosure process to the society and as well as to themselves. For LGBT community coming out can be a great decision and one of the most crucial decisions of their life. In *'Imitation and Gender Insubordination (1991)'* American gender theorist Judith Butler argues that coming out is just a process which let LGBT people to live their lives as themselves and it does not ensure their social security and it also does not stop social oppression (Coming Out, 2017).

In India homosexuality still a matter of taboo because of legal system which has labeled it as 'unnatural'. So far various studies have argues that legal system should evolve according to the need of the society and any law which is discriminatory is against our constitutional right of equality and therefore the Article 377 is anti-thesis of Indian Constitution, because it criminalizes man-to-man physical relationship by labeling it as 'unnatural' and a punishable offence (On Section 377: Question of Equality). That particular study shows the draconian Article 377 which criminalize man-to-man sexual act as 'un-natural' and punishable offence `is extremely inhuman and at the same time that law violates the basic human rights of all these people; therefore immediate change in law as well as in the society is extremely important to ensure a decent and peaceful life for LGBT community (Parasar).

In spite of all these adverse social circumstances how Indian LGBT community deal with their sexuality? In India where homosexuality still illegal and matter of permanent stigmatization in the society there a psychiatrist can play a huge role in the coming out process of a homosexual person in front of themselves and as well as in front of their families (Karla, 2012). Despite the truth that American Psychiatrist Association (APA) has unlisted homosexuality as a mental illness on 1973, still Indian mental health fraternities has not taken any suggestive stance on that issue and as a consequences they are unable to help their LGBT clients; therefore the need of the hours is clear and that is an updated perspective on homosexuality issue needs to be taken by Indian psychiatrists and mental health professionals as well (Rao and Jacob, 2012).

The adverse situation of homosexual people is more prevalent on that particular set of studies where researcher conducts two set of studies to prove the mental and physical state of Indian homosexual community. According to that conducted on 24 heterosexuals it was first proven by the researcher that in India homosexuality is a matter of social stigmatization and later under second study on 34 gay and lesbians the researcher analyze the particular impact of that stigmatization on the lives and wellbeing of the sexual minorities and proves that Indian society is extremely homophobic and it has a tremendous adverse effect on the health of sexual minorities (Srivastava and Singh, 2015). But is 'homophobia' an Indian phenomenon? Basically homophobia is a British import to India and not the homosexuality by drawing examples from ancient Indian scriptures such as *Kamasutra* and *Padma-Puranas* we can establish that fact very easily and thus we can prove the argument of opponent group of the Indian pro-LGBT

movement utterly wrong and baseless. A very preliminary study showed in India homophobia draining a staggering \$31 Billion every year due to suicide, depression, STDs treatment cost etc (Feder, 2014).

For a homosexual person a discrimination free working environment is so important that's why, when a LGBT person seeks for job then most often they try to search a LGBT friendly working environment and for the same reason workplace should have regular programs to sensitize their employees addressing LGBT inclusions as a major workplace policy; at the same time workplace should not encourage any kind of discrimination of its LGBT employees (Grifith and Hebl, 2002).

Coming out is so much crucial for a LGBT person that most often they search various mediums to come-out and that particular study shows as a 'coming out' tool internet does more harm than good specially in those cases where internet were used by gay adults as a medium of coming out in front of their religious families and most of them have experienced negative impact on their social life (Etengoff and Daiute, 2014).

In absence of social support probably many homosexual try to blend among heterosexual as a heterosexual and according to popular believe lesbians are more fluid then gay and that's why they change their sexual orientation most often. That study is particularly worth mentioning since it proves the traditional believes of 'female's sexual fluidity is more than male' is absolutely wrong and in reality male are more tends to be sexually fluid and it also proves that identity integration among gay/lesbian is a continues process (Rosario and Others, 2011).

2. RESEARCH OBJECTIVE:

In social work sector there is a dearth of appropriate literature on LGBTQ issue and as a consequences many social work students even don't understand the intricacy of that particular subject and they don't find it useful as an issue which needs to be addressed immediately. For a homosexual person coming out is most crucial decision because of the risk involved in it and that particular risk is much higher in those countries which are highly homophobic. Despite the brutal consequences many homosexual persons come out of closet to face it and on the other hand many never come out (Patel, 2016). Now question is, in extremely homophobic Indian society which particular reason motivates a person to come out or is there any particular decision making pattern that they follow; on the contrary another question is, what is the pattern of social criteria which plays a decisive role in accepting or rejecting the sexual identity of homosexual individual? Therefore the objectives of the present study are as follows:

- Reason behind 'coming out'
- Demographic profile analysis
- Basic mental health condition pre/post 'coming out' period
- Acceptance percentage of surroundings
- Domestic situation : Post 'coming out' period
- Socio-economic influences of families' acceptance on 'coming out' issue

3. MATERIALS AND METHOD:

The present study was conducted on 148 lesbians, gays and bisexuals participants and out of them 32% participants were lesbians (n=48), 38% participants were gays (n=56) and 30% participants were bisexuals (n=44). The geographical location of study was four metro cities of India and these are Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai. The sources of these participants are different online dating sites and the study was conducted over almost a period of five years (June, 2012 – March, 2017).

Since data were collected from a vast location and from varieties of online dating sites that's why face-to-face interview method and telephonic interview method were used to get more authentic information's from the sources. The data collection tool was interview schedule and the structured type questions were asked.

4. RESULT:

In Indian conservative society homosexuality still considered as taboo and various theoretical and empirical studies often have showed community of sexual minority prefer not to disclose their identity in public in fear of getting socially ostracize. Purpose of present study is identification of the relation between acceptance statuses of the individual with their socio-economical status.

1. Reason behind 'coming out': -

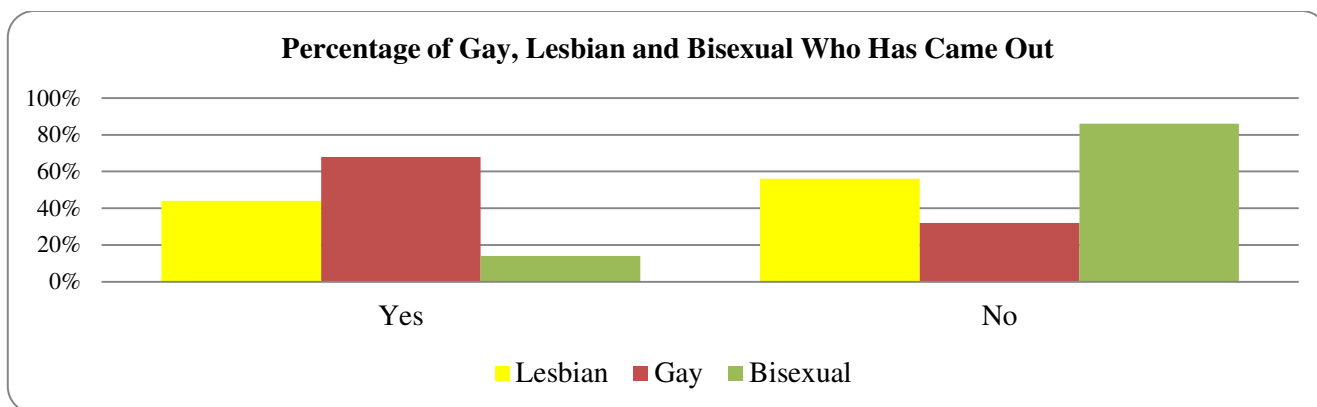


Figure - 1: Percentage of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Who Has Come Out

From Figure – 1 it’s clearly visible that around 44% lesbian, 68% gay and 14% bisexual respondents has come out of closet and have embraced their sexual orientation.

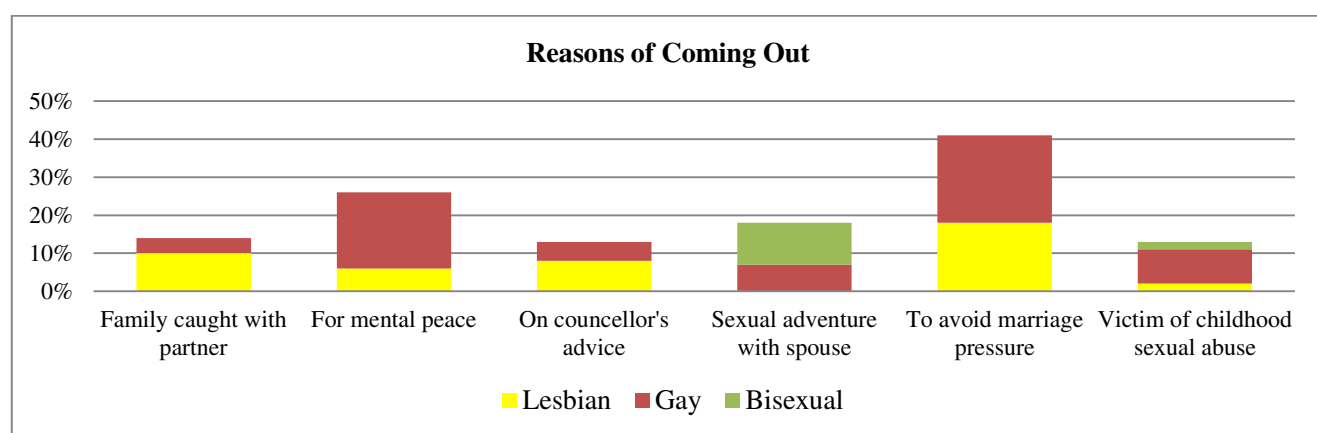


Figure – 2: Most Common Reasons of Coming Out

According to Figure – 2 most common reason of coming out is avoiding marriage pressure from family and around 18% lesbian respondents and 23% gay respondents came out because of that and apart from that 6% lesbian respondents and 20% gay respondents came out only to gain mental peace. Among bisexual respondents most popular reason of coming out is sexual adventure with another partner of same sex and around 11% bisexual respondents cited that reason.

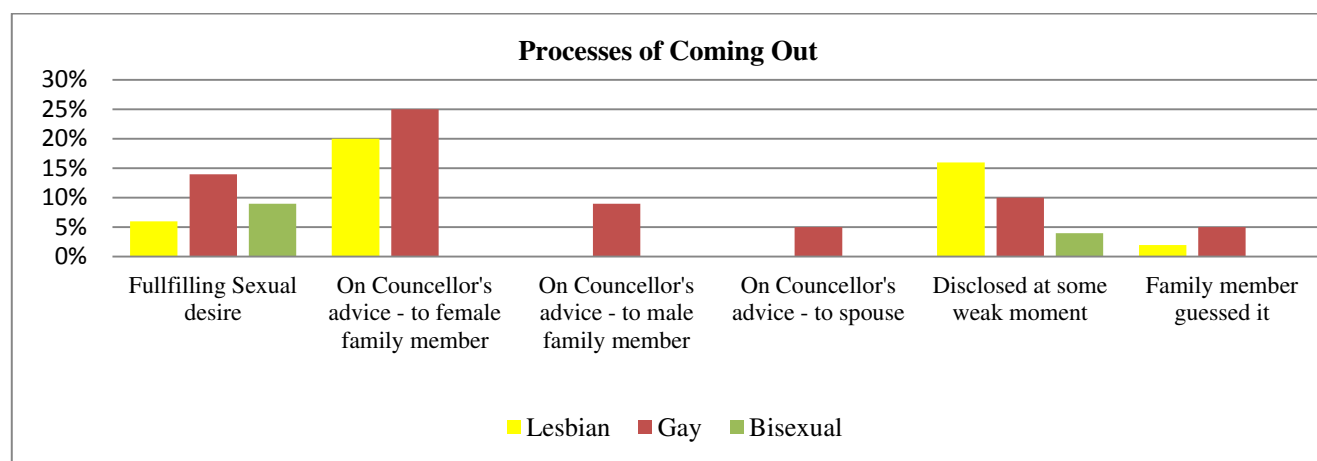


Figure – 3: Most Common Processes of Coming Out

Whenever it comes to coming out procedures (Figure - 3) then most common practices are disclosing to some female family members such as mother or sister and around 20% lesbian respondents and 25% gay respondents opted for that and next most common procedure is accidentally disclosing it at some weak moment in front of some family members and as per the present study around 16% lesbian respondents and 10% gay respondents’ coming out was mere accident. However, among bisexual respondents most popular coming out procedure is mere process of fulfilling sexual desire and 9% bisexual respondents opted for that.



Figure - 4: Most Common Reasons of Not Coming Out

Most popular and common reason of not coming out (Figure – 4) is maintaining mental peace and social security and around 62% bisexual respondents, 18% gay respondents and 17% lesbian respondents cited that reason. Around 33% lesbian respondents did not disclose to anybody because family members would not understand and 14% bisexual respondents did not prefer to come out because according to them they are just casually exploring the other side of sexuality.

2. Demographic profile analysis of lesbian, gay and bisexual community: -

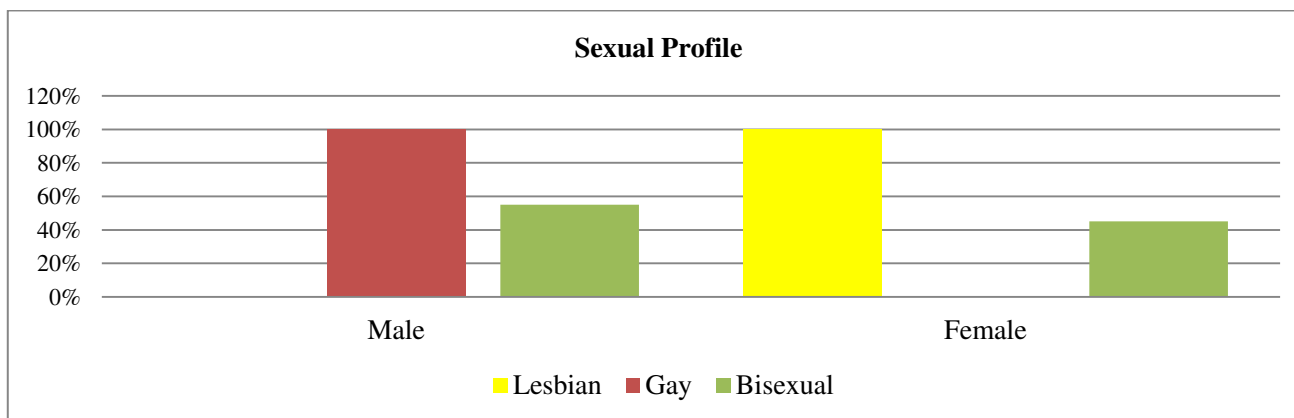


Figure – 5: Sexual Profile

As per following figure (Figure – 5) sexual profile 45% bisexual respondents are women and 55% bisexual respondents are men. Meanwhile 100% gay respondents are men and 100% lesbian respondents are women.

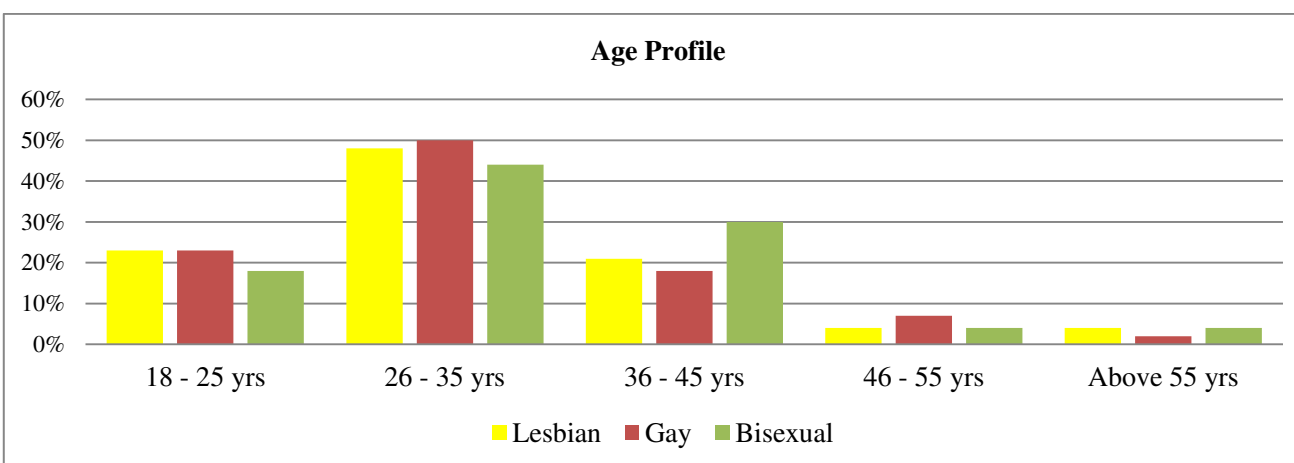


Figure – 6: Age Profile

According to data of the Figure – 6 most number of participants belong to 26 years to 35 years age group and we can see around 50% lesbian respondents, 50% gay respondents and 45% bisexual respondents belong to that age group. On the other hand the participants who belong to 46 years to 55 years age group and above 55 years age group are very few and almost negligible.

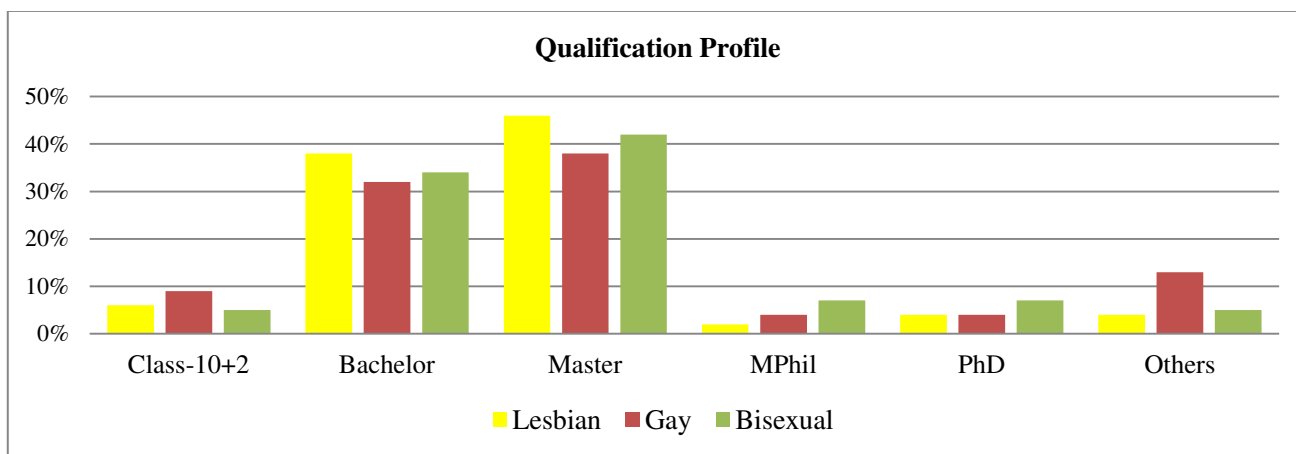


Figure – 7: Educational Qualification Profile

From qualification’s perspective (Figure – 7) most of the participants are decently qualified. Around 46% lesbian respondents, 38% gay respondents and 42% bisexual respondents have completed Masters Degree and around 38% lesbian respondents, 32% gay respondents and 34% bisexual respondents have completed their Bachelor Degree.

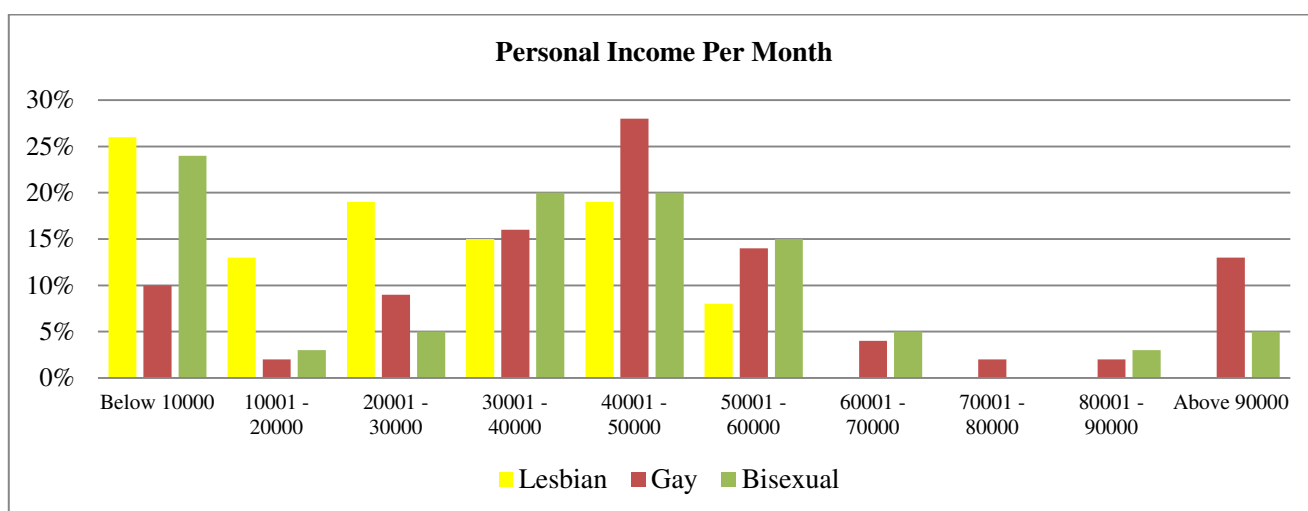


Figure – 8: Financial Profile– Personal Monthly Income

According to Figure – 8 it’s clearly visible that around 25% lesbian respondents earn below 10000 INR per month and around 50% lesbian respondents earns anywhere between 20001 – 50000 INR per month. Around 28% gay respondents earn between 40001 INR to 50000 INR and around one third gay respondents say they earn above 50001 INR. Almost 25% bisexual respondents mentioned they earn below 10000 INR and around 65% bisexual respondents mentioned they earn between 30001 INR to 70000 INR per month.

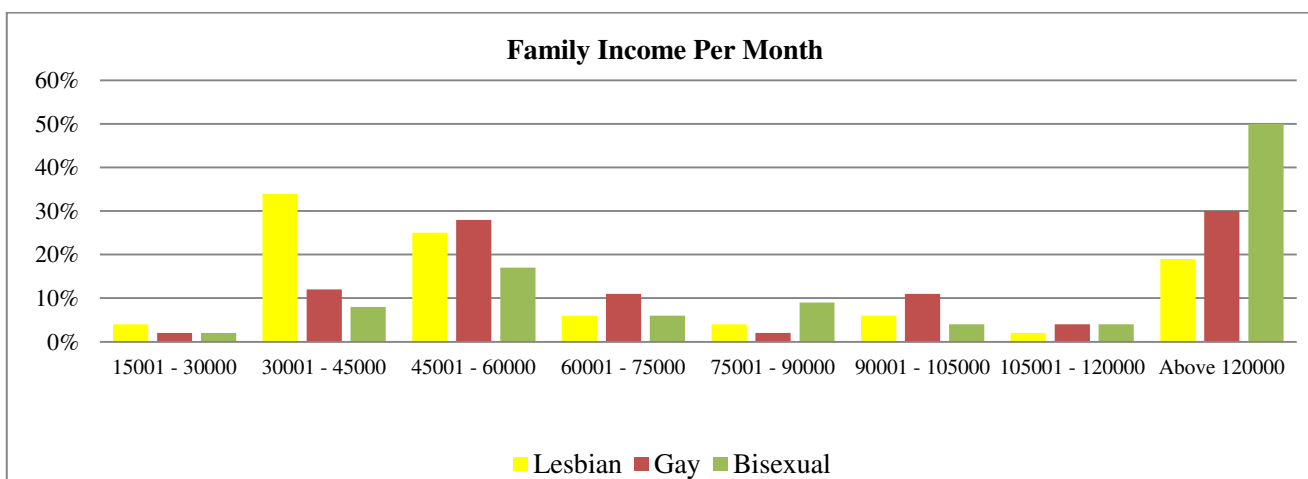


Figure – 9: Financial Profile – Families Monthly Income

According to Figure – 9 it’s clearly visible that almost 60% lesbian respondents’ monthly family income is anywhere between 30001 INR to 45000 INR per month. Meanwhile around 30% gay respondents’ and 50% bisexual respondent’s monthly family income is above 120000 INR.

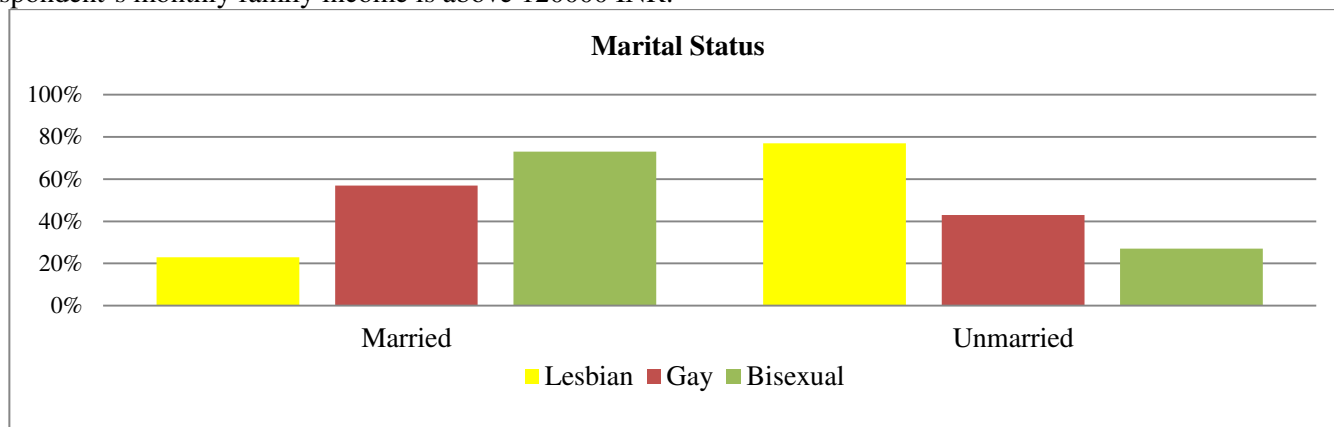


Figure – 10: Marital Status

As per Figure – 10 it’s clearly visible that around 80% lesbian respondents remained unmarried, around 60% gay respondents are married and more than 70% bisexual respondents are married.

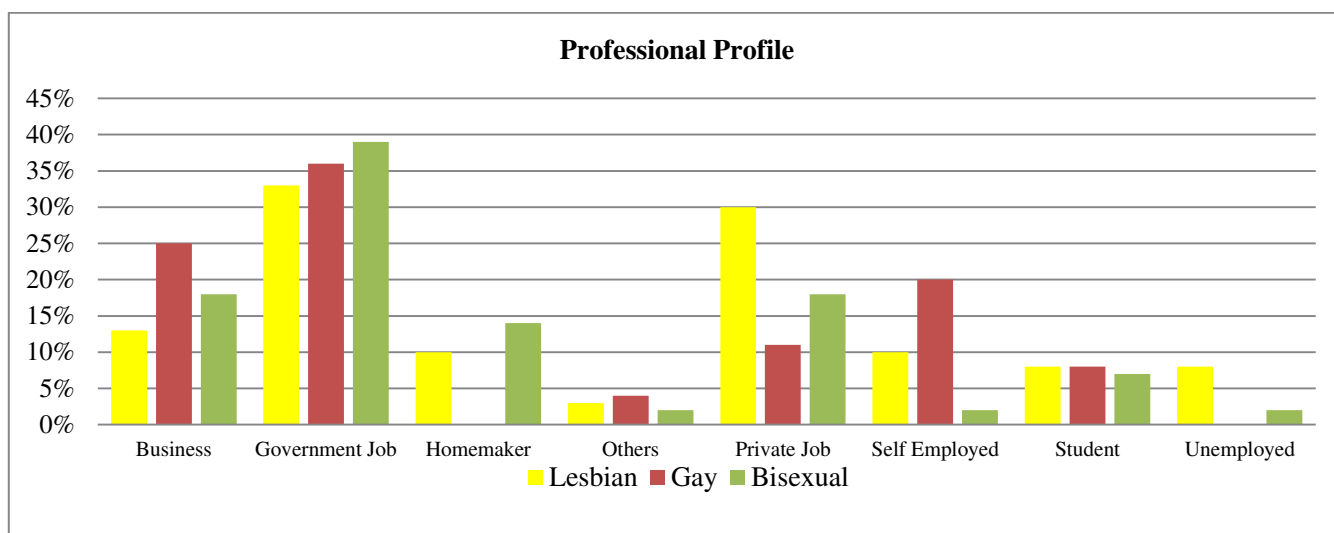


Figure – 11: Professional Profile

According to Figure – 11 it’s clearly visible that around one-third lesbian respondents, almost one-third gay respondents and 40% bisexual respondents are working in government sector and meanwhile 30% lesbian respondents are working in private sector.

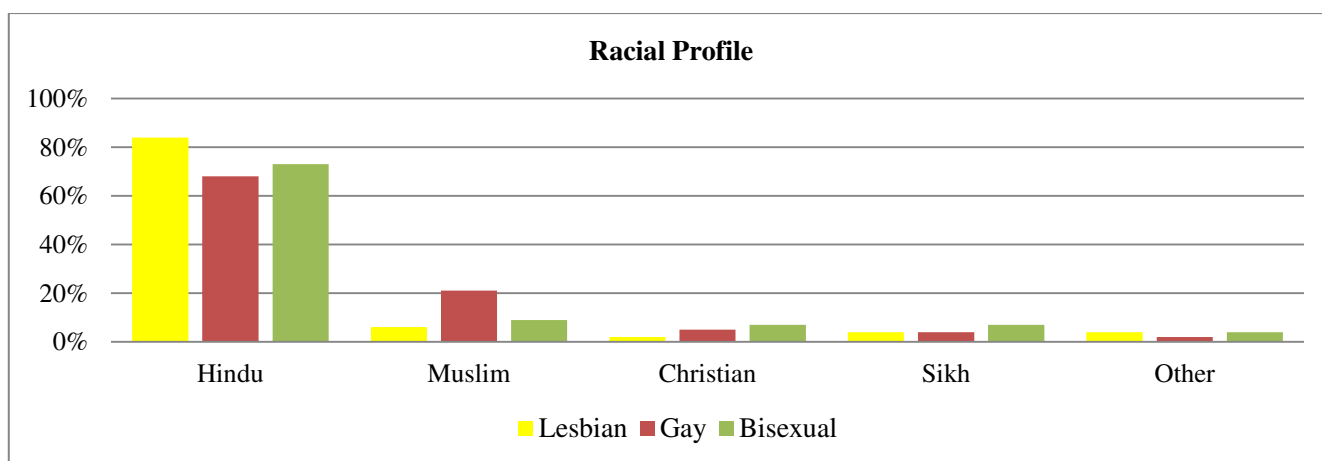


Figure – 12: Racial Profile

As per Figure – 12 more than 80% lesbian respondents, more than 60% gay respondents and more than 70% bisexuals’ respondents belong to Hindu community.

3. Basic mental health condition pre/post ‘coming out’ period: -

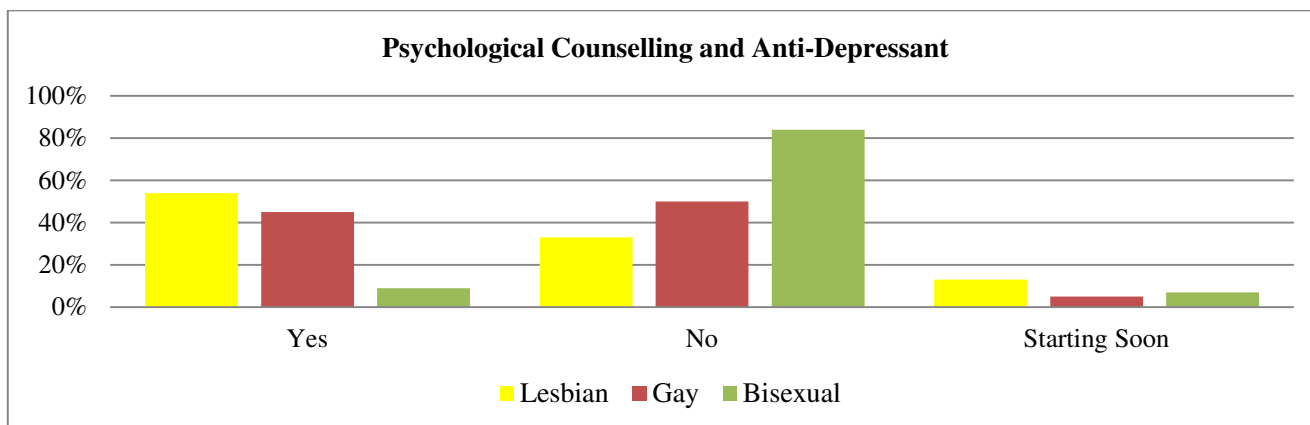


Figure – 13: Psychological Counselling and Anti – Depressant

As per Figure – 13 it can be seen that around 70% lesbian respondents, 50% gay respondents and almost 15% bisexual respondents are either going through any sort of psychological counselling or taking anti-depressant drugs due to various stressors directly or indirectly related to their sexual orientation or planning to do so.

4. Acceptance scenario by surroundings: -

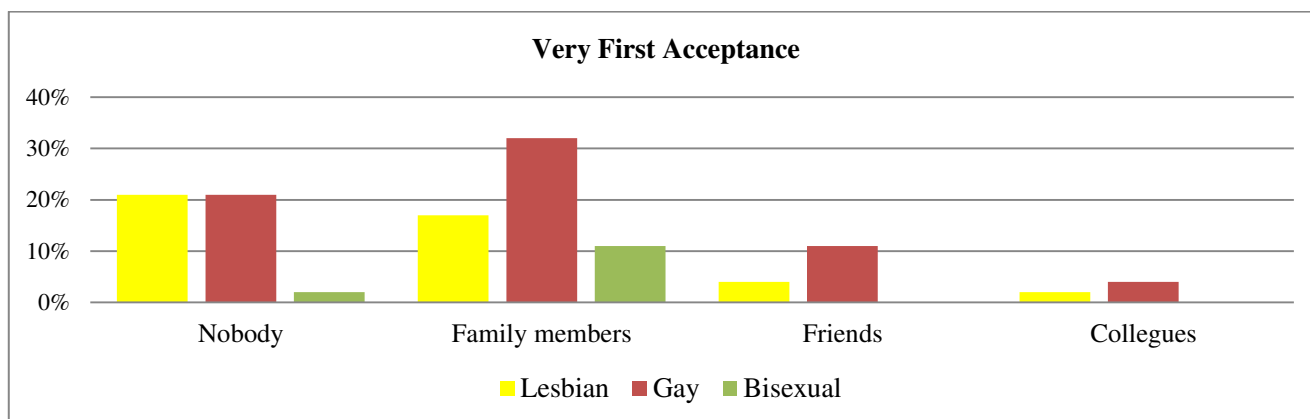


Figure – 14: Very First Acceptance

According to Figure – 14 it’s clearly visible that around 20% lesbian respondents, around 20% gay respondents and 2% bisexual respondents were not accepted by anybody. Meanwhile around 25% lesbian respondents, almost 50% gay respondents and 11% bisexual respondents were accepted by either their family members or friends for the first time.

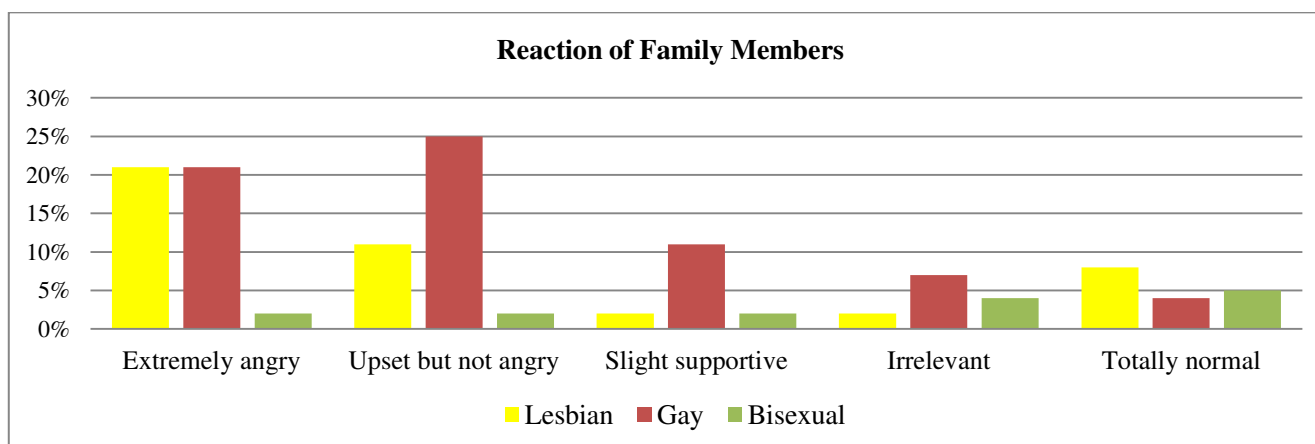


Figure – 15: Reaction by Surroundings

According to Figure – 15 it’s clearly visible that 23% lesbian respondents, 47% gay respondents and 11% bisexual respondents have experienced varied amount of support from their surroundings and the people who has supported bisexual respondents are their own spouses itself.

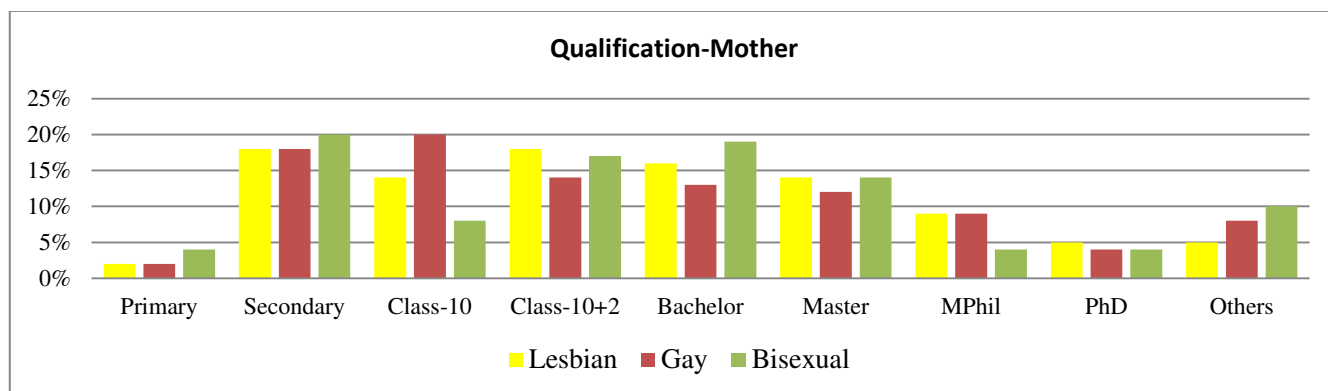


Figure – 16: Qualification – Mother

According to Figure – 16 it's clearly visible that around 50% mother of lesbian, gay and bisexual respondents has completed their college or university education.

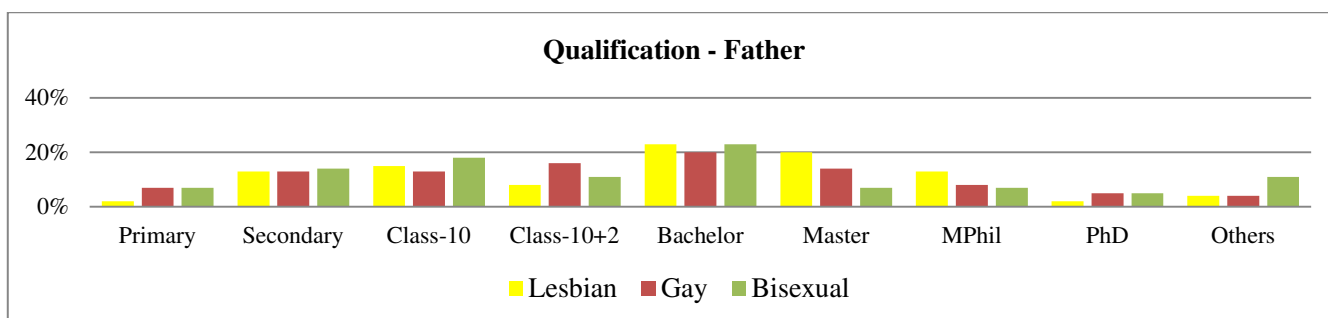


Figure – 17: Qualification - Father

According to Figure – 17 it's clearly visible that around 60% fathers of lesbian respondents and 50% fathers of gay and bisexual respondents have completed their college or university degree.

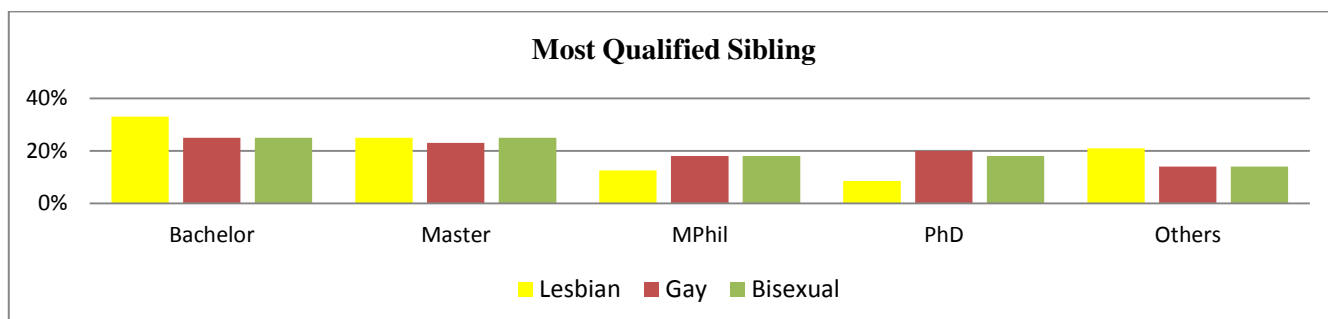


Figure – 18: Most Qualified Sibling

According to Figure – 18 it's clearly visible that every lesbian, gay and bisexual respondents have mentioned that they have at least one sibling who has completed college or university education.

5. The domestic situation of post 'coming out' period

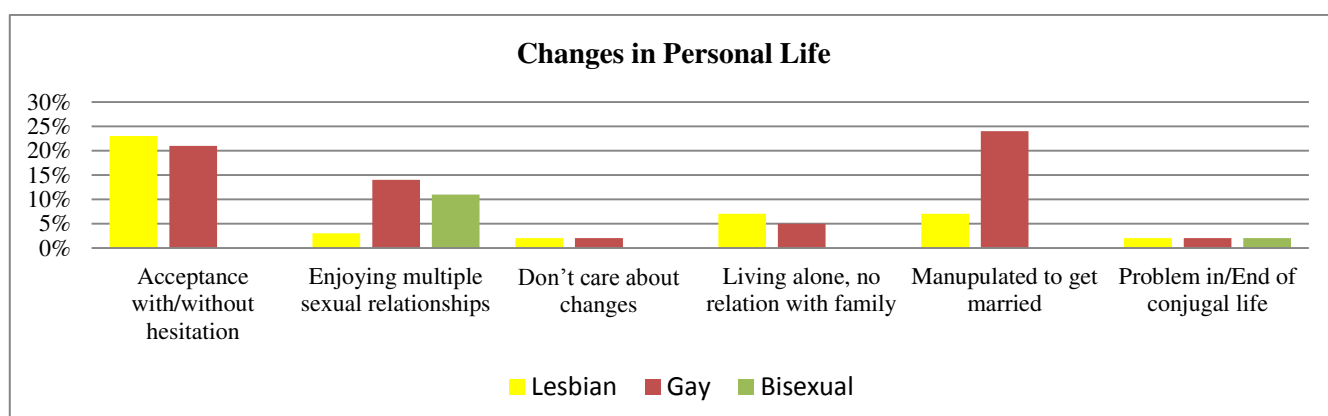


Figure – 19: Changes in Personal Life

According to Figure – 19 it’s clearly visible that over 20% lesbian respondents and over 20% gay respondents get acceptance by their family members with or without any hesitation, meanwhile almost 10% bisexual respondents and near about 15% gay respondents enjoying multiple sexual relationships. Quite remarkably around 25% gay respondents were forced to get married.

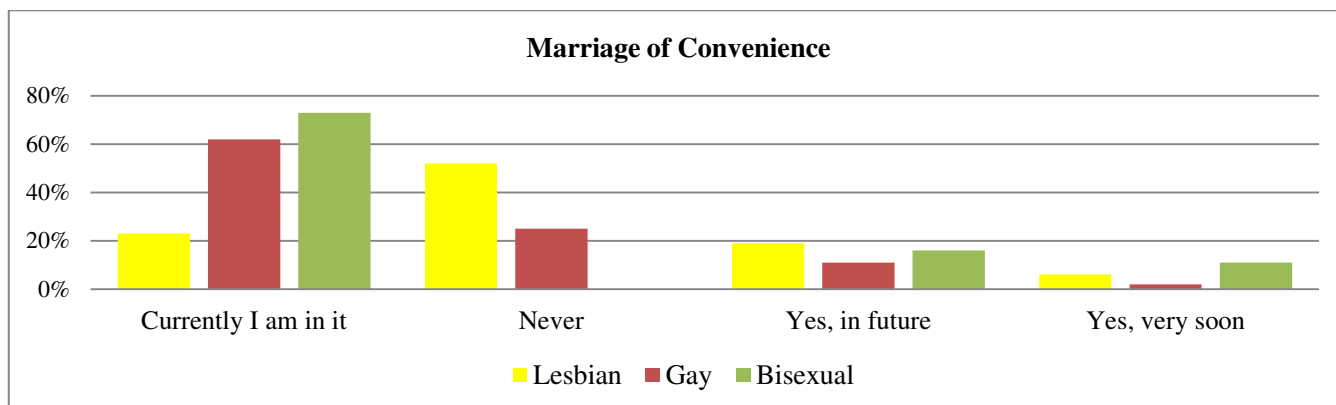


Figure – 20: Marriage of Convenience

As per Figure – 20 it’s clearly visible that around 20% lesbian respondents, above 60% gay respondents and almost 75% bisexual respondents have agreed that currently they are in a convenient matrimonial relationship for the sake of the society.

6. The socio-economical influences of families acceptance on ‘coming out’ issue

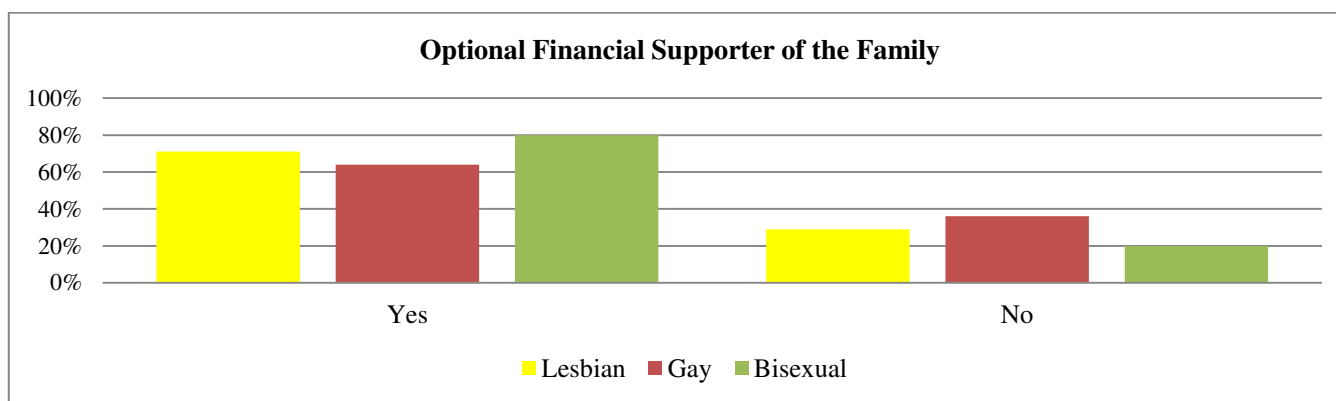


Figure – 21: Optional Financial Supporter of the Family

From the Figure – 21 it’s clearly visible that around 70% lesbian respondents, above 60% gay respondents and 80% bisexual respondents have agreed that there is at least one optional financial supporter in their family and remaining respondents agreed with the fact that they are the sole providers of their family.

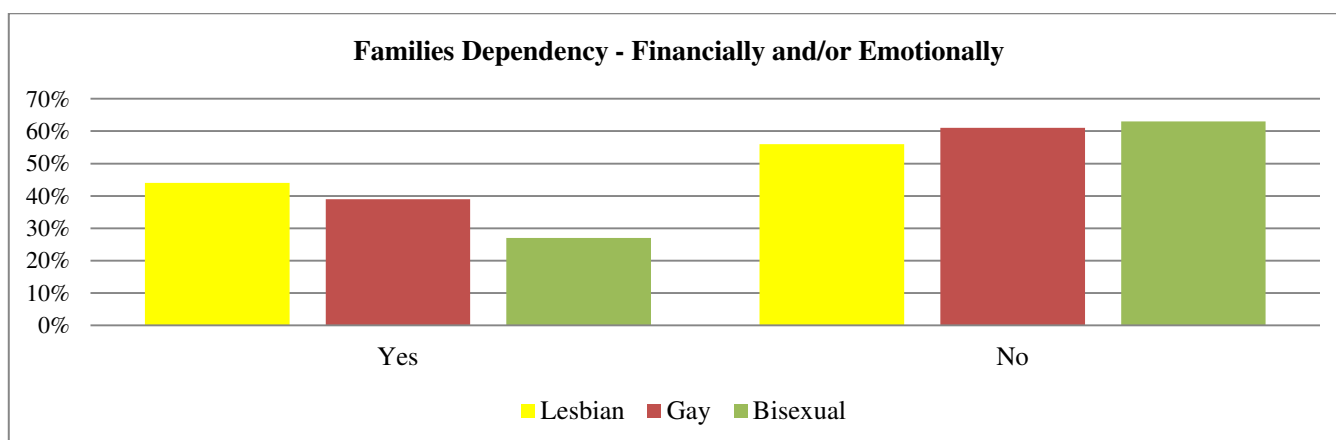


Figure – 22: Families Dependency – Financially and/or Emotionally

According to Figure – 22 it’s clearly visible that around 45% lesbian respondents, almost 40% gay respondents and 25% bisexual respondents have agreed that their family members are financially and/or emotionally dependent upon them and remaining respondents have agreed that their family members are not financially and/or emotionally dependent upon them.

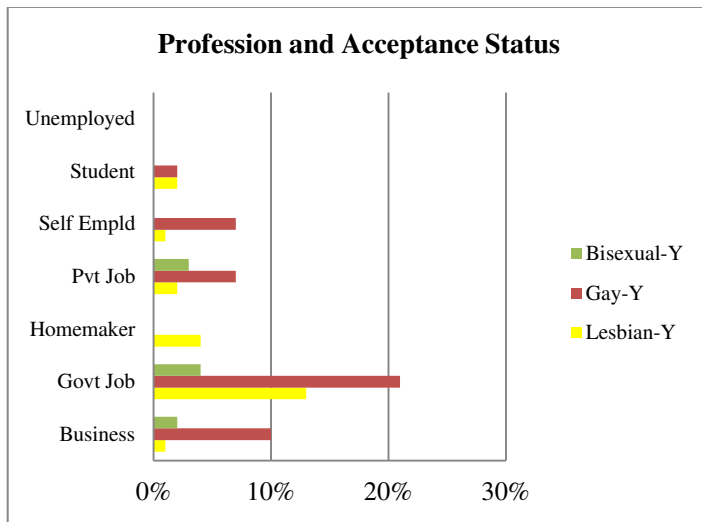


Figure – 23: Profession and Acceptance Status

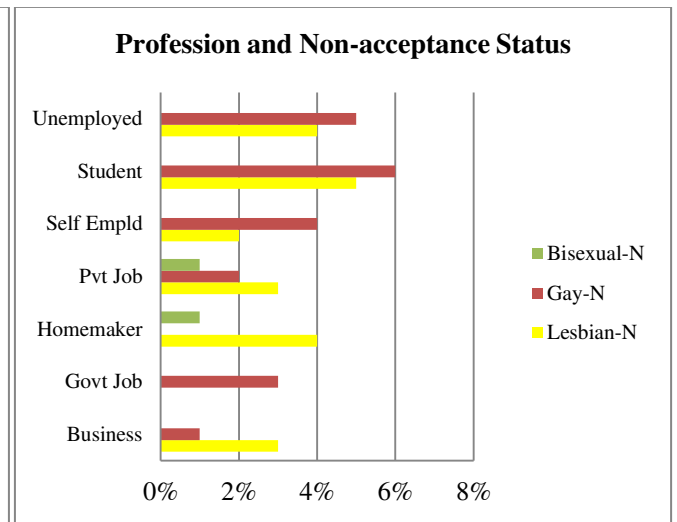


Figure – 24: Profession and Non-acceptance Status

As per Figure – 23 it is clearly visible that 13% lesbian, 21% gay and 4% bisexual respondents who are permanent Government job holder have been accepted by their family members post coming out period. On the contrary from Figure – 24 it is clearly visible that any unemployed respondents were not accepted by their family members and acceptance ratios among lesbian and gay respondents are also really poor barely one out of four have been accepted by their families.

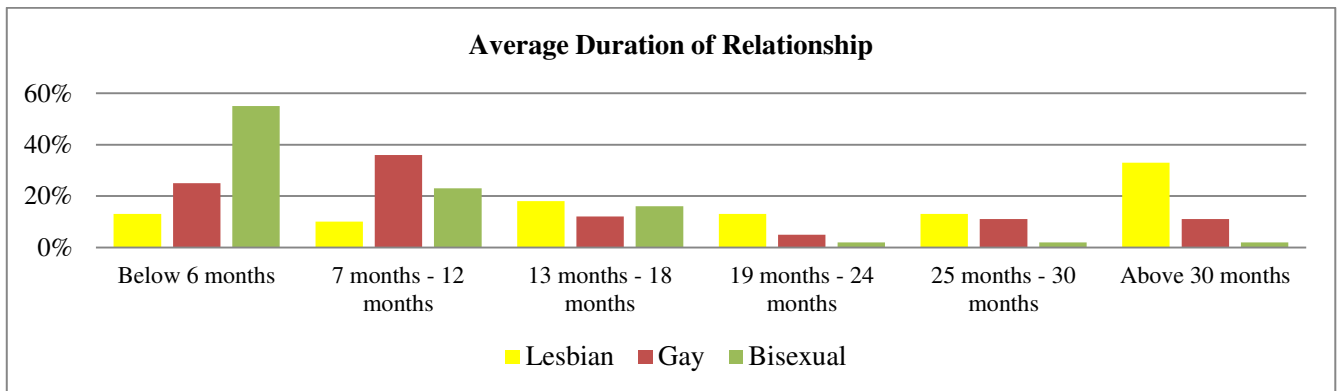


Figure – 25: Average Duration of Relationship

As per Figure – 25 it's clearly visible that around one-third lesbian respondents have agreed that the average duration of their same sex relationships are more than 30 months. On the contrary for gay respondents average duration of their same sex relationship is below 6 months to 12 months only and at least 60% of gay respondents have agreed with that statistic. Meanwhile more than 50% bisexual respondents have agreed that the average duration of their bisexual relationships are less than 6 months.

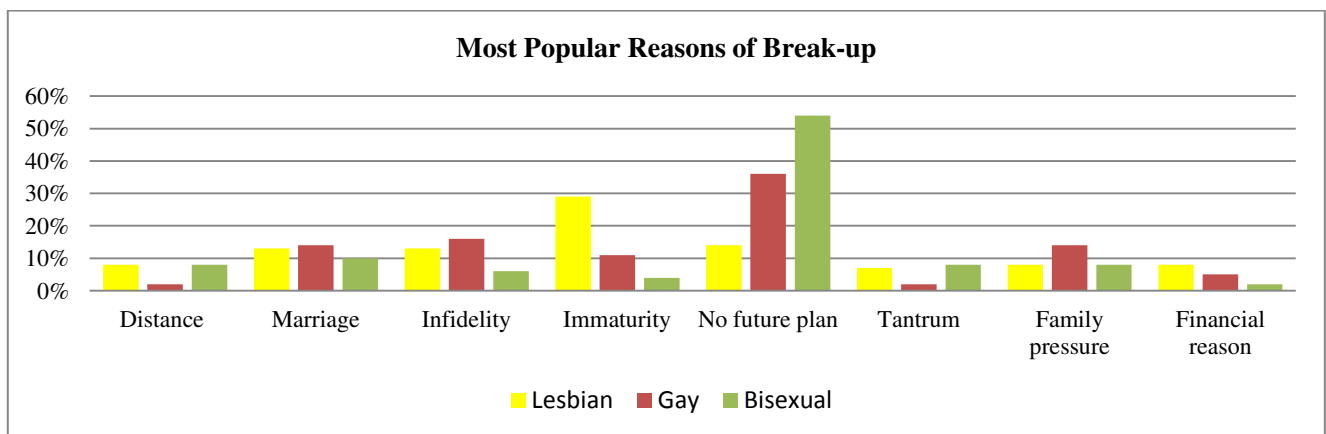


Figure – 26: Most Popular Reasons of Break-up

According to Figure – 26 for lesbian respondents around 30% respondents broke-up their same relationships because of immaturity, on the contrary almost 35% gay respondents and around 55% gay respondents have agreed

that they broke-up most of their same sex relationships because those were some sort of meaningless and prospect less relationships.

5. DISCUSSION AND RECOMENDATION:

In India homosexuality still considered as a legal offence due to draconian law Article – 377 of Indian Penal Code and at the same time Indian society is not tolerant towards sexual minorities' specially lesbian, gay and bisexual people. Therefore it's really important to know how Indian homosexuals blend into the society or rather how society blend them inside it conservative structure.

The present study shows among lesbian participants disclosing their sexual orientation is a quite common phenomenon but not as much common as gay participants. Apparently gay participants are most vocal about their sexual orientation and bisexual participants are extremely secretive about their sexual orientation. Study indicates very few bisexual participants admitted that they have disclosed their sexual orientation to their immediate circles such as spouse.

However the question why 'coming out' statistics differs for lesbian, gay and bisexual? The present study shows that generally lesbian participants do not prefer to disclose their sexual orientation in public and they prefer to remain closeted and most of the time when they come out then they come out to evade marriage pressure or due to unavoidable situation where they might get caught 'red-handed' with their partners by their family members. For gay participants 'coming out' of closet is a much common phenomenon and most popular reason of self disclosure is either avoiding marriage pressure or securing mental peace or according to participants it is more about embracing own identity rather than craving for any acceptance. Meanwhile it's clearly visible out of that study for both lesbian and gay participants constant pressure for marriage from family members is a serious threat and many participants disclose their sexual orientation only to evade marriage pressure. For bisexual participants scenario is much convenient and study shows they don't even bother to disclose their sexual orientation until and unless they feel insatiable appetite for sexual pleasure and only then they disclose their sexual orientation with their partners mostly for their support in their sexual adventure and even though it's quite rare but still bisexual participants often get support from their spouse at the condition of mutual sexual pleasure because generally husband does not consider another female as a real 'threat' rather he takes that as an opportunity to enjoy an open relationship on the contrary few wives also accepted the bisexual identity of their husbands since husband is the sole provider of the house and apparently he is doing his 'duty' well. Therefore it is clearly visible that bisexual participants are mostly successful in leaving a 'double-life' which is ideal for homophobic Indian society.

Case No – 23: Mrs Sujata (name changed) is a married bisexual woman who lives at Mumbai. Presently she has experienced an uncontrollable urge for physical interaction with another woman and in order to satisfy her urge she is browsing different online dating sites in search of a female partner. Her husband is aware about her desire and he has also expressed his desire to be a willing participant and he does not consider another woman as a potential threat to their relationship rather he sees that as an 'opportunity'.

Case No – 81: Mr. Amit (name changed) is a married bisexual man who lives at Delhi. He regularly hire male escort to fulfill his sexual desire and apart from that he is also very much active in various online dating sites and presently he is enjoying multiple sexual relationships. His wife is aware about his sexual orientation and she has no objection as long as Amit is providing more than enough for his family. Therefore according to Mr Amit his conjugal life is a mutually convenient arrangement to please the society.

Most common process of coming out among lesbian participants is either due to counselor's advice or they have disclosed at some weak moment. For gay participants most popular and preferred process of coming out is also due to counselor's advice. Present study shows for both lesbian and gay participants the female members of the family mostly mother and sisters are the most preferred and dependable person to share their secret and most participants have opted for that option. Next popular process of coming out is fulfilling sexual desire and often lesbian, gay and bisexual participants all have agreed to disclose their sexual orientation in front of strangers who are mostly online 'friends' and the sole purpose of that self-disclosure is experiencing discreet sexual pleasure most safely; since these strangers are not familiar to their close circles therefore these participants agreed with these strangers their secrets will be in safe hands. Quiet remarkably most number of lesbian participants suggested they don't prefer to disclose their sexual orientation, because they strongly believe that their family members would not understand because they are not enough aware about different kind of sexual orientations. On the contrary most number of gay and bisexual participants has agreed that they don't prefer to disclose their sexual orientation because that will destroy their social and professional life since in India it's still considered as a punishable offence and as a result they might lose their source of livelihood and social position both.

Age wise most lesbian, gay and bisexual participants belongs to anywhere in their mid 20's to mid 30's and that because it's the time when they finally embrace their sexuality and decide the crucial future course of actions. At the same time apparently it is the most popular period when they browse outside world in search of likeminded people and the presence of internet and various dating sites has played most remarkable part in that entire process. The present study was conducted on mostly educated people of the society and maximum numbers of lesbian, gay and bisexual participants have completed their college or university education. As far as average personal monthly income is concern the lesbian participants are not earning as much as gay and bisexual participants. On the contrary average monthly income of their families is quite remarkably different then one another; because family income of bisexual participants are highest on the contrary it is clearly visible that the average monthly family income of lesbian participants is the lowest.

Whenever it comes to analyzing the relation between sexual orientation with marital status of the individuals then it's clearly visible that lesbian participants are least likely to get married to someone of opposite sex and on the contrary bisexual participants are most likely to get married of someone of opposite sex. For gay participants marriage is an option and they don't rely on it solely. Professionally a considerable number of participants are government employees and rest are also working in some sectors and making a living for themselves. At the same time the present study was conducted mostly among Hindu participants. So far it was clearly visible that whenever it comes to blending into the society then bisexual participants are more successful then lesbian and gay participants and that's why bisexual participants don't prefer to disclose their sexual orientation because they don't want to lose their mental peace and social security and at the same time they get married or prefer to get married to follow the societal norms, meanwhile lesbian participants are not as good to follow social norms. Many lesbian and gay participants are living alone because they could not cope with the constant marriage pressure given by their family members.

Case No – 35: Ms Bani (name changed) is a lesbian and working as an Officer in a government organization at Kolkata. The moment she expressed her true sexual identity her parents pressurized her to start a heterosexual relationship with a man and when she firmly denied that then they forced her to marry an unemployed gay and their excuse was if she does not get married at the right age then her younger siblings would face difficulty in their marriage and presently her parents do not even raise the issue of her sexual orientation.

Case No – 64: Ms Anita (name changed) is a lesbian and working in a private organization at Chennai. Her parents caught her with her previous partner in a compromising position and that's how they came to know about her true sexual orientation. Following that incident her family members convinced a neighbor who happened to be her childhood friend to rape Anita and for them it is the most useful way of 'reversing' her sexual orientation back to 'normal' heterosexuality. After that incident she left her house and presently living all alone at a rented apartment and she has no contact with her family members.

Further studies shows maximum number of lesbian participants are either taking anti-depressant medications or going through psychological counseling or even both because whenever it comes to compromization then lesbian participants shows maximum rigidity and as a result their families has stopped maintaining even cordial relationship with them. Meanwhile very few numbers of bisexual participants are going through psychological counseling and taking anti-depressant medication because generally they can portray themselves as 'normal' heterosexual person quite convincingly. Apparently gay participants are also having stress related issues which they believe somehow connected to their sexual orientation directly or indirectly but for many of them marriage is a dependable 'resort' from that misery and often they chose to start a heterosexual relationship just to maintain their position at both personal and professional level.

The reason of that state of mental health is very much comprehensible at the next part of the study which reveals most of the lesbian participants do not get accepted by anybody such as family, friends and colleagues meanwhile much higher number of gay participants get social acceptance from their family, friends and colleagues. However, scenario is much pleasant for bisexual participants because they can camouflage in a traditional heterosexual social structure quite successfully and can pretend to be a typical heterosexual. At the same time study shows considerable number of men accepts their bisexual wives and allows them to search online female intimate partners on the condition of mutual sexual adventure. However for bisexual participants self-disclosure is a rare phenomenon because they really don't consider their sexual orientation can ruin their lives and that self perception helps them to blend into the society extremely successfully. It also shows how social acceptance can reduce the stress level of homosexuals massively because stress related issues are almost negligible among them.

Most often homosexuals prefer not to disclose their sexual orientation in front of their family members in fear of social isolation. Here most crucial question is why many families can discard their own flesh and blood on the basis of mere sexual orientation but all the families are not as intolerant towards sexual orientation? Here what is that

crucial factor which plays most pivotal role? So far we have seen the parents of almost half participants and siblings of all participants have completed their college or university education successfully and therefore education is not that crucial factor which can make a difference in opinion. After education the next possible factor is purely financial and here study shows most of the homosexuals have agreed that their family have optional financial supporters and on the contrary majority of them have agreed that their family members are not dependent upon them either financially or emotionally or in both ways.

Now, the most interesting factor is analyzing the relation between profession and acceptance ratio and it reveals a lot. The study shows family members are quite supportive whenever it comes to a secured government job or a well rewarded secure career. Most family members have accepted the sexual orientation of those homosexuals who have a secured and permanent government job and at the same time they are also quite supportive about those participants who are earning handsomely and on the contrary acceptance for unemployed and non contributing participants (such as students, homemakers or unemployed individuals) are totally negative. Here, often acceptance means manipulating the individual to live a heterosexual married life in order to satisfy the society and that does not mean embracing the sexual orientation of the participants. That is the reason of success for bisexuals since they are quite good at camouflage and they can live really well following the social norms and simultaneously can live their own sexual identity in quite discreet manner.

Since social support is so limited therefore most of the homosexual relations are short term. However for lesbian participants' average tenure of their homosexual relationships are more than two years and for gay and bisexual participants the tenure of their discrete affairs often less than one year and most of the time they jump from one relation to another relation quite frequently. Among Indian homosexuals especially among gay and bisexual participants meaningful steady relationship is something which is quite uncommon and frequent break-up is mostly the direct result of lack of future plan or to be more precise immature approach towards future. Without any social support and in front of constant criticism they succumb to the social pressure and end their relationship and then just to fulfill the physical and emotional need they search for a substitute relationship and that vicious circle goes on for years among lesbian, gay and bisexual community of India which increase their stress level immensely.

Case No – 121: Mr Ajay is a gay individual who lives at Delhi, working in a government organization and earning handsomely. He disclosed his sexual orientation to his mother when she was pressurizing him to get married and start a family. However that news left his mother totally bed-ridden for few months. Finally she recovered when Ajay got married with a girl of her mother's choice and after that nobody raises that issue in his family and according to Ajay her mother believes she has solved that 'problem' successfully.

Present study was conducted only on four metro cities of India and those are Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai, therefore it does not reflect the mindset of the lesbian, gay and bisexual community of the small cities and small towns. At the same time it also does not reflect the mindset of sexual minorities who lives in the rural section. Apart from that the present study was conducted only on those individual who are searching same sex partners online and therefore the large section of sexual minority community who cannot access internet could not become the part of that study. At the same time another crucial limitation of that present study is it was conducted on mostly educated middle class or lower middle class individuals and that's why it does not enlightened us about those sexual minorities who are uneducated and we really don't get the idea how those people deals with their crisis. However still there is a huge scope of further studies on the similar topics and only enormous amount of study can establish a sexually tolerant society. Meanwhile the financial independence of the LGBT community is extremely important to built-up a negotiable platform for themselves and even if their family does not allow them to live their lives according to their wish then at least they can move out of the family.

6. CONCLUSION:

Despite a much liberal history of thousands years of tolerance towards sexual minorities the harsh reality of modern day is a tremendous homophobic Indian society and a considerable portion of people who belongs to that LGBT community lives under immense stress because of society's constant pressure and criticism. The present study shows, bisexuals quite successfully blends into the society and lives a traditional heterosexual life with spouse and kids and meanwhile lesbians and gays struggle a lot to live a life of their own choice. Therefore stress related health issues are quite common among lesbians and gays. Under such circumstances only positive aspect is financial independence which gives them a negotiable status and the present study reveals financially independent LGBT participants gets more support from their family members and often their families allows them to live lives according to their wish. However the present study was conducted on four metro cities of India (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai) and among mostly educated middle-class individuals. Therefore to contemplate the entire scenario more meticulously further pan India base studies is extremely necessary and at the same time the changes in the legal and social front is also extremely important.

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