



Undergraduate's Perception and Attitudes Towards Homosexuality in Sri Lanka. - A Case Study Related to Rajarata University, Sri Lanka.

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Abstract

Homosexuality can be defined as romantic attraction, sexual attraction or sexual behaviour between people of the same gender or sex. Homosexuality is becoming popular in many countries of the world as well as in Sri Lanka. But, according to the penal code in Sri Lanka, all kinds of homosexual acts are indicated as punishable offenses (Sections 365 and 365A, 1883). Considering the perceptions and attitudes of people in Sri Lanka regarding homosexuality, these homosexuals are more likely to experience likely to be the target of physical and mental stress. They are also often subjected to social exclusion and discrimination. Moreover, there are reports of sexual bribery from them. Thus, this research conducted in association with Rajarata University to identify undergraduate's perception and attitudes towards the homosexual community in Sri Lanka. The main objective of this study was to identify the undergraduate's attitudes toward the homosexual community. Simultaneously, to identify any significant gender differences in undergraduate's perceptions and attitudes towards the homosexual community. This research used the quantitative research method with a cross-sectional design to achieve objectives. The sample size was 78 participants covered 38 male and 40 female. Their age range was between 20 and 25. Two questionnaires were used in this research in this research. One of them was used to obtain demographic characteristics. The other questionnaire was the homosexual attitude scale (HAS) to measure attitudes toward homosexuality. Questionnaire and interview methods used to collect data. This study conducted a t-test to identify if there are any gender differences in undergraduate perceptions and attitudes toward the homosexuality. The final results were undergraduates in Sri Lanka have positive perception and attitudes toward the homosexual community and there was no gender difference between undergraduate attitudes and the homosexual community in Sri Lanka.

Keywords: Attitudes, Homosexuality, Homosexual community, Perceptions, Undergraduate

