INFORMATION BARRIERS FOR THE LGTBQ+ COMMUNITY

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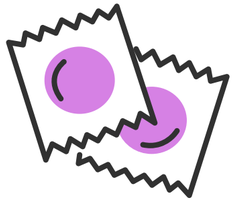
Literature review

RECENT STUDIES

- Burton, R. & Avilla, R. (2021). Sexual Education and the LGBT+ Community: The Impact of Information Sources on Sexual Outcomes. UC Merced Undergraduate Research Journal, 13(2). https://doi.org/10.5070/M413255540
- Stewart, B. & Davis, K. (2019). “Hard to find”: information barriers among LGBT college students. Aslib Journal of Information Management, 71 (5), 601-617. https://doi.org/10.1108/AJIM-02-2019-0040
- Wexelbaum, R.S. (2017). Do libraries save LGBT students? Journal Management, 39 (1/2), 31-58. https://doi.org/10.1108/LM-02-2017-0014



Sexual relationships and health information needs

On the role of academic libraries

Or their collections

Research Methods

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

- Age
- Higher level of studies
- Sexual orientation

FIRST SEARCH EXPERIENCE

- What resources did they use?
- Did they find them useful?
- Were they appropriate?

INFORMATION FOUND

- Internet benefits
- Internet inconvinients
- Limitations

LGTBQ+ LIBRARIES

- Did they visit one?
- Are they worth it?
- What are the limitations of public libraries?

AGES : 21 - 25

University Degree

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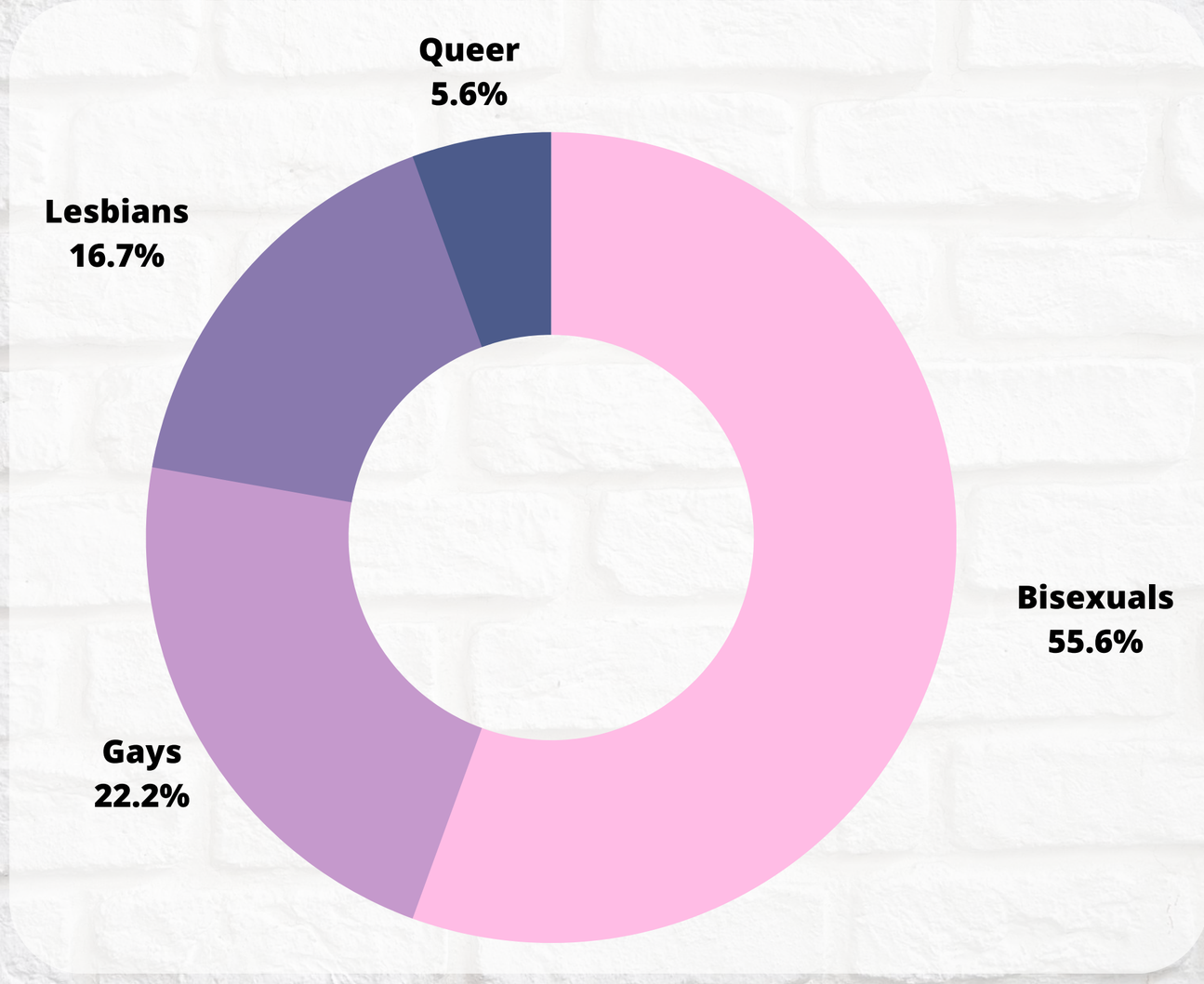

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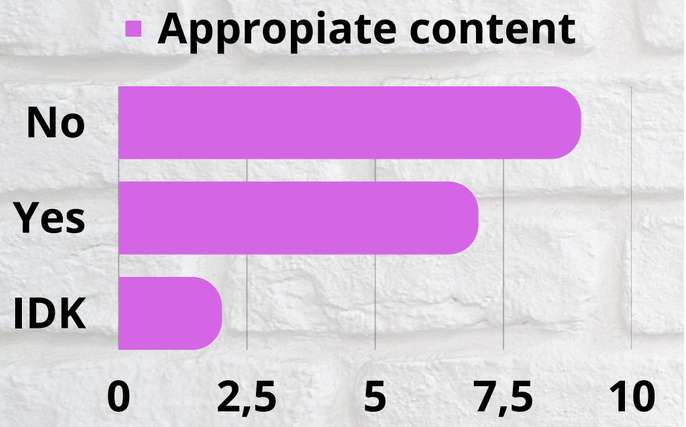
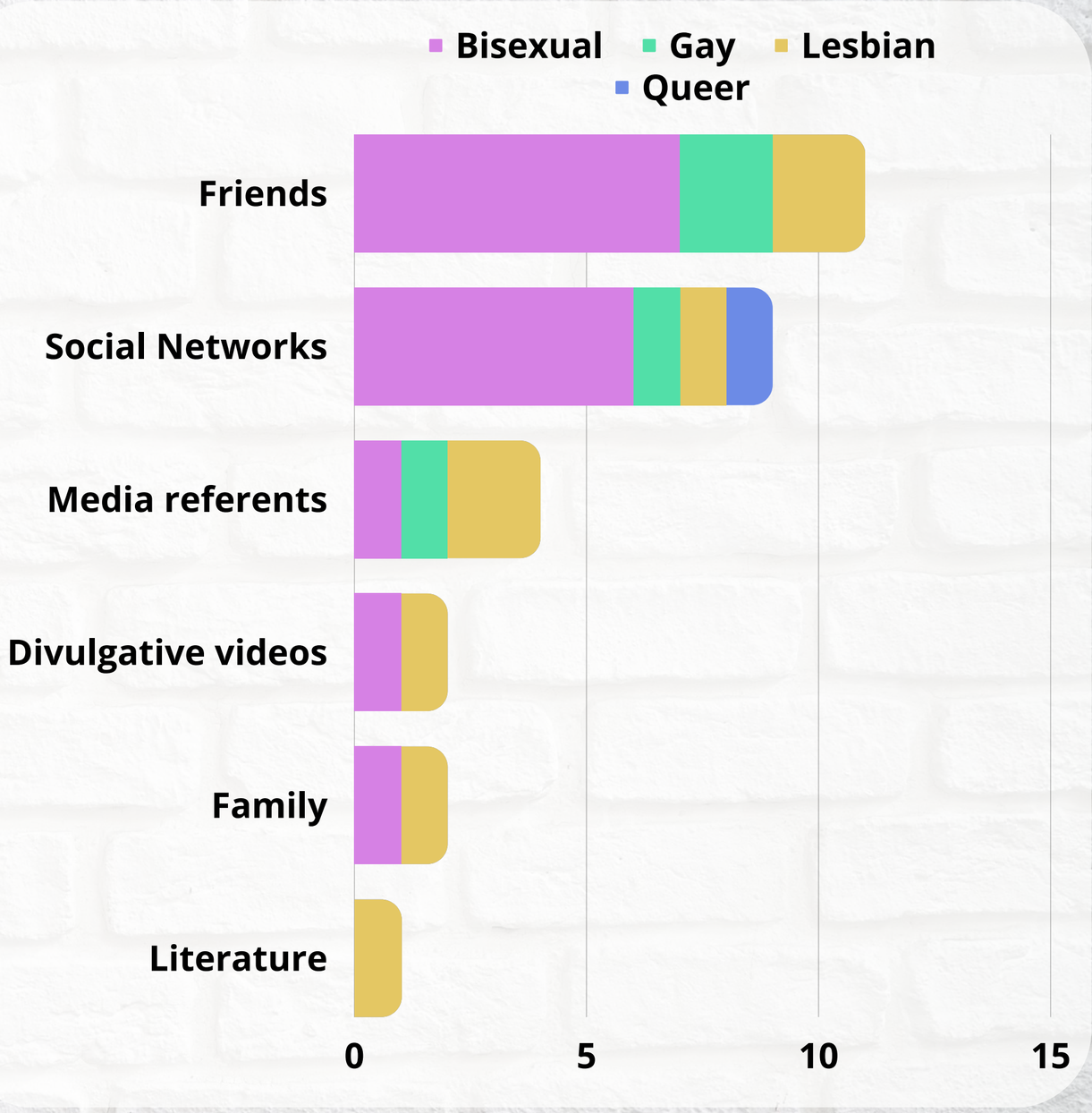
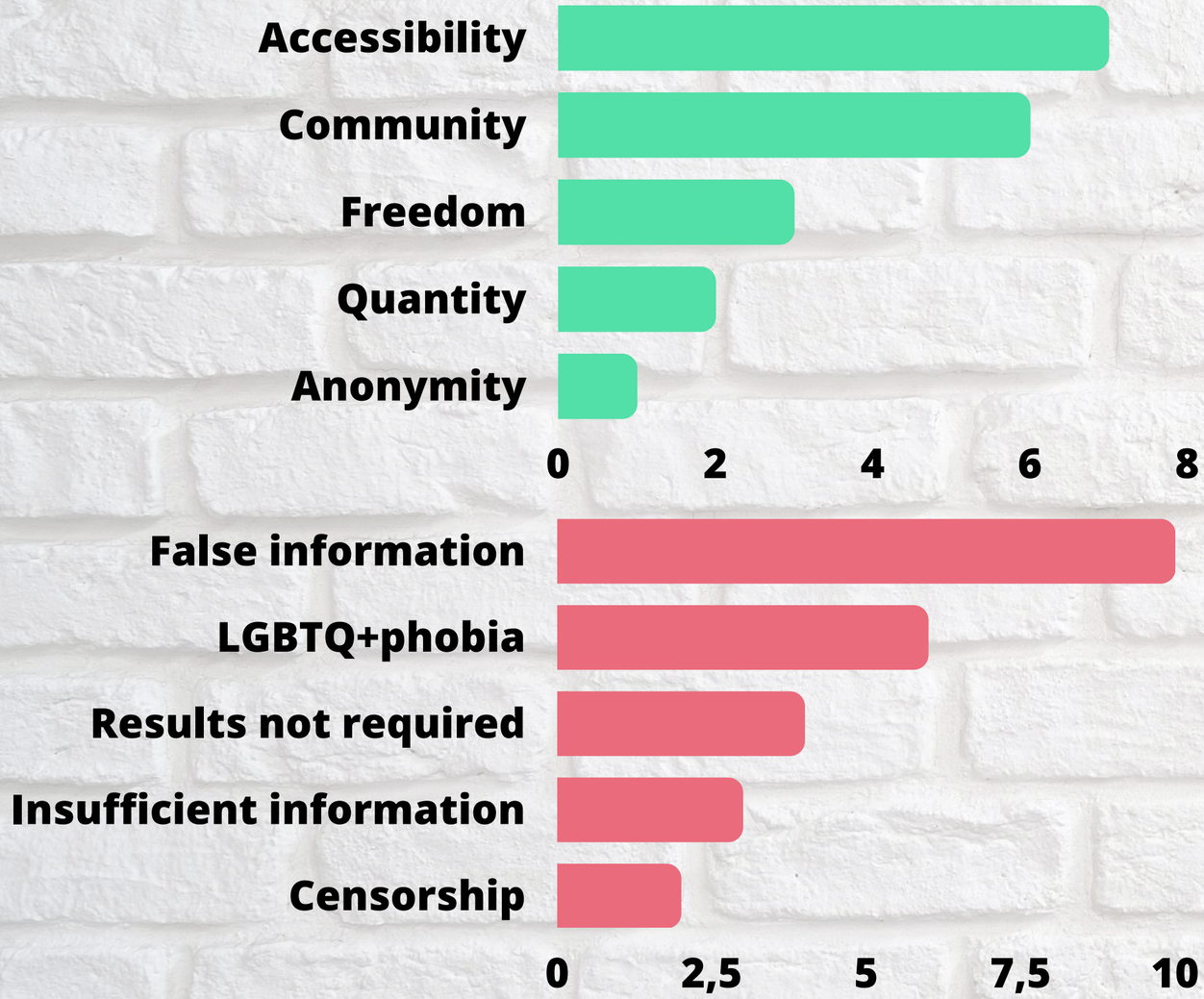




“Internet is a place where you can find out about everything and everything is public, which makes it beneficial and dangerous at the same time”



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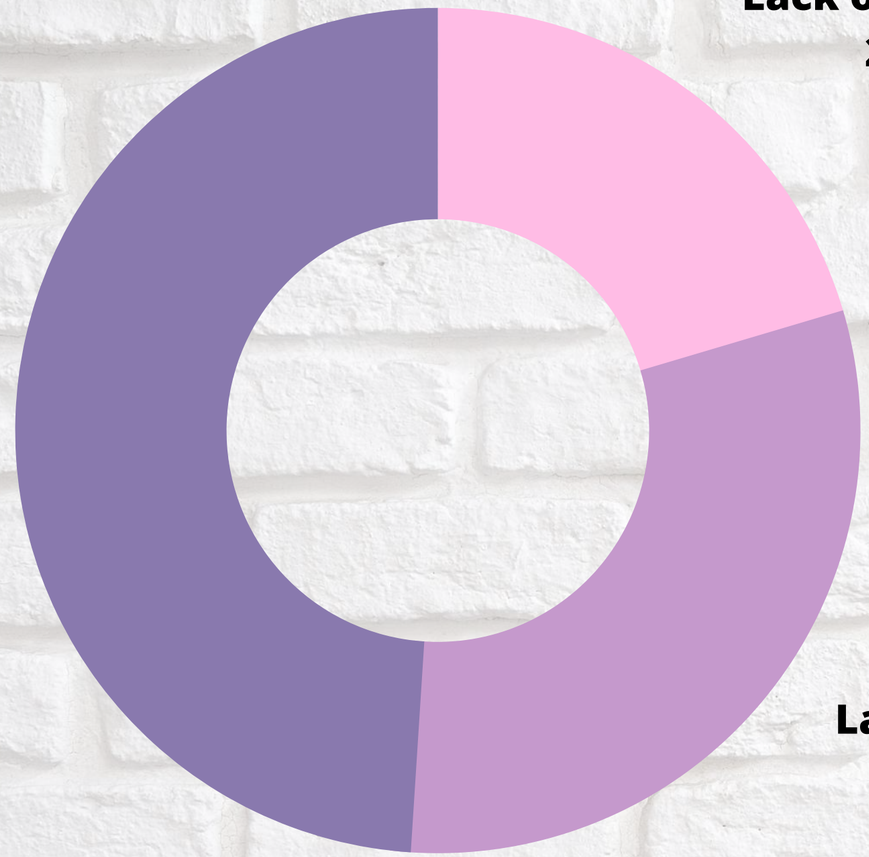


67 %

said that public libraries can't offer LGTBQ+ content because of lack of budget

LGTBQ+ LIBRARIES

- Did they visit one?
- Are they worth it?
- What are the limitations of public libraries?

Discussion (1)

Comparison of results

DIFFERENT STUDIES AGREE:

that **the Internet** is the main source of information, and it is considered the most relevant and useful (Kitzie, 2017; Burton & Avilla, 2021)

IN OUR CASE:

the people interviewed established they prefer **social networks** over other information resources to learn about their sexual identity.

Discussion (2)

Comparison of results

THE USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKS PROVES THAT SOCIAL NETWORKS ALLOW “FOLLOW” OR “RECOMMEND” SIMILAR INDIVIDUALS AND **CREATE A COMMUNITY** IN WHICH THEY CAN FEEL SAFE

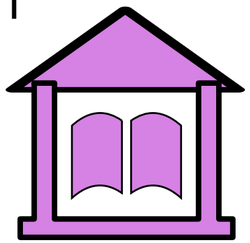
Discussion (3)

Comparison of results

Our results are in line with previous studies in that:

1. THE INTERNET AND SOCIAL NETWORKS ARE WHERE PEOPLE GET THE MOST INFORMATION

2. THE USE OF LIBRARIES TO FIND INFORMATION ABOUT EACH INDIVIDUAL'S SEXUAL IDENTITY IS ALMOST INEXISTENT



Discussion (4)

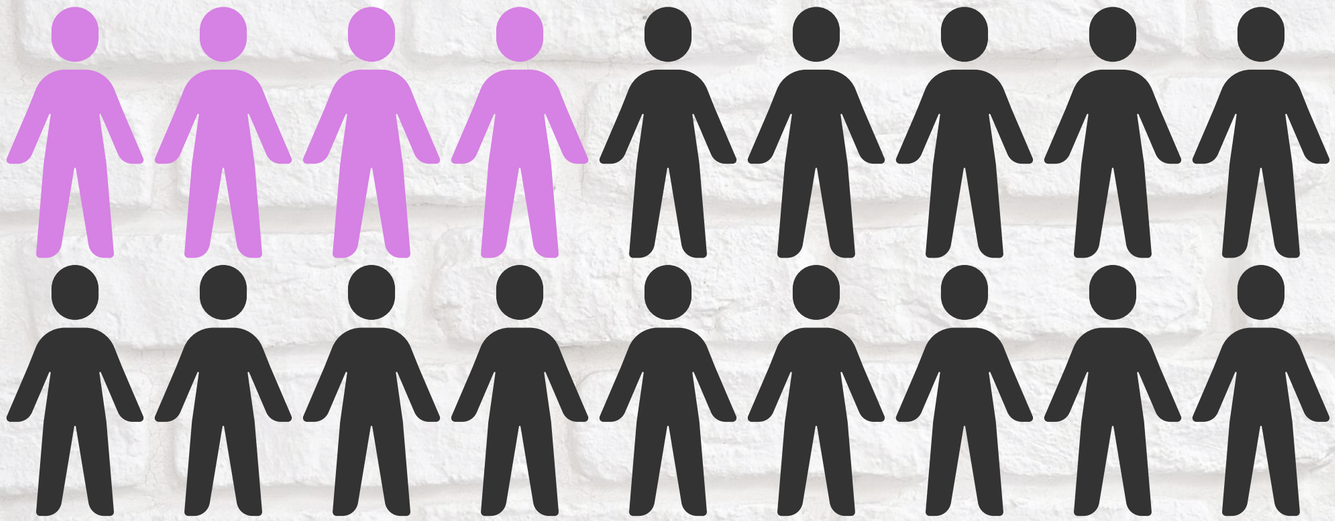
LIMITATIONS

1. The sample is young
2. Focuses on people living in Barcelona
3. Collective little homogenous

FUTURE RESEARCH

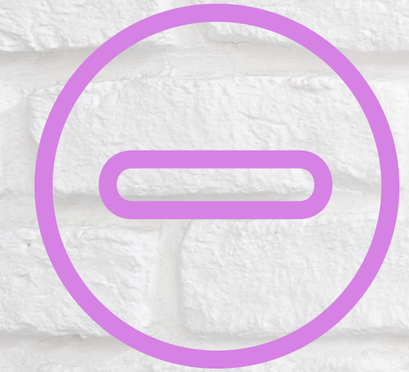
This study opens doors to investigate the informational barriers in the LGTBQ+ community in Spain, since most of the research has been carried out outside our borders, especially in the United States.

Does the LGTBQ+ community usually find accurate information related to their information needs?



just the 22% of LGTBQ+ pariticipants said that found useful and truthful information through different information resources

What are their principal limitations when they try to seek information?



Insuficient information

Fake information

Censorship

Bad perception of libraries