



3rd REGIONAL CONSULTATION
on HIV among MSM and Trans*people in EECA



Stigma and Discrimination related to PLHIV & LGBT people:

Human Rights Protection

Mechanisms & Tools in Armenia

18-19 November, Tallinn

Vaghinak Ter-Hovhannisyan, Pink Armenia





About Me

Lawyer, Expert, Trainer

Pink Armenia, Real world, real people NGOs

ECL Youth Ambassador in Armenia

Association of European Cancer Leagues

Cancer Patients Advocate

Reliance Foundation



@vaghinakth



vaghinak@pinkarmenia.org



@vaghinakth



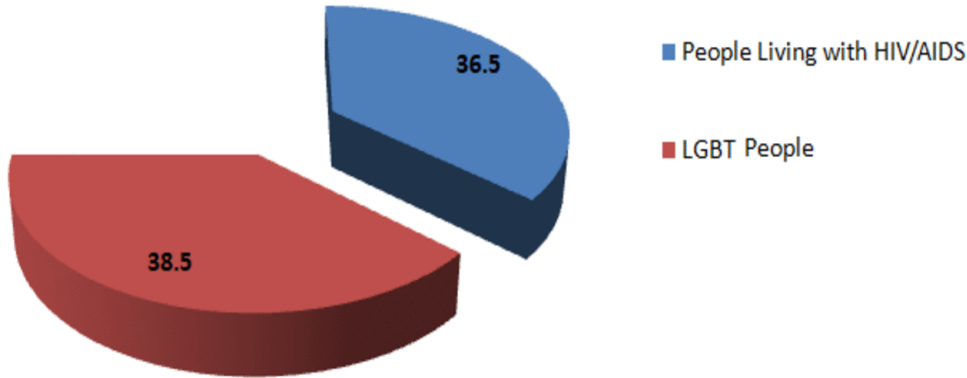
00 374 98 18 52 20





The study addressed the following questions:

% of Interviews Based on Groups



- 1) Causes, Spheres, and Frequency of Instances of Discrimination
- 2) Types of Discrimination
- 3) Factors Influencing Discrimination in Society
- 4) Models of Behavior when Faced with Discrimination
- 5) Mechanisms to Combat Discrimination and their Effectiveness

Semi-structured face-to-face interviews

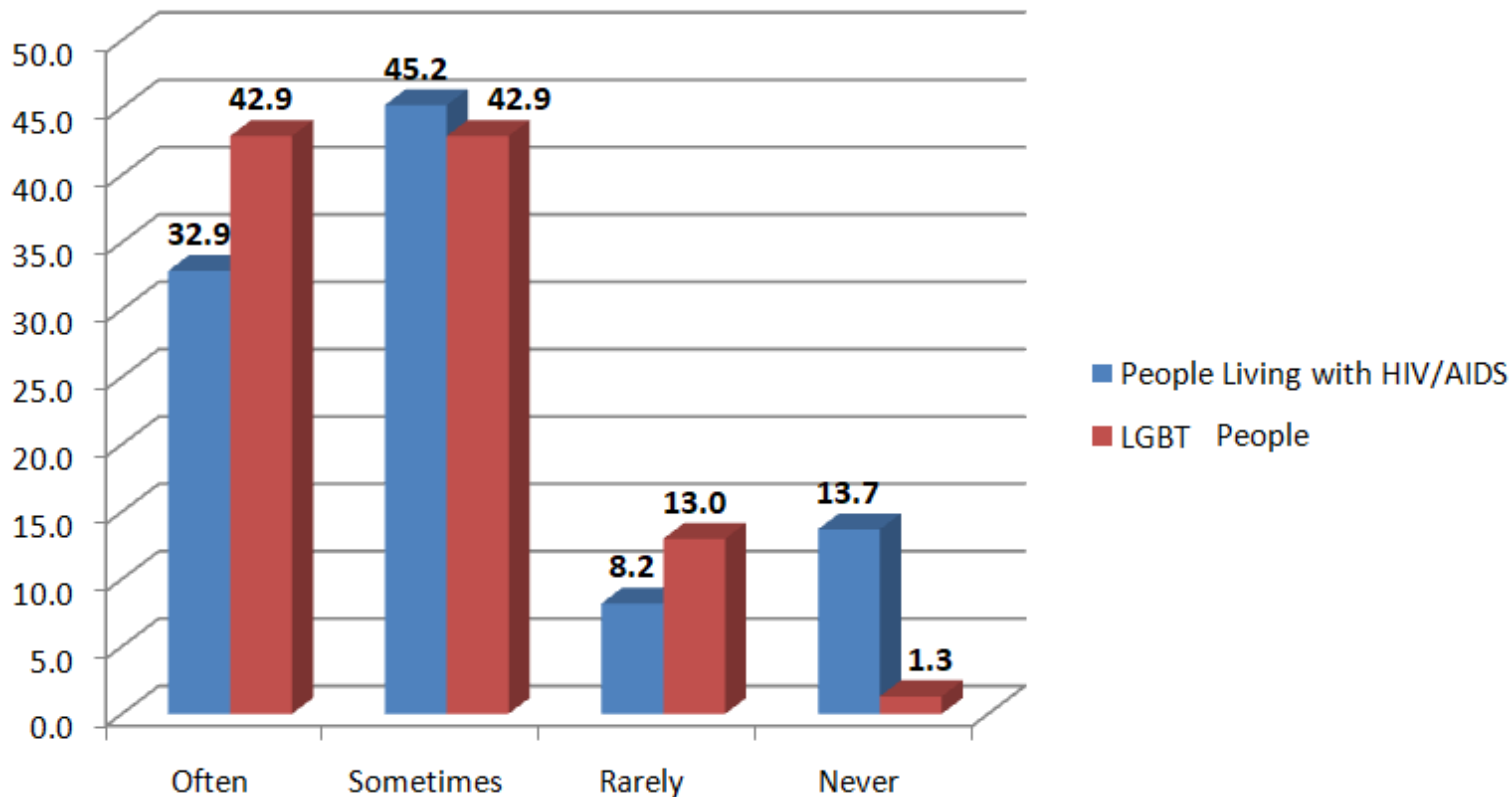
Basic information of 200 Respondents:





GROUPS, SPHERES of MANIFESTATION, FREQUENCY of DISCRIMINATION

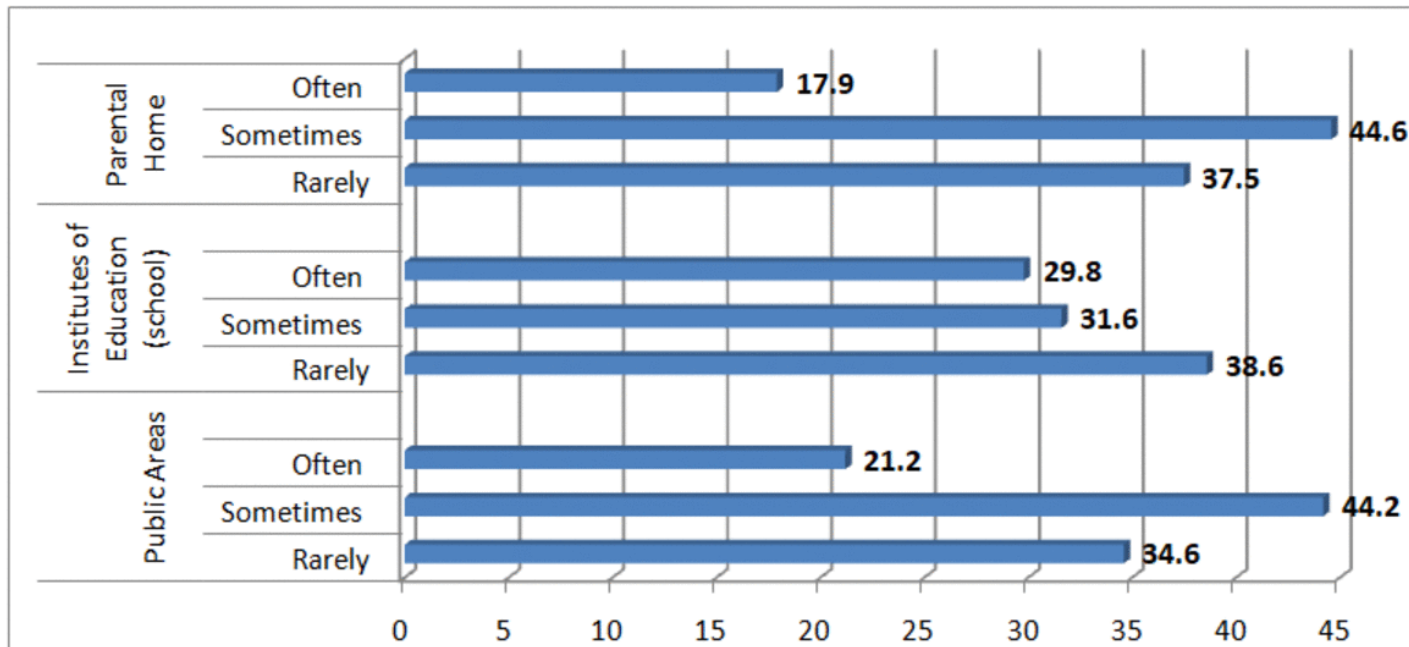
Frequency at which the 2 Groups Encounter Discrimination





GROUNDS, SPHERES of MANIFESTATION, FREQUENCY of DISCRIMINATION

Frequency of Discrimination in the Most Commonly Mentioned Spheres - LGBT People

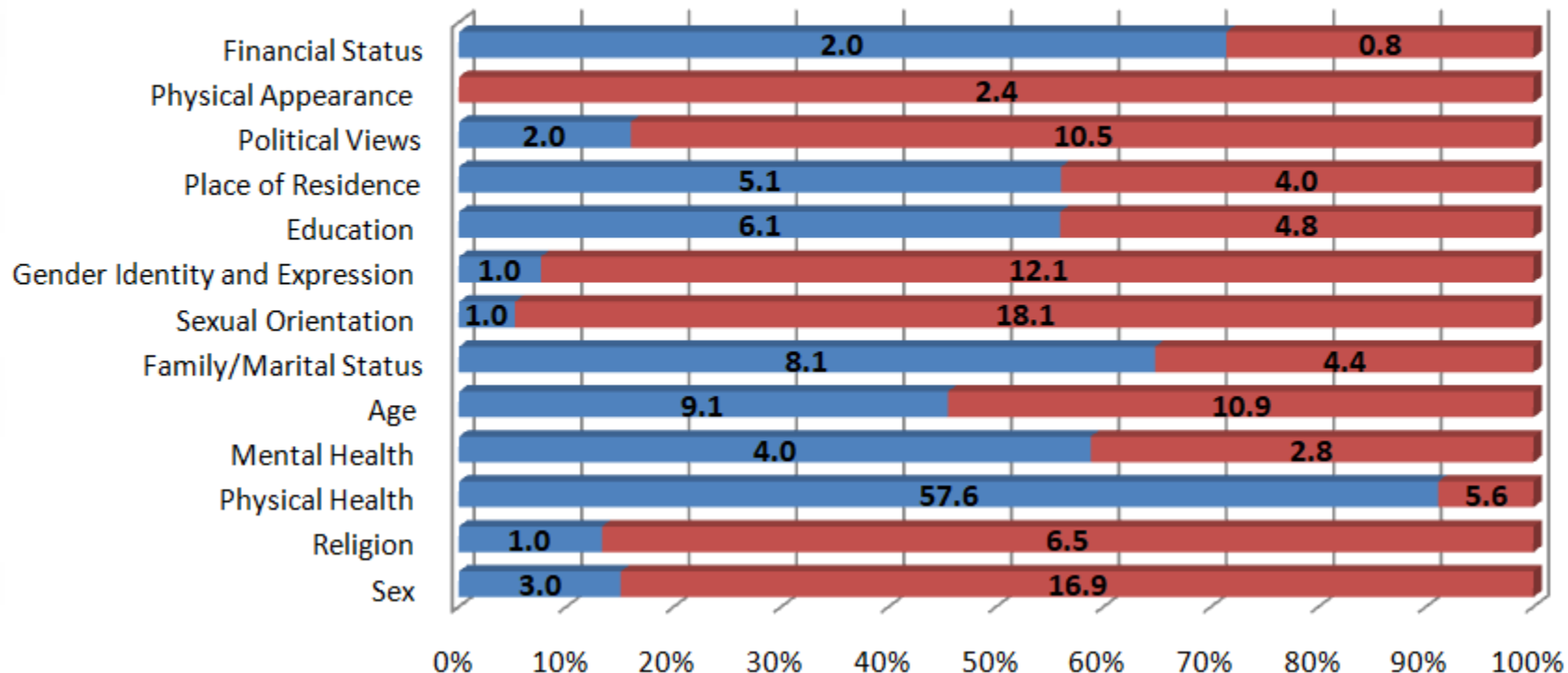




GROUPS, SPHERES of MANIFESTATION, & FREQUENCY of DISCRIMINATION

Causes of Discrimination Based on Various Factors – 2 Groups

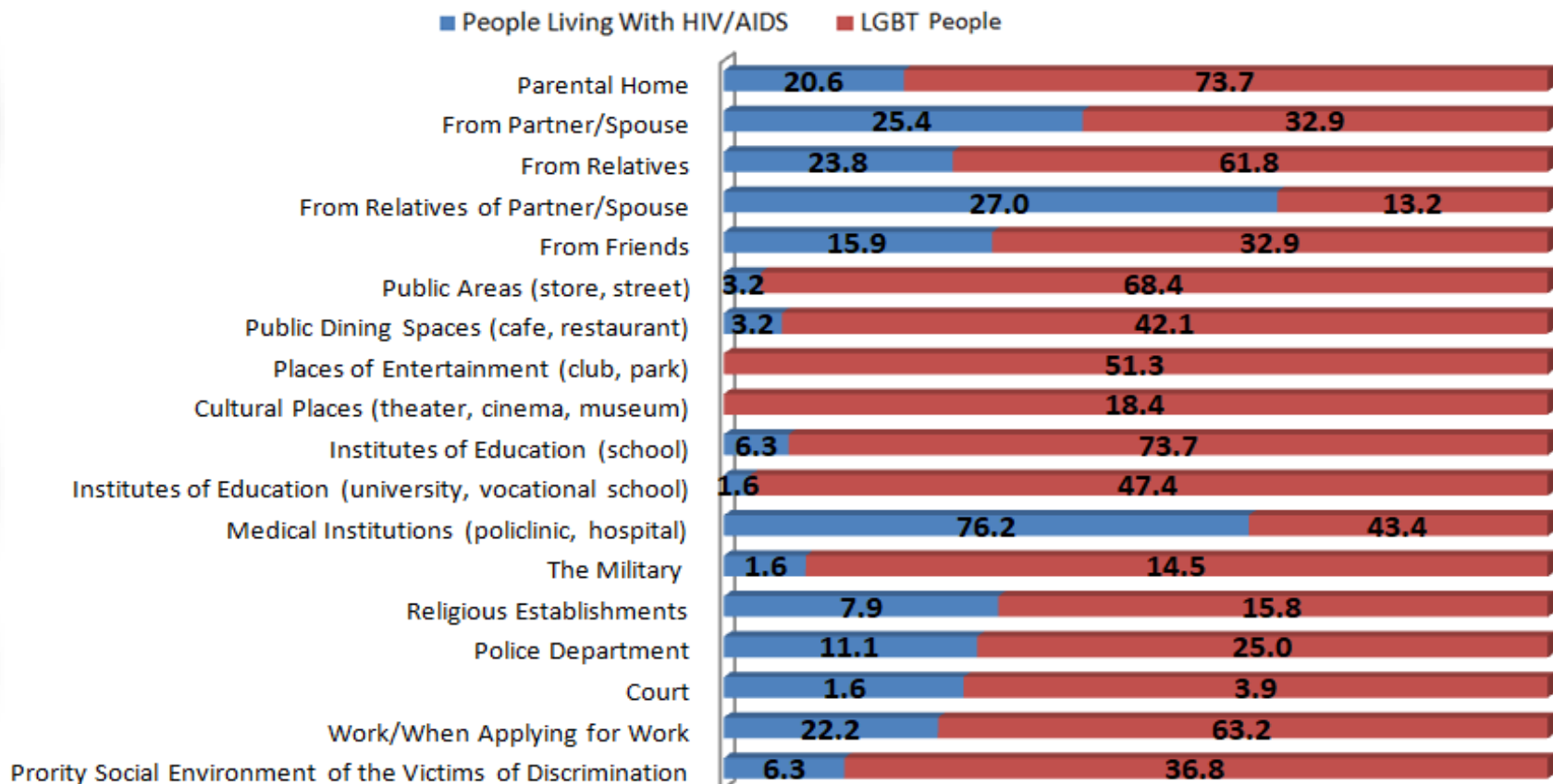
■ People Living With HIV/AIDS ■ LGBT People





GROUPS, SPHERES of MANIFESTATION, FREQUENCY of DISCRIMINATION

Manifestation of Discrimination in Spheres - 2 Groups



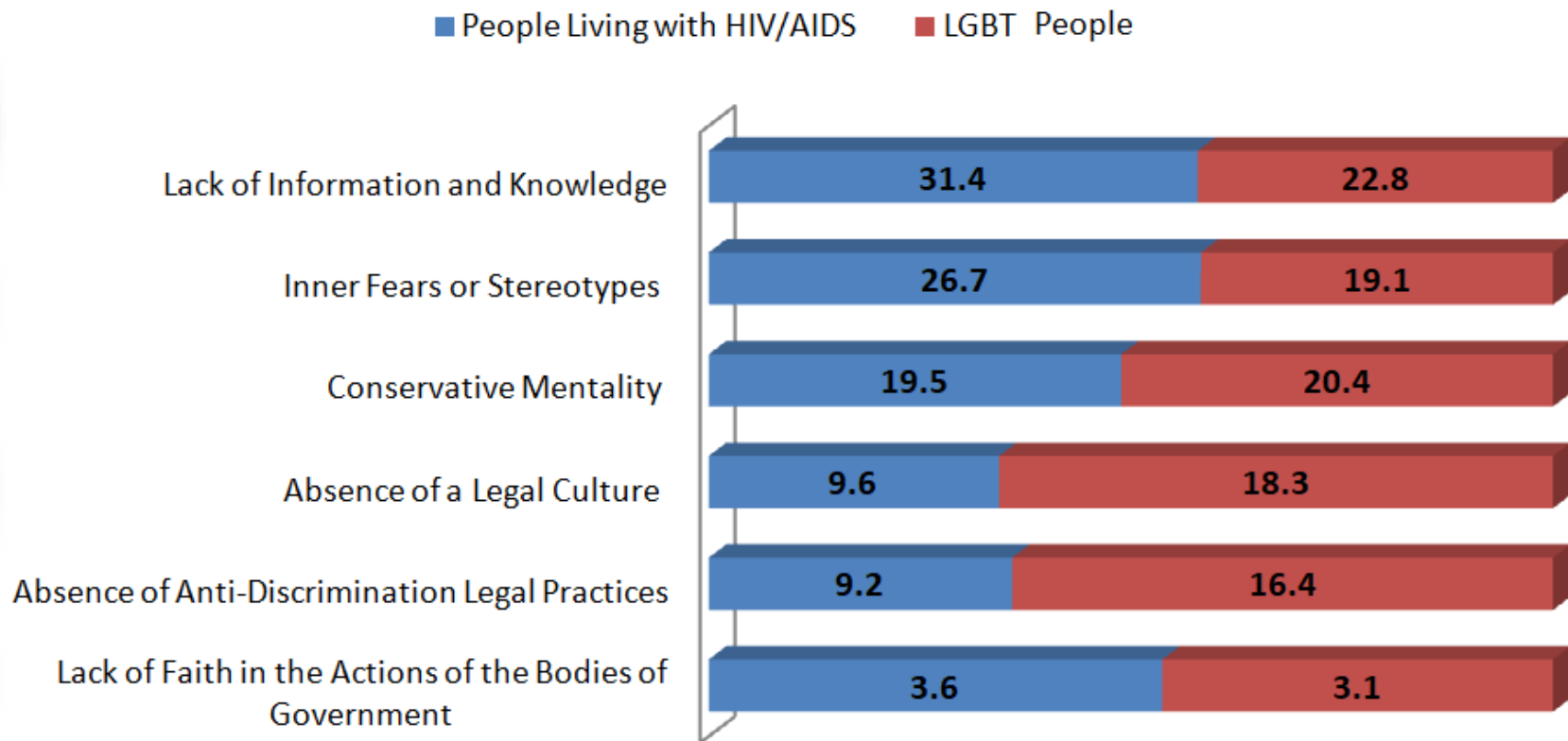
TYPES of DISCRIMINATION:

Different Types of Discrimination Encountered in the Parental Home

Type of Discrimination	People Living with HIV/AIDS		LGBT People	
	Number	%	Number	%
Direct Actions	9	37.5	14	43.8
Inaction, attitude	4	16.7	10	31.3
Association	5	20.8	2	6.3
Harassment	2	8.3	2	6.3
Sexual Harassment	-	-	1	3.1
Inducement	2	8.3	1	3.1
Victimization	2	8.3	2	6.3
Total	24	100.0	32	100.0

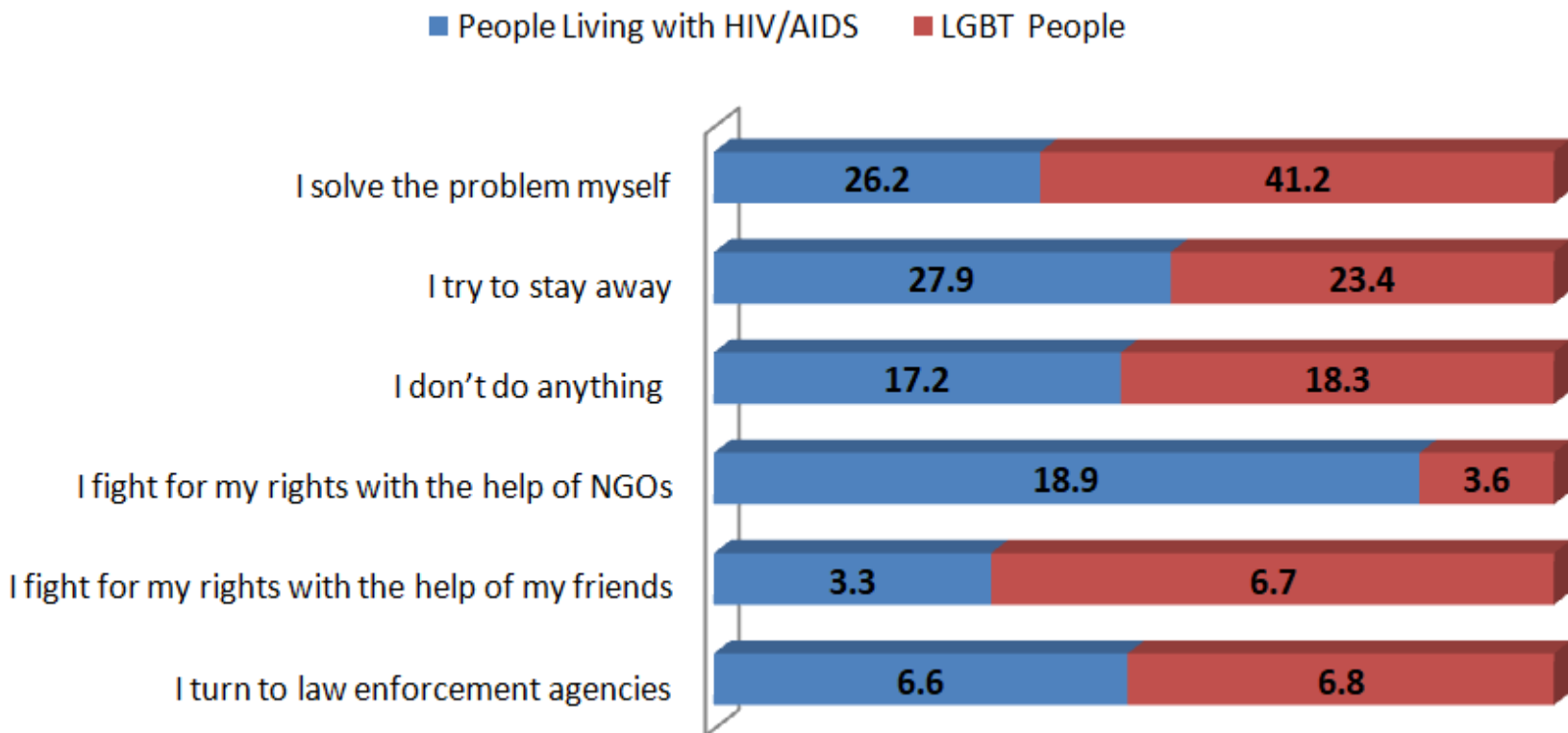


FACTORS INFLUENCING DISCRIMINATION in SOCIETY



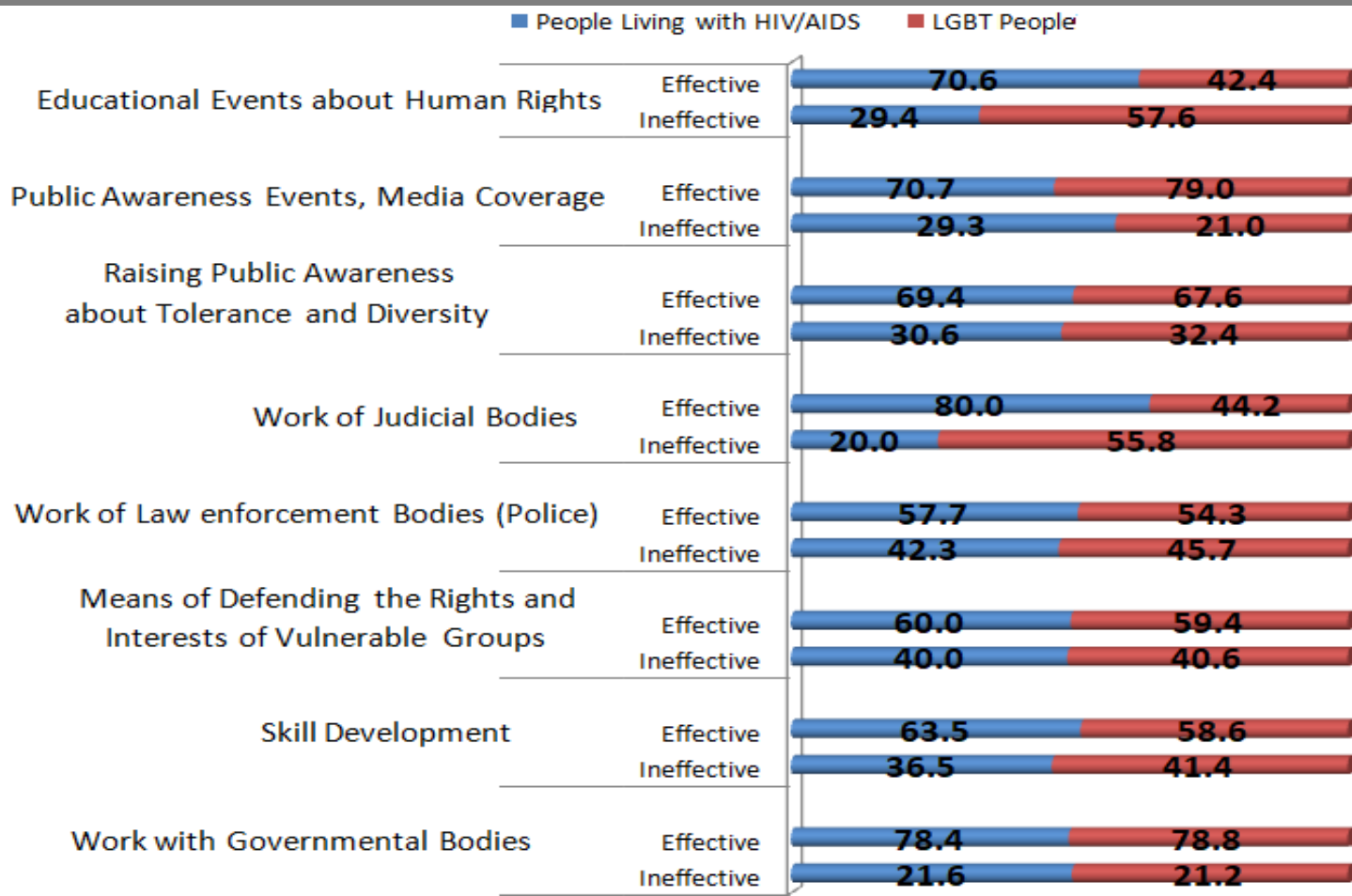


BEHAVIOUR EXHIBITED when FACED with DISCRIMINATION





The EFFECTIVENESS of MECHANISMS to COMBAT DISCRIMINATION





HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION MECHANISMS & TOOLS in ARMENIA



- ★ International Legal Documents
- ★ RA Law on Medical Aid and Population Services
- ★ RA Law on Prevention of Diseases Caused by HIV
- ★ Criminal Code
- ★ Administrative Code
- ★ Etc.



PUBLIC DISCUSSION RELATED to
LAW on HIV PREVENTION, CRIMINAL & ADMINISTRATIVE CODES



1. **Prohibition on refusing** to provide medical care and services to PLHIV.
2. **Confidentiality** of medical information on PLHIV & AIDS patients and the requirements for their transmission.
3. **Failure or inadequate provision** of medical aid and service by the healthcare provider or a person based on HIV status.
4. **Article 123. HIV transmission**
 - HIV transmission **intentionally** or as a result of **self-confidence** by a person who knows his/her status is punishable.
 - The person who committed the offense provided for in this article is released from liability if another person who has been infected or at risk of HIV has been warned of the presence of the virus in the first & voluntarily acted at risk of infection, or if the person who committed the act took all preventive measures against transmission the virus.



SUMMARY

- *Only a small % of respondents (5.5%) are spared encounters with bias & discrimination in their daily lives, interpersonal relationships, as well as in the availability & provision of services in the spheres of **employment, education, public health, & others**.*
- *In our society, individuals & social groups are subject to discrimination based on **13 factors**.*
- *In general, the possibility of encountering discrimination is most strongly expressed in **Medical Institutions** (50.8%).*
- *The majority have mentioned instances of **Direct Action** (33.2%) & Inaction/Treatment (31.3%).*





SUMMARY

- *While **Conservative Mentality, Lack of Information & Knowledge, Inner Fears or Stereotypes** of the members of society are the main factors that create discriminatory attitudes.*
- ***The Absence of Anti-Discrimination Legal and Cultural Practices**, as well as a Lack of Faith in the Actions of the Bodies of Government lead to the infrequent practice of turning to Law Enforcement Agencies when faced with discrimination (6.0%).*
- ***Means of Defending the Rights and Interests of Vulnerable Groups** are considered to be an active mechanism to combat discrimination by over half of the respondents (75.4%).*





CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ The problem of discrimination is existent in all spheres of society in Armenia.
- ❖ The majority of respondents attribute the presence of discrimination to a **conservative mentality**, with the existence of **stereotypes & traditional values** in *the national mentality*. However, discrimination must also be considered an issue of the state; therefore its solution must involve a change in both the core value system & world view of our society and the employment of anti-discrimination legal culture & judicial practices.





SUGGESTIONS

- **Present** the MoJ RA with the **updated project “On the Elimination of Discrimination,”** followed by the proposal NA RA to **pass the law.**
- Under the supervision of the MoH RA, **secure a patients’ rights** to receive medical care without discrimination.
- **Conduct research** on the problems faced in the prohibition of discrimination & organize events during which the results will be **made public.**
- **Create a partnership** between civil society & state agencies in the fight against discrimination. **Promote their activities.**
- **Incorporate the means of fighting & preventing discrimination.**





SUGGESTIONS

- **Rate the activities of law enforcement & judicial bodies** from more effective operations in the fight against discrimination.
- **Incorporate the ethical demands** of the elimination of discrimination in the internal regulations of state agencies.
- **Initiate & carry out the screening of public awareness programs** on tolerance & diversity through mass media & **ban** programs that can plant the seed of discrimination.
- **Organize educational events** about human rights in the spheres of formal & informal education, to raise legal consciousness, etc.



THANK YOU!

@pinkarmenia



@pinkarmenia



@pinkarmenia



@pinkarmenia



www. pinkarmenia.org



info@pinkarmenia.org



00 374 60 377 277



@pinkarmenia

