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Teachers’ knowledge of LGBTI rights

The law on pre-university education states that secondary education (grades 10-12, defined as high school) is developed through three forms: gymnasium, vocational education and oriented secondary education. Because secondary education is not compulsory, only a part of the students continue from basic education to secondary education. Chart 1 tells us that almost half of teachers have knowledge on LGBTI rights with the other half stating that they don’t.

Discrimination on SOGI grounds

Teachers declare a higher level of victimization of adolescents in their school (over 30%) then their classrooms (10%). 30% of teachers stated that one of the main causes of adolescent discrimination is their sexual orientation, while only 5% of teachers in overall said that the cause of discrimination was related to the gender identity of their student.

Protection from discrimination and violence

Only 2.4% of teachers participating in the survey of PINK Embassy Albania, notified the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination regarding adolescents’ discrimination, while 37% of them said that they have acted on their own to discourage discrimination. When teachers were asked what they did when confronted with such cases, 16% of them said they had intervened to stop the violence, meanwhile 66% of teachers refused to give an answer to the question!

Attitudes towards LGBTI adolescents

Only 8% of teachers stated that there are LGBTI adolescents in their school. In 21% of teachers this information was given by the LGBTI adolescents, 26% from other teachers and 48% from adolescents’ peers.

At least 12% of interviewed teachers in overall think that LGBTI adolescents are sick when asked about their sexual orientation and gender identity. A higher percentage of men (18%) think so, compare to women (10%). Meanwhile 9.3% of teachers stated that they cannot accept LGBTI adolescents. When teachers were asked how they would behave if their child was LGBTI, 70% of them said they would not accept them for who they are. The same percentage of teachers (70%) stated in the survey that they would not accept, respect or support their child if he / she declared to them that they were gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or intersex.