

Response

As was the case with last October's sex survey, female responses outnumbered males', though not so drastically: females accounted for 56 per cent of the responses, while males represented 44 per cent. (For the sex survey, females outnumbered males by over two to one.) Of female responses, 79 per cent considered themselves heterosexual, while 21 per cent stated they were bisexual. Lesbian responses numbered precisely zero. 64 per cent of males considered themselves straight, 18 per cent said they were gay, and another 18 per cent said they were bisexual. Like the sex survey, which may have been stilted towards responses from the sexually active, the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual survey may have received a disproportionate number of responses from queers and queer sympathizers. Figures concerning the incidence of homosexuality are notoriously unreliable, but Alfred Kinsey's seminal (no pun) sex research stated that almost 14 per cent of males and over 4 per cent of females are homosexual, for a combined average of approximately 9 per cent. 10 per cent has come to be the accepted percentage of queers in the population.

For those people who did not consider themselves gay, lesbian, or bisexual, 72 per cent, only 8 per cent have had a sexual experience with someone of the same sex. Since we didn't ask any questions about rape or molestation, we have no idea if these experiences were voluntary or not. More women (14 per cent) than men (0 per cent) had experiences with someone of the same sex. This raises the question: do women tend to be more experimental than men?

More women (26 per cent) than men (21 per cent) who had not already had a same-sex relation considered it.

41 per cent of males and 43 per cent of females reported having fantasized about members of the same sex at one time or another. In the sex survey, the figures were about half that: 22 per cent for males and 21 per cent for females.

Approach

Most people said they would respond tactfully to being approached by a member of the same sex, though answers ranged from physical violence to receptiveness. Here's a cross-section of the responses:

- Depends on how he looked -- if he looked good I'd be receptive.
- Probably confusion and apprehension, though I'd try to politely decline.
- Punch him.
- This has happened and I was quite comfortable in saying I am heterosexual and uninterested in a same-sex relationship.
- Surprised, speechless, disgusted.
- It would depend on how well I knew him -- AIDS is out there!
- Tell person no and leave: if they persist, perhaps physical violence.

The X-Press Alternative Sexuality Survey

A Snapshot of UPEI's GLBQ Climate

By Kirby Ferguson and Rebecca Moore

- Taken aback, somewhat offended.
- If I found him attractive I'd consider it.
- I would politely tell him 'I'm straight', then continue to talk to him.
- I would gracefully decline.
- If they were sexy, sure!
- Laugh, turn away
- It depends on the circumstances now, doesn't it?

- I would be honoured and obliged.
- I would be happy.
- I would be appalled.
- I would be flattered, but I don't think I would do it.
- I don't know how I'd react. I might accept out of curiosity.
- I would thank them for the compliment and politely refuse.
- I would be disgusted, but politely say no.
- I would be flattered, but I would decline if involved with someone at the time. If not, who knows?
- He would be lucky to walk away.
- Respond negatively, maybe sarcastically

Friends

76 per cent of the respondents had gay, lesbian, or bisexual friends. 22 per cent did not, and 2 per cent did not know.

When asked if their gay friends were open about their sexuality, most respondents said that some are open and others are not. Reasons ranged from the crowd that they hung out with to the job that the person held.

Attitudes

Attitudes toward homosexuality proved to be quite tolerant. Many people reacted with indifference, saying that the issue is none of their concern, but once again there was a wide range in responses, including some who found homosexuality repugnant, while

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