

EP04.10

Decreasing homophobia among people: a before and after study

G Erman(1), Ilyas Erken(2), H Küçükkaragöz(1), D Güldal(3)

(1) Dokuz Eylül University, Institute of Education, Department of Family Counselling, Izmir, Turkey

(2) Ministry of Health, Sinop Erfelek State Hospital, Sinop, Turkey

(3) Dokuz Eylül University Medical Faculty, Department of Family Medicine, Izmir, Turkey

Corresponding author: Dr Ilyas Erken, Ministry of Health Sinop Erfelek State Hospital, Family Medicine Outpatient Clinic, Sinop, Turkey. E-mail: ilyas.erken@gmail.com

The prevalent social perspective and governmental policy in many countries still is that homosexuality is a perversion. As a result, many homosexual individuals suffer from discrimination and expose to physical, sexual violence and sexual abuse socially, economically and in many other aspects. We need some tools to abolish homophobia in society. The aim of this study is to investigate the benefit of visual and audio materials on changing homophobic attitudes and behaviours of people towards LGBT individuals.

The design of the study is pre and post intervention study. 31 female and 32 male volunteer is included to the study. Lesbian and gay individuals are excluded from the study .

As a data collection tool, a questionnaire with demographic variables and "Hudson and Ricketts Homophobia Scale " applied to participants.

As the content of intervention, documentary called "Don't look at me like that " is shown to participants. After, homophobia scale was applied again to the participants .

Besides descriptive analysis, t test and one way anova test are applied in the study.

The average age of the participants was 40.57 ± 39.00 (min 35, max 65). When mean value of HRHS score was 82,46 before the intervention, it was 80,52 after the intervention. The decrease of the mean score was statistically significant ($z=-2.079$, $p=0,038$). According to the results, there is no difference in 6 people (9.5 %), decreased homophobia in 37 people (58.7 %), increased homophobia in 20 people (31.7 %). There was no statistically significant relation between the change in homophobia score with sex, education level and income.

It has been revealed that even short and simple interventions can change the attitudes of people. The intervention tool has a crucial role.