

Nursing Students' Perceptions of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Behavior

Nur Rini Rahmawati, Aat Sriati, Henny Yulianita

Faculty of Nursing, Padjadjaran University

Email : nur19002@mail.unpad.ac.id

Abstract

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) is a deviant behavior that is not in accordance with the norms in society. Nursing students as prospective nurses will deal with a variety of patients including LGBT patients so it is necessary to have a negative perception of LGBT that does not justify LGBT but does not counter LGBT excessively which triggers the tendency to behave discriminatory towards LGBT. The purpose of this study was to determine the perception of nursing students about LGBT. The research method used was descriptive quantitative with proportionate stratified random sampling technique on a sample of 302 nursing students from 2019 to 2022. The instrument used was the perception of LGBT questionnaire with the validity test value of the calculated r value $(0.30-0.67) \geq r$ table (0.23) and the reliability test value of the Cronbach Alpha coefficient ≥ 0.632 with the result of 0.819 . Data analysis using univariate techniques. The results showed 54.6% of students had a very negative perception and 0.3% were very positive. This means that most respondents view LGBT as a health problems and deviation. It is expected that the faculty and religious organizations on campus can provide a lot of information and adequate materials about LGBT.

Keywords: LGBT, Perception, higher Students education

Introduction

The existence of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) is a phenomenon that basically involves attraction or relationships between individuals of the same gender and is currently a topic of discussion and debate among the public both at the international and national levels (Setiawan et al., 2017). LGBT behavior should be avoided because it can bring many adverse effects, one of which is for health, which is more vulnerable to sexually transmitted diseases. According to Indira (2022) LGBT people who have health problems still face inequality or discriminatory behavior in access to health care. They often feel the need to hide their sexual orientation when receiving health services for fear of facing negative stigma from medical personnel (Silalahi, 2019).

In a national LGBT survey conducted by the UK government to 108,100 respondents in 2017 showed that 16% of respondents who accessed health services experienced negative experiences due to their sexual orientation, and 38% of transgender respondents had negative experiences when accessing health services due to their gender identity (Government Equalities Office, 2019). Meanwhile, according to Nama's research (2017) LGBT individuals who received worse health care reported that a considerable level of discrimination was obtained from medical students and practicing doctors. Meanwhile, research conducted by Ozdemir (2022) on nursing students in Turkey found that out of 287 students, 44.3% of students experienced difficulties in interacting with LGBT individuals and 15.3% of students expressed low willingness to provide care to LGBT individuals.

Based on the survey results above, it shows that health services for LGBT by health workers and health students still have perceptions of LGBT that lead to stigmatization and discriminatory behavior. According to Nurhadi (2021) in his research stated that the personal views and opinions held by health workers in interpreting standards of sexuality that are considered normal can also be influenced by diverse identities and life experiences, this can lead to the risk of stigmatization of LGBT PLHIV

clients. In addition, Andari's research (2016) states that one of the factors that cause stigmatizing treatment is the individual's perception of LGBT, this perception greatly influences one's attitude and behavior towards the LGBT community. According to Nursalam et al., (2021) an extreme form of disapproval of a particular group with different characteristics is a stigma, one of whose dimensions is discriminatory behavior, so students with very negative perceptions of LGBT are more likely to tend to behave in a discriminatory manner.

This is in line with the process of behavior formation according to Sarwono (1993) and Nugraheni (2017) in which the process of forming or changing individual behavior is influenced by several factors originating from the individual himself, including the central nervous system, perception, motivation, emotions, and learning. Meanwhile, according to Gibson's theory (1987), there are 3 variables that influence individual behavior, namely abilities, skills and psychological variables that are influenced by the environment, social and family levels such as perceptions, attitudes, motivation and so on.

Perception when viewed from the form of behavior is included in closed behavior where the response to this stimulus is still limited to attention, perception, knowledge, awareness and attitudes and cannot be clearly observed by others (Skinner, 1938 in Notoatmodjo, 2007). But even so, in the theory of practice or action, perception is the first level in an action where individuals recognize and select various objects in connection with the actions to be taken (Nugraheni, 2017). In this case, perception is very important because it is an element in adjusting individual behavior to the environment (Dian, 2013).

Perception is the process of giving meaning to the environment or circumstances received by individuals (Hamidah et al., 2014). According to Woodworth and Marquis in Neviyarni et al., (2019) states that in perception there are two components, namely the cognition component which is the process of giving meaning to stimuli related to recognition, knowledge, expectations and individual experience of certain stimuli and the affection or feeling component which is an

individual's impression of a stimulus related to individual judgment based on feelings or emotions towards a particular stimulus.

Nursing students as prospective professional nurses will perform their role as nurses related to the role of nurses related to LGBT, namely the role as educators and nursing care providers (Nadya, 2023). Although as health workers, they will certainly have to provide professional health services by paying attention to ethical principles in nursing, one of which is justice (Nindy, 2013). However, the perceptions held by health workers can also determine how they behave towards LGBT patients, so as health workers have a negative perception will be more beneficial for the individual himself and as a nurse because they counter but not excessively as in the category of very negative perceptions that are more likely to possibly behave discriminatory to LGBT patients. The purpose of this study was to determine the perception of nursing students about LGBT.

Research Methods

This study was conducted with a quantitative descriptive design with the research variable of nursing students' perceptions of LGBT. The population used in this study were 773

Padjadjaran University nursing students who were active in the class of 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and used stratified random sampling techniques on 302 samples that had been obtained. Data analysis using univariate techniques. The instrument used in this study is the perception of LGBT questionnaire developed by Delfita et al., (2019) with the validity test value of the calculated r value $(0.30-0.67) \geq r$ table (0.23) and the reliability test value of the Cronbach Alpha coefficient ≥ 0.632 with the result of 0.819. The data analysis used distribution of frequency, and presented in tables with several categories including very negative, negative, pretty negative, positive, and very positive. The categories were based on the score of respondent answer. In carrying out this research, researchers have obtained ethical approval with number 1012/UN6. KEP/EC/2023 to hold and uphold 3 ethics, namely Respect For Human Dignity, Respect For Privacy And Confidentiality and Justice.

Results

Based on the results of data processing, the results of this study can be described as follows. Padjadjaran University nursing students' perception of LGBT as a whole can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Nursing students' overall perceptions of LGBT (n = 302)

Category	Score	F	%
Very Negative	138.6 – 165.0	165	54.6
Negative	112.2 – 138.6	107	35.4
Pretty Negative	85.8 – 112.2	25	8.3
Positive	59.4 – 85.8	4	1.3
Very Positive	33.0 – 59.4	1	0.3
Total		302	100

From the results of overall data analysis, it can be seen that the perceptions of Padjadjaran University nursing students about LGBT is in the category of very unacceptable or very negative with a percentage of 54.6% or as many as 165 students. students. When viewed from each aspect, the description of student perceptions of LGBT, as follows.

Cognition aspects

Table 2. Nursing students' perceptions about LGBT in terms of cognition

Category	Score	F	%
Very Negative	100.8 – 120.0	169	56.0
Negative	81.6 – 100.8	111	36.8

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Pretty Negative	62.4 – 81.6	17	5.6
Positive	43.2 – 62.4	4	1.3
Very Positive	24.0 – 43.2	1	0.3
Total		302	100

Based on table 2, it can be seen that the perception of Padadjaran University nursing students about LGBT based on the cognition aspect is in the category of category is very unaccepting or very negative, with a percentage of 56%.

Affective aspects

Table 3. Nursing students' perceptions about LGBT in terms of affective

Category	Score	F	%
Very Negative	37.8 – 45.0	159	52.6
Negative	30.6 – 37.8	99	32.8
Pretty Negative	23.4 – 30.6	29	9.6
Positive	16.2 – 23.4	14	4.6
Very Positive	9.0 – 16.2	1	0.3
Total		302	100

Table 3 above shows that the perception of Padadjaran University nursing students about LGBT in the affective aspect is in the very negative category with a percentage of 52.6%.

Discussion

Based on the results of descriptive analysis, most of the perceptions of Padadjaran University nursing students about LGBT are in the very negative category and almost half have negative perceptions. Very negative perceptions describe the degree of quality or negative perceptions that are more intense than negative and moderately negative perceptions. Students who have very negative perceptions of LGBT mean that they view and interpret LGBT as behavior that is not justified or deviant (Neviyarni et al., 2019). Students who have a very negative perception they are more likely to tend to discriminatory behavior against LGBT but on the other hand they are more awake and avoid to fall into the LGBT act itself. This is supported by research by Teguh (2016) which states that students should have a negative perception of LGBT so that they do not get swept up and can fortify themselves in behavior that is not morally justified and the values embraced by Indonesian culture. However, according to Nursalam et al., (2021) extreme disapproval of certain characteristics can make the existence of a group of people undesirable in the community (stigma), which according to

Link and Phelan in Azizah (2022) one of its components is discriminatory behavior.

Nursing students are future professional nurses, so it is more beneficial if their perception of LGBT is in the negative category. Students who have negative perceptions view LGBT as something wrong and contrary to societal norms but not excessive which can trigger unfavorable behavior for LGBT patients. Delfita et al., (2019) and Neviyarni et al., (2019) also said the same thing that as students should have a negative perception of LGBT. While a small proportion of students who are in the moderately negative perception category are neutral but more likely to not justify LGBT. Nursing students will carry out their role as nurses, one of which is to be educators. So that these nursing students must have a negative perception in order to convince and provide correct education, especially things related to health. Although in its implementation nurses must also uphold and maintain nursing ethics and high quality of service accompanied by honesty (Ramni, 2018).

Nursing students' perceptions about LGBT in terms of cognition

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The perception of nursing students in the cognition aspect is in a very negative category, which means that students of the Faculty of Nursing Unpad view LGBT based on their knowledge, recognition and expectations as deviant behavior, contrary to the norms and religious values that exist in society, have a negative impact on health and consider LGBT as a disturbing behavior. This is in accordance with the results of research conducted by Aliffatulisa (2019) that students consider LGBT to be a deviation and social disease that is not suitable when applied in Indonesia because it is not in accordance with Indonesian norms. Students can gain knowledge about LGBT through the learning process. According to Azhar (2013) through the learning process and individual psychological conditions and attitudes towards perceived objects can also affect cognition. This means that through the learning process the knowledge, recognition and expectations that students have about LGBT will increase, so that students know that LGBT is deviant behavior, more able to fortify themselves so as not to fall into LGBT behavior and know how to behave appropriately in LGBT patients.

Nursing students' perceptions about LGBT in terms of affective

In the aspect of affection, almost all students in this study have a negative perception. They feel uncomfortable and uncomfortable seeing the romanticism shown by the same sex, such as holding hands in public places, they are also uneasy if LGBT is allowed in society. According to Ekawarti (2022) some students may feel unfamiliar or uncomfortable with diversity in sexual orientation and gender identity which can make them have a negative perception of LGBT. The campus environment and student associations can influence perceptions of LGBT. If the environment tends to reject or punish LGBT, then students also tend to adopt that view (Yulius, 2016).

Conclusion

Most of the students of the Faculty of Nursing, Padjadjaran University have a very

negative view of LGBT and a small number have a moderately negative and positive view. The difference in perception is due to the different aspects of cognition and affection that a person has. The variables of this study are still limited, so the development of other variables by future researchers is needed to examine the relationship between perception and behavior, especially in nursing students as prospective nurses.

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