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## Attitudes to same sex couples and families: new evidence from the Australian Survey of Social Attitudes

**Shaun Wilson** (Shaun.Wilson@anu.edu.au)  
The Australian National University

### Abstract

This paper examines recent estimates of the self-declared gay, lesbian and bisexual population in Australia from Grulich et al (2003) and the Australian Survey of Social Attitudes conducted in 2003, then considers difficulties encountered in obtaining a reliable estimate using current survey techniques. The paper goes on to look at public support for legal recognition of same-sex couples and public acceptance of same-sex families in Australia. I consider similar findings from other western countries and look at the relationship between public support for same sex relationships/families and the progress of legal reforms.

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