



Process of collaboration among European countries on a participatory approach for raising Awareness and fighting Discrimination concerning Sexual and gender Orientation in the healthcare sector.

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www.paradiso.gr



PARADISO's general objective

To create an inclusive and safe environment for LGBTQI+ people and fight discriminations in the healthcare sector due to sexual orientation and gender identity, through participatory activities for/with health professionals

Financed by the European Union's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020)

This programme shall contribute to the further development of an area where equality and the rights of persons, as enshrined in the Treaty, the Charter and international human rights conventions, are promoted and protected. Its nine specific objectives are to :

- Promote non–discrimination
- Combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance
- Promote rights of persons with disabilities
- Promote equality between women and men and gender mainstreaming
- Prevent violence against children, young people, women and other groups at risk (Daphne Project)
- Promote the rights of the child
- Ensure the highest level of data protection
- Promote the rights deriving from Union citizenship
- Enforce consumer rights

The Consortium



Sociology Department, NSPH (coordinator)

Nursing Department, NKUOA

Association for Regional Development and Mental Health (EPAPSY)

Association of Midwives of Athens (SEMMA)

PRAKSIS

Lesbian & Gay Community of Greece (OLKE)

CMT- Proopriki



Établissement Public de Santé Maison Blanche



European Forum for Primary Care (EFPC)

Paris' Participation in the Paradiso Project

- First PARADISO meeting in Athens (February 2018)
 - Presentation by Tim Greacen (PhD Social Psychology) :
Fighting for LGBTQI rights in the French health system: the impact of the AIDS epidemic
 - Meetings with Greek partners to create initial plans to design training modules for health professionals working in different areas: Emmanuelle Jouet (PhD in Educational Science), expert in developing training programmes for health professionals
- Dissemination in France (January to April 2019)
 - Translating PARADISO booklets
 - Contacting training and LGBTQI organisations in France

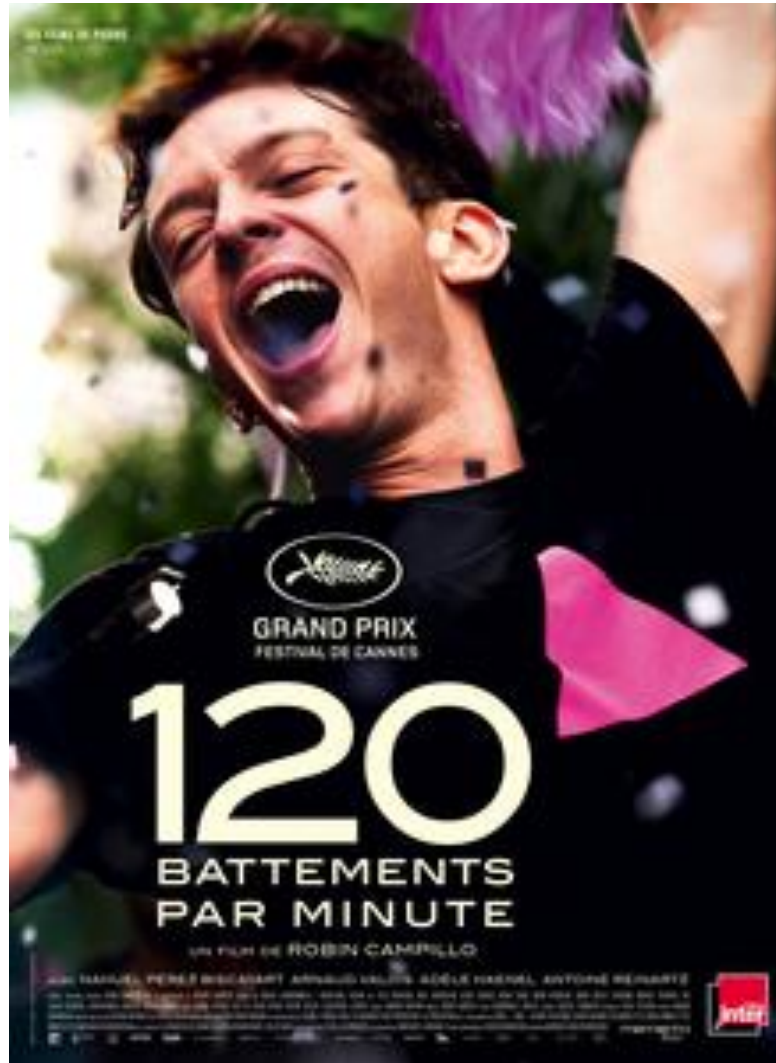
French Context: Fighting for LGBTQI rights in the French health system

- Although homosexuality had been theoretically decriminalised during the French Revolution in 1791 (compared to 1951 in Greece), various legal texts still discriminated against homosexuals and homosexual acts until 1981 when the police files on homosexuals were finally destroyed and homosexuality was officially declared no longer to be a mental illness (1993 for the WHO).
- However, in spite of this progress concerning legality homosexuality, stigmatisation, discrimination and violence against homosexuals was still frequent.

The impact of the AIDS epidemic

- The impact of the AIDS epidemic from the end of the 1980s in terms of convincing health and social care professionals to begin to understand the specific values and needs of the gay community
- Health professionals at that time received no specific training on LGBTQI questions.
- In the hospital system, the famous example of the first brochure addressing men who have sex with men in 1989 on how to use condoms was thrown into the rubbish by nursing staff in the infectious diseases service of Rothschild Hospital, considering it to be obscene.
- Tim Greacen : A major activist in the fight against AIDS, coordinator for hospital interventions for the AIDES Ile-de-France, the key HIV support NGO for the Paris region.
- Many public demonstrations by HIV/AIDS and LGBT organisations against the care system.

2017 Cannes Film Festival



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Moving forward in the health system in France

Since 2000, many efforts have been made to make health professionals more aware of LGBT issues and needs.

- Example : the documentary "Being gay, living a gay life" ("Etre et se vivre homo") financed and presented by the Regional Health Authority in the south of France (Region PACA) in the year 2000
 - Three young gay men and three young lesbian women describe the difficulties they had met with during their childhood and adolescence and how they managed to overcome them.

Further progress is clearly necessary in the health system

A 2016 study with 3,200 people who have sex with people of the same sex:

- only 7.3% of women and 23.6% of men reported having received information from a general practitioner that they considered to be useful or interesting on sexuality issues or on preventing sexually transmitted infections.
- More than one in three of those who had made their "medical coming out" felt judged by the doctor.

Systematic training of all health and social care professionals and regular evaluation of minority group issues within the care system is clearly a priority if progress is to be made.



Paradiso project:

Synthesis of results from the needs assessment phase

1. Health professionals are reporting lack in knowledge and focus in the need as well as their will to know more about LGBTI people.
2. Involving LGBTI organizations in targeted interventions is crucial!
3. Legal framework that supports human rights for LGBTI people is necessary for providing proper care.
4. There is an increased need for changing attitude, stance and understanding.

Training!

- Training Material was developed in four key areas
 - Primary Healthcare
 - Mental Health
 - Sexual and Reproductive Health
 - Basic Terminology
- With the objective:
 - LGBTQI individuals in Greece face health disparities linked to **social stigma, discrimination and denial of their civil and human rights**.
 - Creating a **safe, welcoming and non-discriminatory healthcare environment** for LGBTQI people requires: understanding LGBTQI issues; treating each LGBTQI person uniquely; being knowledgeable of basic LGBTQI-related concepts and terms, so that develop a common understanding and good communication; making LGBTQI individuals and their families feel safe; improving knowledge on the unique care LGBTQI needs and rights.
 - A **participatory approach** seems to be effective in raising awareness that can “open doors” for improved communication and trust creation, make healthcare visits more secure and therefore, may improve health care service delivery.

The PARADISO Project: not only in Greece but also in France!

In Greece

- Basic LGBTQI+ terminology guidelines
- training programmes for different health professionals
- Four booklets : “dos and don’ts on LGBTQI+ people in the health sector”

In France : dissemination

- The four booklets in French on the GHU website
- Links to LGBTQI+ terminology lists in French
- Publicity for the booklets in French
- Contacts and dissemination to LGBTQI+ organisations proposing training on this question
- Contact with different actors in the health sector concerning the importance of training professionals in this area.

LGBTQI+ terminology

[Basic Terminology for Working with LGBTQI+ People](#) :

This document defines the basic concepts and terms that can be used to develop a common understanding and improve the communication skills of professionals with LGBTQI+ people. The document is in English.

Four booklets on “dos and don’ts on LGBTQI+ people in the health sector”

1 – [Making LGBTQI+ People Feel Welcome in the Health Sector](#)

To create a welcoming environment for LGBTQI+ patients and introduces fundamentals that promote the rights of the LGBTQI+ population and other that serve in fighting discriminatory behaviors against LGBTQI+ individuals.

Four booklets on “dos and don’ts on LGBTQI+ people in the health sector”

2 - Basic LGBTQI+ Guidelines for Primary Healthcare Providers

The gaps observed in the provision of primary health care for LGBTQI+ people are related to gaps in the knowledge and training of professionals. This guide provides recommendations for primary care clinicians

Four booklets on “dos and don’ts on LGBTQI+ people in the health sector”

3 – LGBTQI+ Inclusive Mental Health Services

By including historic references and their effect on the treatment of LGBTQI+ people by mental health professionals as well as on the accessibility of proper mental health services for LGBTQI+ people nowadays, the guidelines aim at make mental health services welcoming for LGBTQI+ people

Four booklets on “dos and don’ts on LGBTQI+ people in the health sector”

4 - Basic Guidelines on Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare for LGBTQI+ People

It provides insight on sexual and reproductive health for LGBTQI+ individuals. It highlights good practices and practices that should be avoided while treating LGBTQI+ patients. It stresses the importance of sensitizing healthcare providers, reducing stigma and discrimination, and adopting good practices

Dissemination in France

Initial contacts have been made with the following organisations

- LGBT Center, Paris
- Grey Pride
- Continuous training services: GHU Paris Psychiatrie et Neurosciences
 - Zéro formations proposées actuellement
- Continuous training services: Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de Paris (APHP)(Paris region hospital services)
 - Zéro formations proposées actuellement
- Interministerial Delegation for Fighting against Racism, Antisemitism and anti-LGBT discrimination (Délégation Interministérielle à la Lutte Contre le Racisme, l'Antisémitisme et la Haine anti-LGBT) (*DILCRAH*)

Dissemination in France

- Translate the PARADISO booklets into French
- Promote the PARADISO booklets and the PARADISO project in France
- Promote existing training programmes for health and social care professionals on providing quality care for LGBTQI+ people
 - Meeting with Chairman of Centre LGBT in Paris 24th April 2019: decision to use this Centre to recruit LGBT trainers.

*I have learned
that people will
forget what you
said, people will
forget what you
did, but people
will never forget
how you made
them feel.*

Maya Angelou
1928-2014



Photo by Michael Collopy





Σας ευχαριστούμε!