Why do LGBTI people seek support from LGBTI police liaison officers?

Associate Professor Angela Dwyer, University of Tasmania

Police liaison programs that support LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex) people might go by many names (including GLLOs, LGBTI police liaison officers, etc), but they have become the key model for providing police service enhancements for LGBTI people. These programs now dominate other approaches used to building relationships between police and LGBTI communities. Interestingly, although this form of support is popular, research on the effectiveness of these programs, and the services that align with them, is limited. This seminar examines interview data from LGBTI people and LGBTI police liaison officers in three states in Australia. The analysis demonstrates the key operational issues that impact the role of LGBTI police liaison officers in doing this role in addition to their other duties. The analysis also highlights the key reasons why LGBTI people are reluctant to seek support from these programs and how we might potentially improve this situation.

Angela Dwyer is an Associate Professor in Police Studies and Emergency Management, School of Social Sciences, University of Tasmania and is a Senior Researcher with TILES. Angela conducts research on the intersection between sexuality, gender diversity, and criminal justice and is lead editor of Queering Criminology, edited with Matthew Ball and Thomas Crofts, and published with Palgrave.

When       Wednesday 15 June 2016, 1.00pm to 2.00pm
Where       Aurora Lecture Theatre, IMAS Building, Castray Esplanade
Contact     Louise.Grimmer@utas.edu.au or 6226 1587

The InFocus Seminar Series is designed to promote engagement between UTAS researchers and the wider community.