



Game Plan: science-based inclusion.

DO PRIDE GAMES STOP HOMOPHOBIC LANGUAGE?

Homophobic language is common in male sport. It is often dismissed as 'banter' or sledging but it makes gay and bisexual people feel unwelcome. It also increases the likelihood a teammate will attempt suicide.

Monash University conducted a study to investigate if holding pride games stops homophobic language. The study involved all eight semi-professional Australian Ice Hockey League teams. It examined differences in language use by players on teams that have held pride games with teams that have not.

SURPRISING FINDINGS

- Players with positive attitudes toward gay people were just as likely as those with homophobic attitudes to use homophobic language (e.g. fag).
- Players did not understand their language is harmful. Most (92%) also believed a gay teammate would feel 'very' welcome on their team.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Pride games would be more effective if combined with education about the harm caused by homophobic language.
- Players need to be clearly told that gay/bi teammates feel unwelcome/unsafe when they hear derogatory jokes and words like 'fag' or even the phrase 'that's gay.'

DID YOU KNOW?

GAY/BI MALES PLAY TEAM SPORT AT HALF THE RATE OF STRAIGHT MALES. THEY ARE ALSO NEARLY FIVE TIMES MORE LIKELY TO ATTEMPT SUICIDE.

PLAYERS ON PRIDE GAME TEAMS USE NEARLY 40% LESS HOMOPHOBIC LANGUAGE

Used a slur (e.g. fag) in the past two weeks.

38% vs. 61%

Pride Game Players

No Pride Game

RESEARCH FROM:



SUPPORTED BY:



GAME PLAN. SCIENCE-BASED METHODS TO MAKE SPORT INCLUSIVE.

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