Project Title: Safe Schools Coalition Australia Evaluation

Host School/ Institute: The Children’s Hospital at Westmead Clinical School

Address: The Children’s Hospital at Westmead, Westmead, 2145 & University of Sydney, Camperdown NSW 2006

URL: http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/chw/

Personal Supervisor: Cristyn Davies

Phone: 02 9845 3377

Email: Cristyn.Davies@sydney.edu.au

Co-Supervisors: Associate Professor Rachel Skinner

Project Type: Data Analysis, Qualitative Analysis, Literature Review, Survey

Project Category: Adolescent medicine, Education, Public Health, Mental Health, Paediatrics/Child Health

Project Keywords:
1. Gender
2. Sexuality
3. Adolescence
4. Homophobia
5. Transphobia

Project Description:
Safe Schools Coalition Australia (SSCA), which is a national program launched in 2014, offers an important opportunity for all schools to create safer and more inclusive school communities for same sex attracted, intersex and gender diverse young people (SSAIGD), teachers and families. SSCA is nationally funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training and supports the vision of the nationally endorsed National Safe Schools Framework.

We are undertaking a quantitative and qualitative pre and post evaluation of the program, which includes students from years 9 and 10. The quantitative evaluation is being undertaken in all states and territories. The qualitative evaluation is taking place in 4 Australia states. We will compare responses of students at baseline (before the program starts) to responses of the same students at approx. 8-12 months (after the program begins) for:

- Experiences of bullying/ violence (including SSAIGD bullying and violence) and social inclusion
- Knowledge and attitudes regarding SSAIGD
- Indicators of mental health (depression and anxiety), and well-being
- School participation
- Student involvement in peer support groups and advocacy

The successful candidate will have an interest in qualitative and/or qualitative research, adolescent mental health, sexuality and gender, and public health. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to participate in: data coding and basic qualitative analysis, basic analysis of quantitative data, contribution to literature search and review, contribution to draft report, which will contribute to a national program evaluation designed to improve the health and wellbeing of all students, including those who are SSAIGD.