I. Nature and Scope of Homophobic and Transphobic Violence

Violence in educational settings is a global issue faced by all countries. Children who are LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Intersex) - or are perceived to be - report a higher prevalence of violence than their peers, and feel unsafe at school.

A large percentage of LGBTI young people around the world experience homophobic and transphobic violence at school. This is more likely to happen in school than at home, with friends, or in their community.

Types of Violence

- Homophobic and transphobic violence is a form of gender-based violence that manifests in many ways.
- Homophobic and transphobic violence can occur in many different educational settings.

II. Consequences for LGBTI Students

This violence impacts LGBTI children and young people in many ways. They are more likely to:

- It may impact their physical and mental health, and cause:
  - Miss class
  - Drop out
  - Have lower academic achievement
  - Experience anxiety, fear, stress, loss of confidence, low self-esteem, and depression.

III. Education Sector Response:

How Can We End Homophobic and Transphobic Violence?

Few countries have comprehensive education sector responses in place to prevent and address homophobic and transphobic violence in educational settings. The education sector has a responsibility to provide safe and inclusive learning environments that enable all children and young people access to quality education.

The education sector's response should be:

- Protect the human rights of all LGBTI students and those perceived not to conform to sexual or gender norms.
- Address needs and experiences of all LGBTI students.
- Involve LGBTI students in the design, implementation and evaluation.
- Be rights-based, learner-centred and inclusive, participatory, evidence-based, age-appropriate, gender responsive and transformative, context-specific and culturally sensitive.

We need a comprehensive, whole school response that includes:

- Effective policies
- Relevant curricula and learning materials
- Training for school staff
- Support for students and families
- Strategic partnerships
- Monitoring and evaluation

With support from Norway and The Netherlands

For more information, see [http://bit.ly/1OdMi3t](http://bit.ly/1OdMi3t)

Source: Out In The Open - Education sector responses to violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression, © UNESCO, 2016

---

*Image credit: UNESCO*