

Conference Paper

FPT HCM University Parental Attitudes and Behavior Towards their Children's "Coming Out"

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Abstract.

The research team carried out a study of parental' attitudes and behaviors towards their children's "coming-out" and gender identity. The study was conducted in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam with a group of respondents who are parents of the FPT students. The study was conducted through quantitative methods using questionnaires modified from previous qualitative studies of the researchers. The results show that the group of respondents had low rates of shock or devastation because of their children's sexual orientation, but they still had a worried attitude. While their behavior is largely non-violent towards their children, they still try to encourage their children to conform to the biological sex they were born with. Parents are also more inclined to accept their children's sexual orientation if society and its laws accept it. The research results have and will contribute to the implementation of many campaigns and activities related to the topic of LGBT parents and children.

Keywords: parents, students, attitude, behavior, LGBT, coming out, FPT HCM university

1. Introduction

Coming out is a process of revealing one's gender identity to someone. This process creates a lot of influence on that individual's life in both negative and positive aspects. One of the target groups that every individual in the LGBT community wants to reveal their gender identity to is family members, especially parents. Parents always play an important role in the psychological and physical development of their children. Having parents recognize and support the fact that their children live up to their true gender is a wonderful thing for individuals making the come-out process. Students are a young intellectual group, at an age with a large percentage of financial dependence on their parents, so they will be more concerned about continuing to express their gender

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Published 7 December 2023

Publishing services provided by Knowledge E

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Selection and Peer-review under the responsibility of the ICESG Conference Committee.

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identity because they are worried that they will upset their parents. and influence their learning. Students' feelings towards parents on this issue may still be unclear, easily misunderstanding views between both sides. Parents in today's era have also been more exposed to social networking platforms, so they may have had a certain change in their thinking on this issue, but students may not yet understand it from the parent.

FPT University in Ho Chi Minh City with a dynamic, global citizen-oriented environment is somewhat different in the mindset of students and parents compared to other environments. Therefore, studying the thinking of this group can see new perspectives that have not been found in previous studies in groups of parents with different living environments. The results of the study also help to discover the parent's attitude and apply it to parent-child connection activities.

2. Literature review

2.1. Come out

According to research was done by Cass 1979 [1] and Legate et al 2012 [2], It has been shown that "Coming-out" is the process of sharing one's sexual orientation with others. This is seen as an important transition in the development of lesbian and gay identities (Chow and Cheng, 2010) [3]. Disclosure to others helps individuals feel promoted for self-inclusion and personal empowerment and is a sign of self and social acceptance (Corrigan and Matthews, 2003) [4]. Acceptance from family and strong support from society are the prerequisites for Coming out to develop strongly.

Studies have shown that the Coming out process has significant positive effects. These include effects on relationships with others (eg, improving the authenticity of a friendship), self-identity building, and mental health (Baiocco et al 2012 [5]; Shilo et al. Savaya 2011 [6]; Vaughan and Waehler 2010 [7]).

According to a survey of sexual literature from Pubmed Central in the article LGBT Youth and Family Acceptance, one-third of young people who come out got parental support, one-third were rejected, and the remaining third are not precisely defining their sexual orientation in adolescence. According to George Washington University research, even after two years after coming out, most parents have not been able to adapt and have not embraced their children, particularly when confronted with a lot of news on the subject. Parents not accepting and having negative behaviors will affect the health problems of LGBT individuals. The above figures show that the current situation

of come-out has not yet achieved high efficiency. In particular, parents still do not fully accept the truth about their child's gender identity.

And it is about the unsuccessful Come-out that will be the source of the undesirable consequences. Research paper on "Problems Faced by LGBT People in the Mainstream Society: Some Recommendations" by the Dept. of Sociology (The University of Burdwan) and Teacher (Sociology) have shown that 8 times more likely to have attempted suicide, nearly 6 times more likely to experience depression, Usage of drugs and illicit substances 3 times higher and 3 times more likely to get HIV and STDs.

2.2. Attitude

Attitude is defined as a "psychological tendency that is expressed by evaluating a particular entity with some degree of favor or disfavor". This means that by evaluating pros and cons we form a positive or negative attitude about something or someone. During the change process individuals gradually shift from cons to pros, forming a more positive attitude towards the target behavior. Attitudes are one of the core constructs explaining behavior and behavior change in various research domains. Other behavior models, such as the theory of planned behavior and the stage model of self-regulated change, also emphasize attitude as an important determinant of behavior. The progression through the different stages of change is reflected in a gradual change in attitude before the individual acts. Most of the processes of change aim at evaluating and reevaluating as well as reinforcing specific elements of the current and target behavior. The processes of change contribute to great degree on attitude formation (Mel Reed & Bev Lloyd 2018) [8].

2.3. Parents' attitude

Regarding parental attitudes, there have been authors on these topics, Chandramuki D, V.K. Shastry, Vranda Mysore Narasimha, studied "Attitudes of Parents towards Children with Specific Learning Disabilities" in 2012 [9], The study highlights the need to educate to lower their expectations for children with specific learning disabilities, and to strengthen the social support network of these children's families, Greg Samar studied "Awareness and attitude of parents on child sexual abuse" in 2019 [10], the researchers made use of descriptive study to examine the level of awareness and attitude of Filipino parents with low socioeconomic status towards child sexual abuse. It is the attitudes of parents when their children come out that will affect their

children in different ways. If parents accept and support their child's sexual orientation, it will help their child have a good spiritual life, psychological and emotional health. On the contrary, when parents have a harsh attitude, their children will feel bored and lack motivation to strive. According to research from Pubmed Central, the world's majority of parents always want their children to be heterosexual like the majority. Therefore, when parents recognize the gay or transgender identity of their children, parents often react negatively to the child. Parents are often worried about their health, and opposition can lead to abuse and kicking the child out of the house. Since the child's gender identity deviates from expectations, parents are often less supportive and strongly opposed. According to a review of sexual materials from Pubmed Central through the article LGBT Youth and Family Acceptance, when coming out, there will be mixed reactions at first such as verbal abuse, but will improved and accepted over time.

Dr. Phuong Pham and Dr. Hanh Mai in their study conducted a qualitative survey on 22 parents of LGBT children in Vietnam. The results show that when parents know that their child is gay or transgender, almost all parents, whether they are father or mother, old or young, regardless of occupation or social status, they all feel shocked to varying degrees. In addition to being shocked, many parents fall into a state of depression, sadness and disappointment because the dreams and wishes they expected for their children are suddenly broken. Parents' emotional development becomes more complicated when all of these emotions are mixed with their worries about their health, about work, about their happy future, about their children's society discrimination and face-to-face issues. (Phuong, P., Hanh, M. et al, 2015) [11].

According to a study by Mita Puspita Sary [12], the results show that fathers' attitudes towards their children's problems are significantly influenced by their spouse's attitude. That is to say, if the mother has a positive attitude towards the father's involvement, the father will also have a positive attitude. And if mothers have a negative attitude towards fathers participating in parenting activities, fathers will have a negative attitude. This study also shows that mothers have more positive attitudes towards paternal involvement than fathers. The reason why fathers have a lower attitude than mothers is their lack of confidence and lack of positive feedback in their children's problems.

2.4. Parental behavior

Many factors influence the behavior of parents when their child comes out. It can be rooted in religious beliefs, educational attainment (Willoughby et al., 2008) [13], political leanings, age (Savin-Williams, 2001) [14], adaptability and lack of attachment to family

(Savin-Williams, 2001) [14]. Willoughby et al., (2008) [13], finally the conventional attitude towards gender roles (Nagoshi et al., 2008) [15].

Research conducted by Dr. Phuong Pham and Dr. Hanh Mai in Vietnam shows that most parents, when they know their child is LGBT, they object to different degrees. When protesting against their children, they often threaten to kick them out of the house, find ways to treat them with medicine or spirituality, with the hope that they will return to being "normal" heterosexuals. If they did not understand anything about LGBT before, most parents think that it is a disease that needs to be treated or that it is due to the trend of playing and demanding, so they do not accept their children. However, the reality is that even with understanding about LGBT, many parents still cannot accept their children, because they are still torn by problems of dignity and prejudice. The study also mentions the current situation that Vietnam still has no anti-discrimination law against LGBT people and laws related to kinship rights regarding children or property of the LGBT community. That causes parents to raise negative psychological states due to the policies of Vietnamese law. (Phuong, P., Hanh, M. et al., 2015) [11].

3. Methodology

3.1. Research objectives

1. Research on FPT parents' attitudes towards their children's disclosure of being LGBT to their parents
2. Research on the behavioral trends of FPT parents when their children reveal themselves as LGBT to their parent

3.2. Research question

Q1: Are FPT parents shocked by their child's coming out?

Q2: Do FPT parents have a broken attitude towards their child's coming out?

Q3: Are FPT parents worried about their child's coming out?

Q4: Are FPT parents angry about their children coming out?

Q4: Do parents have objectionable behavior?

Q5: Will the parent adopt acceptable behavior in the future?

3.3. Research method

The research team used a quantitative method with questionnaires and a question order design compiled from the research papers "Parents accept and speak out for their children's rights as LGBT: Influential factors," by Associate Professor Dr. Pham Quynh Phuong and colleagues. Based on interviews with 22 parents in 2019, this research examines the perspectives of parents in Vietnam with LGBT children. To answer the research objectives and questions posed earlier, the questionnaire is designed based on two representative groups, "Attitude" and "Behavior Intention." According to the model (Russell Fazio, 1986) [16], attitude is crucial in understanding someone's behavioral tendency. It is essential to initially find out the "Attitude" of parents to analyze "Behavior Intention"; the compatibility between attitudes and behavioral trends in parents' answers will help the questionnaire. The connection and consensus between attitude and behavior intention also increased the responses' reliability. Therefore, the group of questions "Attitude" is arranged before the group of questions "Behavior Intention" to test parents' reactions to the coming-out of their children. Then, based on the results of "Parental Attitude," continue to compare and reflect with "Parental Behavior Intention" to see the parents' process of "Obtaining - Reaction - Behavior tendency" toward children's coming-out is related and explained to each other or not.

From this questionnaire, the research team created a questionnaire consisting of 3 questions about the respondent's background (Age, Role family, Income), 25 questions in the main questionnaire (Likert Scale 1-5), of which 17 questions are about parents' attitudes about students' coming out staff with them (Shocked (5), Broke Down/Disappointed (4), Mix Feelings (4), Worry/Fear (4)) and 8 questions about their behavior when their children come out (Parental Rejection (4), Parental Acceptance (4)).

Before the questionnaire form was officially launched in the sampling survey, the researchers performed a Pilot test on a group of 10 people in the target survey sample. The results obtained after the trial showed that the survey group's question content understood the content conveyed well.

The survey form received 206 responses from respondents and after the research team reviewed and cleaned the data, the number of responses with accepted data was 201. When starting the data analysis process, it is necessary to go through the filtering and clean processing of the previous data. Filtering and clean data processing need passing before starting the data analysis process. In this step, we will check and eliminate unreliable form responses. Of the five rejected responses, two rejected responses from the respondent rated 1 level (1-5) for all questions. The other three

forms by respondents giving inconsistent answers (the rate of answers in each group of questions (Likert Scale 1-5) is quite large (based on the Standard Deviation, Coefficient of Variation, and Mean Value). Each group of questions representing each group will have similarities; when the difference is too significant in the answer, it reflects that the respondents do not understand the question or are careless.

The data will be statistically and analyzed by the research team using SPSS Statistics 20.

4. Data analysis

Table 1 presents Cronbach's Alpha for five independent variables and a dependent variable. According to Hoang, T. and Chu, N. (2005) [17], the reliability of the scale is estimated by using the Cronbach's Alpha coefficient and the acceptable one ranges from 0.6 to smaller than 1. Cronbach's Alpha reliability index does not show which observation variable to discard and which observation should be retained, it only indicates whether the measurements are linked or not. Therefore, as Hoang, T. and Chu, N. (2005) [17] claimed, this calculation helped exclude the variables that do not contribute much to the description of the concept under investigation.

The above table shows that a questionnaire with Cronbach's Alpha indexes greater than 0.5 represents an approved questionnaire.

4.1. Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA)

Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) is a technique to reduce a set of observational variables to a smaller number of factors. However, these still demonstrate most of the information content and statistical significance of the initial set of variables (Hair et al, 1998) [18]. Each observation variable will be weighted as a factor called Factor Loading (shown in Rotated Component Matrix Table), which tells the researchers which factor each variable will belong to. To analyze The Rotated Component Matrix Table, the researchers must ensure criteria such as KMO and Bartlett Sig. Kaiser Meyer Olkin (KMO) measures the sampling adequacy, determining if the responses given with the sample are adequate. Kaiser (1974) [19] recommends 0.5 (value for KMO) as a minimum (barely accepted), values between 0.7 and 0.8 are acceptable, and values above 0.9 are superb.

With the result from **Table 2**, KMO is 0.792, which is higher than 0.5, so factor analysis is appropriate. Besides, Bartlett with sig. equal 0.000 is lower than 0.05, so observed

TABLE 1: Cronbach's Alpha.

Variable	Code	Questionnaire	Corrected Item -- Total Correlation	Cronbach's Alpha
Attitude				
Shocked (SK)	SK1	I am shocked because I have never heard of the terms LGBT, gay, bisexual and think that my child is not one of them.	0.784	0.894
	SK2	I am shocked because I think LGBT is something on the radio, TV, and the internet, not in my family.	0.730	
	SK3	I am shocked that my child has become a special case, where I live, there is no one like that.	0.865	
	SK4	I'm shocked because I've heard a lot of stereotypes about LGBT people.	0.754	
	SK5	I will be shocked to the point of shock.	0.577	
Broke down, Disappointed (DA)	DA1	I broke down, disappointed when my child's good, obedient image was broken.	0.741	0.836
	DA2	I broke down, disappointed when my daughter didn't marry a boy, my son didn't marry a girl.	0.647	
	DA3	I broke down, disappointed at the thought that I wouldn't have a grandchild to carry.	0.722	
	DA4	I broke down, disappointed when I thought that my children could not take care of themselves without or getting married an LGBT person.	0.527	
Mixed feelings (anger, pity, and blame) (MF)	MF1	I am ashamed with my child because I think he's going out too much and trying to disappoint his parents.	0.501	0.763
	MF2	I am ashamed with my children that the fact that my child is LGBT will cause me to be prejudiced by society, affecting my dignity, job, relationships and social status.	0.649	
	MF3	I am ashamed of them or that how they look or act will shame the family.	0.657	
	MF4	I am ashamed at myself for being unethical, so I was punished by "gods".	0.454	
Worry, Fear (WO)	WO1	I am worried, afraid that my child will be scrutinized, humiliated, violently by friends and society, both physically and mentally.	0.683	0.812
	WO2	I am worried because my child's gender puts him in a disadvantaged group in society.	0.624	
	WO3	I am worried and afraid that my child will find it difficult to get hired and have no chance to advance at work.	0.590	
	WO4	TI am worried because there is no one like me out there who cares, worries and supports for my LGBT children to live up to their gender.	0.629	

variables are correlated overall. The selected observational variable is the factor whose

TABLE 1: (Continued).

Variable	Code	Questionnaire	Corrected Item -- Total Correlation	Cronbach's Alpha
Behavior Intention				
Parental Rejection (REJ)	REJ1	I advise my child to get assistance if they want to change their gender identification or sexual orientation.	0.670	0.875
	REJ2	Sometimes, I can get aggressive with my child because I am overcome with bad feelings about their gender identity.	0.741	
	REJ3	I try to influence my child to be more (or less) masculine or feminine.	0.815	
	REJ4	I ask my child to keep their sexual orientation a secret from the family and to refrain from discussing it.	0.713	
Parental Acceptance (ACT)	ACT1	I may feel uncomfortable, but I support my child's sexual orientation.	0.475	0.867
	ACT2	Even though it is not normal, I support my child's gender expression.	0.810	
	ACT3	I require that my child's LGBT identity must be respected by all extended families.	0.769	
	ACT4	When my child experiences discrimination due to their LGBT status, I speak out for them.	0.839	

TABLE 2: KMO and Bartlett's Test.

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.792
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	3223.229
	df	300
	Sig.	.000

Factor Loading is greater than or equal to 0.5. **Table 3** illustrates the Rotated Component Matrix, every factor is higher than 0.5, so these factors can ensure meaning and not eliminate anyone.

4.2. Descriptive Statistics

Descriptive statistics describe the basic characteristics of data collected from experimental studies in different ways. Descriptive statistics provide simple summaries of samples and measures. Together with simple graphical analysis, they form the basis of any quantitative data analysis (Sternstein, Martin, 1996) [20].

Researchers in this research use the 5-level Likert scale, and when used in descriptive statistics, it will be expressed through the Mean coefficient (**Table 4**). A score of 3 is intermediate. If it is inclined to 3-5, it means that the respondents agree with the point of

TABLE 3: Rotated Component Matrix^a.

		Component					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
Shocked (SK)	SK3	.880					
	SK2	.801					
	SK1	.759					
	SK5	.757					
	SK4	.724					
Parental Rejection (REJ)	REJ3		.851				
	REJ2		.832				
	REJ1		.767				
	REJ4		.733				
Parental Acceptance (ACT)	ACT4			.931			
	ACT2			.913			
	ACT3			.873			
	ACT1			.601			
Disappointed (DA)	DA3				.825		
	DA1				.818		
	DA2				.765		
	DA4				.690		
Worry, Fear	WO4					.815	
	WO1					.783	
	WO2					.752	
	WO3					.741	
Mixed Feelings (Anger, Pity, Blame) (MF)	MF3						.832
	MF2						.741
	MF4						.679
	MF1						.608
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis. Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.							
a. Rotation converged in 6 iterations.							

view of the given variable. Conversely, if biased 1-3, respondents disagree with the view of the variable. Through table 4, it can be clearly seen that all variables have different indexes, specifically as follows:

TABLE 4: Descriptive Statistics.

		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Shocked	SK	201	1.00	5.00	2.6398	.98428
Disappointed	DA	201	1.00	5.00	3.0386	.91348
Mixed Feelings	MF	201	1.00	5.00	3.1530	.83996
Worry, Fear	WO	201	1.00	5.00	3.4913	.88966
Parental Rejection	REJ	201	1.00	5.00	2.5933	.99766
Parental Acceptance	ACT	201	1.00	5.00	3.1453	.80085
	Valid (listwise)	N 201				

The standard deviation of the mean values: SK (Shocked), DA (Disappointed), MF (Mixed Feelings: Anger, Pity, Blame), WO (Worry, Fear), REJ (Parental Rejection), and ACT (Parental Acceptance) fluctuated close to 1, indicating that there was not much deviation when the participants chose the level of response to the question and the mean value of variables (SK, DA, MF, WO, REJ, ACT) are adequate to evaluate.

1. The SK (Shocked) variable has a mean of 2.63, standard deviation - 0.98, which means that respondents feel below average with the researcher’s assessment.
2. The DA (Disappointed) variable has a mean of 3.04, standard deviation - 0.91, which means that the respondents feel normal with the researcher’s judgment.
3. The MF (Mix Feelings: Anger, Pity and Blame) variable has a mean of 3.15, standard deviation - 0.84, which means that respondents feel above average with the researcher’s assessment.
4. The WO (Worry and Fear) variable has an average of 3.49, standard deviation - 0.89, which means that respondents feel above average with the researcher’s assessment.
5. The REJ (Parental Rejection) variable has an average of 2.59, standard deviation - 0.99, which means that respondents feel below average with the researcher’s assessment.
6. The ACT (Parental Acceptance) variable has an average of 3.15, standard deviation - 0.80, which means that respondents feel above average with the researcher’s assessment.

4.3. One-way ANOVA Analysis

The researchers can use the Independent-Samples T Test to compare mean values. However, the limitation of this test is that it only allows us to compare the mean between two groups of values. In case the qualitative variable has more than two groups, we will need to use another statistical technique, One-Way ANOVA. Using this test, researchers can see if the respondent's age is related or has different survey responses.

Before evaluating the mean difference, the researchers need to test the variance homogeneity of the two groups of qualitative variable values. To do this, the researchers hypothesize HL-0: There is no difference in variance between groups of values. The Levene test was used to test this hypothesis. In SPSS, the Levene test data are taken from the Based on Mean row of the Test of Homogeneity of Variances table. Inspection results:

* Sig < 0.05: Reject the HL-0 hypothesis, that is, there is a statistically significant difference in variance between the groups of values. The researchers use the Welch test results in the table Robust Tests of Equality of Means. If in Welch's test, the Sig coefficient < 0.05 means that the mean of the groups is different. In contrast, the group mean did not differ.

* Sig > 0.05: Accept the hypothesis HL-0, that is, there is no statistically significant variance difference between the groups of values. We use the results of the F test in the ANOVA table. If in ANOVA test, the coefficient Sig < 0.05, the mean of the groups is different. In contrast, the group mean did not differ.

1. Relationship between Age Groups and Parental Attitude and Behavior Intention toward Their Children's Coming Out

According to the results (**Table 5**), the researchers see that only the variable WO – Worry, Fear has the coefficient Sig<0.05 (Sig.=0.31), so the researchers will need to consider the Welch test results in the table Robust Tests of Equality of Means (**Table 6**) shows that the coefficient Sig>0.05 (Sig.=0.249) so the mean value between age groups has no difference. (1)

TABLE 5: Test of Homogeneity of Variances.

			Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Worry, Fear	WO	Based on Mean	3.008	3	197	.031

TABLE 6: Robust Tests of Equality of Means.

		Statistic ^a	df1	df2	Sig.
WO	Welch	1.430	3	37.015	.249

a. Asymptotically F distributed.

The remaining variables with Sig coefficient are: SK - Shocked (0.38), DA – Broke Down, Disappointed (0.099), ML – Mixed Feelings (0.735), REJ - Parental Rejection (0.99), Parental Acceptance - ACT (0.344) (Table 7). These Sig coefficients are all greater than 0.05, so researchers need to consider the Sig coefficient in the ANOVA test table (Table 8) of these variables.

The variables with the Sig coefficient in the ANOVA test of the above variables are all greater than 0.05, so the researchers conclude that there is no significant difference in the mean between the age groups. (2)

TABLE 7: Test of Homogeneity of Variances.

			Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Shocked	SK	Based on Mean	1.032	3	197	.380
Disappointed	DA	Based on Mean	2.122	3	197	.099
Mix Feelings	MF	Based on Mean	.426	3	197	.735
Parental Rejection	REJ	Based on Mean	.038	3	197	.990
Parental Acceptance	ACT	Based on Mean	1.116	3	197	.344

TABLE 8: ANOVA.

		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
SK	Between Groups	1.283	3	.428	.438	.726
DA	Between Groups	1.664	3	.555	.661	.577
MF	Between Groups	.830	3	.277	.388	.762
REJ	Between Groups	.638	3	.213	.211	.889
ACT	Between Groups	1.017	3	.339	.525	.666

(1), (2) ⇒ In conclusion, Age did not make a difference in the responses of the respondents.

1. Relationship between Family Role Groups and Parental Attitude and Behavior Intention toward Their Children's Coming Out

According to the results (**Table 9**), the researchers see that the variables DA – Disappointed (Sig. = 0.031) and ACT – Parental Acceptance (Sig. = 0.039) has the coefficient Sig<0.05, so the researchers will need to consider the Welch test results in the table Robust Tests of Equality of Means (**Table 10**) shows that the coefficient Sig>0.05 (Sig.=0.878 – DA) and (Sig.=0.907 – ACT), respectively, so the mean value between family role groups has no difference. (1)

TABLE 9: Test of Homogeneity of Variances.

			Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Disappointed	DA	Based on Mean	3.025	3	197	.031
Parental Acceptance	ACT	Based on Mean	2.836	3	197	.039

TABLE 10: Robust Tests of Equality of Means.

		Statistic ^a	df1	df2	Sig.
DA	Welch	.224	3	12.585	.878
ACT	Welch	.181	3	13.694	.907

a. Asymptotically F distributed.

The remaining variables with Sig coefficient are: SK - Shocked (0.185), ML – Mixed Feelings (0.499), Worry, Fear – WO (0.604), REJ - Parental Rejection (0.789) (**Table 11**). These Sig coefficients are all greater than 0.05, so researchers need to consider the Sig coefficient in the ANOVA test table (**Table 12**) of these variables.

The variables with the Sig coefficient in the ANOVA test of the above variables are all greater than 0.05, so the researchers conclude that there is no significant difference in the mean between the Family role groups. (2)

TABLE 11: Test of Homogeneity of Variances.

			Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Shocked	SK	Based on Mean	1.626	3	197	.185
Mix Feelings	MF	Based on Mean	.794	3	197	.499
Worry, Fear	WO	Based on Mean	.619	3	197	.604
Parental Rejection	REJ	Based on Mean	.351	3	197	.789

(1), (2) ⇒ In conclusion, Family role did not make a difference in the responses of the respondents.

TABLE 12: ANOVA.

		Sum Squares	of df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
SK	Between Groups	3.840	3	1.280	1.328	.266
MF	Between Groups	1.728	3	.576	.814	.487
WO	Between Groups	.273	3	.091	.114	.952
REJ	Between Groups	2.085	3	.695	.695	.556

1. Relationship between Income Groups and Parental Attitude and Behavior Intention toward Their Children's Coming Out

According to the results (Table 13), The remaining variables with Sig coefficient are: SK - Shocked (0.689), DA – Disappointed (0.289), ML – Mixed Feelings (0.489), Worry, Fear – WO (0.2364), REJ - Parental Rejection (0.261), Parental Acceptance – ACT (0.483). These Sig coefficients are all greater than 0.05, so researchers need to consider the Sig coefficient in the ANOVA test table (Table 14) of these variables.

The variables with the Sig coefficient in the ANOVA test of the above variables are all greater than 0.05, so the researchers conclude that there is no significant difference in the mean between the Income groups.

TABLE 13: Test of Homogeneity of Variances.

			Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Shocked	SK	Based on Mean	.373	2	198	.689
Disappointed	DA	Based on Mean	1.249	2	198	.289
Mix Feelings	MF	Based on Mean	.718	2	198	.489
Worry, Fear	WO	Based on Mean	1.454	2	198	.236
Parental Rejection	REJ	Based on Mean	1.352	2	198	.261
Parental Acceptance	ACT	Based on Mean	.828	2	198	.438

⇒ In conclusion, Income did not make a difference in the responses of the respondents.

TABLE 14: ANOVA.

		Sum Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
SK	Between Groups	2.278	2	1.139	1.178	.310
DA	Between Groups	1.056	2	.528	.631	.533
MF	Between Groups	1.862	2	.931	1.324	.268
WO	Between Groups	1.507	2	.753	.951	.388
REJ	Between Groups	2.321	2	1.161	1.168	.313
ACT	Between Groups	1.841	2	.920	1.441	.239

5. Findings

The researchers examined parental attitudes and behaviors regarding LGBT students at Ho Chi Minh City’s FPT University coming out after gathering, processing, and evaluating data.

Finding 1: According to the data analysis results of the research, parents have expressed frustration and confusion with both love and anger, but they do not overreact or be shocked when they learn that their child belongs to the LGBT community. Instead, most of these parents feel worried about their child’s future.

Finding 2: Based on the Mean value of the Behavior Intention factors (Rejection and Acceptance), they tend to hesitate to support or oppose (2 indicators of Rejection and Acceptance are not too different). In addition, when looking back at the Mean index of parents’ attitudes towards this issue, they feel more anxious than most, which also partly affects the tendency to act hesitantly. However, according to the data, parents generally tend to act more positively than negatively towards their children.

Finding 3: According to One-way ANOVA analysis of three groups of Age, Income, and Role in the family with factors of attitude and behavioral trends, there is no difference between these groups acting differently from parents’ attitudes and behaviors after learning that their children belong to the LGBT community. However, Chrisler’s emphasis on context is further supported by the impact of parental sexual orientation and gender identity. Mothers are more accepting than fathers, having parental gender being a strong predictor of parental acceptance. This conclusion also contrasts with other research indicating parental gender disparities in the acceptance process between parents (Conley, 2011 [21]; Riggs & Due, 2015 [22]).

6. Discussion

Coming out is the process of telling someone about one's gender identity (Cass, V., 1979 [1]; Legate et al. 2012 [2]). This process creates a lot of influence on that individual's life in both negative and positive aspects. Parents will have both positive and negative views regarding their children coming out. Receiving supportive parental attitudes helps children's health during the coming out process and results in healthy growth, Ryan et al. (2010) [23]. On the contrary, according to (Legate et al., 2012 [2]; Baiocco et al., 2014 [24]), children can be put in dangerous situations, driving to depression if they receive an adverse reaction or rejection from parents during the coming out process, which can even lead to suicide (Ryan et al., 2010) [23]. On the other hand, in the other previous study (Willoughby, 2008) [13] considered that the parents become highly stressed, divorce or severe illness, toward their children coming out.

One of the target groups that each individual in the LGBT community wants to reveal their gender identity is family members, especially parents. Parents always play an important role in the psychological and physical development of their children. Having parents recognize and support the fact that their children live up to their true gender is a wonderful thing for individuals making the come-out process. Students are a young intellectual group, at an age with a large percentage of financial dependence on their parents, so they will be more concerned about continuing to express their gender identity because they are worried that they will upset their parents. and influence their learning. Students' feelings towards parents on this issue may still be unclear, easily misunderstanding views between both sides. Parents in today's era have also been more exposed to social networking platforms, so they may have had a certain change in their thinking on this issue, but students may not yet understand. get it from the parent.

Research results have provided helpful information to clarify the influence of social networks on the coming out attitude of LGBT students at FPT University in Ho Chi Minh City, showing that identity disclosure has the most significant impact and look-alikes account for the lowest percentage of influencing student coming out.

6.1. Parents' Attitude toward Children Coming-Out

6.1.1. WO: Worry, Fear

Through the surveyed factors, the variable "Worry, Fear" (WO), which had the highest mean value (m=3.5), accounted for the majority of the total variables (Table 15). Parents are concerned and fearful that their children will be judged, denigrated, and treated brutally by friends and society, both physically and mentally, according to WO1 (m=3.59). The variable WO2 (m=3.54) relates to the notion that children's gender differences place them in a socially disadvantageous category. At the same time, WO3 (m=3.31) refers to the challenges of finding employment and having no possibility to advance at work. The last participant, WO4 (m=3.5), noted that no one cares, worries about, or supports their LGBT children living true to their gender. In summary, parents' anxiety and concern for their children make it difficult to open up about this issue. Most of them worry that their children will be socially isolated and unable to manage their own lives.

TABLE 15: Descriptive Statistics - "Worry, Fear" (WO).

Worry, Fear (WO)		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
WO1		201	1	5	3.59	1.097
WO2		201	1	5	3.54	1.058
WO3		201	1	5	3.31	1.173
WO4		201	1	5	3.52	1.118

6.1.2. SK: Shocked

One of the survey variables with a low level of agreement is the measure of shock (SK). Typically, parents who have never heard of LGBT, homosexual, or bisexual phrases and believe their child is not one of them are shocked. SK1 (m=2.71). The next is SK2, which (m=2.7) considered that they were astonished because they believed that LGBT people only appeared on radio, TV, and the internet, not in their families. The two remaining factors, SK4 (m=2.89), is a result of having heard many misconceptions about LGBT people, and SK3 (m=2.75) refers to the fact that they were startled that their child had become a rare case and there was no one else they knew who was like that. In general, most parents know about LGBT. The mean values on the responses are all below the 3.0 average, meaning that the parents are shocked at this situation; however, the attitude expression is not too harmful—supported by the last variable, SK5 (m=2.15) – which tends to be shocked to overreact. In short, based on the data (Table 16), parents now are not too shocked to know that their child belongs to the LGBT community.

TABLE 16: Descriptive Statistics - "Shocked" (SK).

		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Shocked (SK)	SK1	201	1	5	2.71	1.248
	SK2	201	1	5	2.70	1.086
	SK3	201	1	5	2.75	1.228
	SK4	201	1	5	2.89	1.256
	SK5	201	1	5	2.15	1.038

6.1.3. DA: Broke Down, Disappointed

In the survey variable "Broke Down, Disappointed" (DA), when their child's outstanding, obedient image was damaged, the parents, according to DA1, broke down in tears and expressed disappointment (m=3.04). In addition, DA2 with m=2.73 voiced regret that their daughter or son did not get married. They would not have a grandchild to bear, according to the variable in DA3 with the value of m=2.99. The last variable, DA4 with m=3.39, referred to breaking down and feeling disappointed when they thought their children could not care for themselves without getting married. (Table 17)

TABLE 17: Descriptive Statistics - "Broke Down, Disappointed" (DA).

		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Disappointed (DA)	DA1	201	1	5	3.04	1.133
	DA2	201	1	5	2.73	.994
	DA3	201	1	5	2.99	1.192
	DA4	201	1	5	3.39	1.135

6.1.4. MF: Mixed Feelings (Anger, Pity and Blame)

Regarding the offline variable, MF1 (m=3.29) stated that they feel humiliated because they believe he attempts to disappoint his parents by going out too much. MF2 (m=2.80) also talks about how they are embarrassed by my children and how society will treat me differently because my child is LGBT, which would negatively impact my dignity, career, relationships, and social standing. MF4 (m=3.56) alluded to the fact that they are embarrassed by themselves for being unethical; thus, they were punished by "gods," whereas MF3 (m=2.97) referred to the fact that I am ashamed of them or the way they behave or appear would bring dishonor to the family. (Table 18)

TABLE 18: Descriptive Statistics - "Mixed Feelings" (MF).

		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Mixed Feelings (Anger, Pity, Blame) (MF)	MF1	201	1	5	3.29	1.116
	MF2	201	1	5	2.80	1.201
	MF3	201	1	5	2.97	1.060
	MF4	201	1	5	3.56	1.009

In summary, parents' anxiety and concern for their children make it difficult to open up about this issue. Most of them worry that their children will be socially isolated and unable to manage their own lives. Moreover, the studies from the past also corroborate this viewpoint; according to (Charbonnier & Graziani, 2016) [25], it is normal for parents to respond with concern and dread for their children when confronted with issues of sexual discrimination in contemporary culture. Additionally, other studies between 1980 and the beginning of 2000 discovered that non-affirming parental responses to their children's coming out are frequent and that the time leading up to parental revelation frequently strains the parent-child bond.

These findings support, predicated on LGBTQ samples from the 1990s and the early 2000s, it also shows that most parents initially responded negatively to their children's disclosure, expressing feelings like anger, shock, denial, shame, or sadness. Then, parents seem willing to change their behavior; things get better (D'Augelli et al., 1998 [26]; Goldfried & Goldfried, 2001 [27]; Savin-Williams & Ream, 2001 [14]). Furthermore, the awareness and acceptance of LGBTQ+ concerns increased throughout the late 20th and early 21st centuries as a result of sociocultural changes. Consequently, parents are normally more accepting of their child's coming out. (Diana D. van Bergen et al., 2020) [28].

According to Chrisler's (2017) [29] research, some parents were astounded and startled when they discovered their child was attracted to people of the same sex. However, the comparatively infrequent occurrence of parental shock reactions may be explained by the increasing (positive) media and legal attention to homosexuality during the previous ten years. Furthermore, there are less surprising parent-reported finding that appears illogical (Bianca D.M. Wilson et al., 2020) [30].

There would be more about the reasons in many previous research arguments behind these complicated reactions or behavioral intentions with varying levels of validation, invalidation, or conflicts if more study was conducted from the parent's perspective. Richter et al. (2017) [31] also indicate the challenge of getting parental consent for

same-sex sexualities. The parents’ reactions can also depend on the children’s gender (Diamond & Butterworth, 2008) [32].

6.2. Parents' Attitude toward Children Coming-Out

6.2.1. REJ: Parents' Rejection toward Children's Coming Out

According to research findings, the variable "Parental Rejection" exists. The study with the highest level of agreement, REJ1 (m=3.16), indicated that they advised my child to get counseling if they wanted to change their gender identity or sexual orientation. The variable REJ4 (m=2.55), which requests that their kid keep their LGBT status a secret and not talk about it, represents the second degree of agreement. According to REJ2 (m=2.35), people act angrily against their children because they are so overcome with unfavorable feelings about who they are. The last variable, REJ3 (m=2.31), is the least significant and reflects parents’ attempts to influence their children’s gender more or less. (Table 19)

TABLE 19: Descriptive Statistics - "Parental Rejection" (REJ).

		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Parental Rejection (REJ)	REJ1	201	1	5	3.16	1.235
	REJ2	201	1	5	2.35	1.071
	REJ3	201	1	5	2.31	1.177
	REJ4	201	1	5	2.55	1.199

6.2.2. ACT: Parents' Acceptance toward Children's Coming Out

In the survey variable Parental Acceptance (ACT), ACT1 (m=2.71) with a modest agreement, explaining that even though they might feel uncomfortable, they accept their child’s LGBT identity. Additionally, even if their child’s gender expression is non-typical, ACT2 with m=3.00 supports it. The requirement that other family members recognize their child’s LGBT identity expression in ACT3’s variable with m=3.04. The last variable, ACT4, indicated that they support their child when mistreated because of their LGBT identity, with m=3.02. (Table 20)

On the other hand, other factors related to parental behavioral trends include Parental Rejection and Acceptance. The data from the survey shows that the trend of positive

TABLE 20: Descriptive Statistics - "Parental Acceptance" (ACT).

		N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Parental Acceptance (ACT)	ACT1	201	1	5	2.71	.846
	ACT2	201	1	5	3.00	1.007
	ACT3	201	1	5	3.04	.937
	ACT4	201	1	5	3.02	.997

behavior (parents accepting and supporting their children) accounts for a higher percentage of choosing on average than rejection behavior. However, the average difference between Parental Acceptance and Parental Rejection is insignificant, meaning parents may tend to act more actively (the indicator - Mean Value of Parental Acceptance) is above average. However, they still have a dual attitude and do not know how to face or behave towards their children. In addition, another aspect of attitude is one-factor affecting behavior intention (Russell Fazio, 1986) [16]. Therefore, the confusion in parents' attitude toward the coming out of their children (the mean value of anxiety, confusion, and frustration insignificantly distribute around the average) partly affects the behavior between the two states, negative and positive.

In the previous studies discussed the similar statue that the confusion in parental responses partly influences behavioral propensity has also been found in previous studies. Theo (Rubin, 1992) [33] discussed that parents' tendency toward accepting or disapproving behaviors is related to their self-created images in their association between good, bad, and abnormal sexual identities, behaviors, and desires. In addition, the fact that external factors such as religion, race, beliefs, and ethical standards also partly affect the level of parents' acceptance or response to the coming out of their children (Pearlman, 2005 [34], Freedman, 2008 [35]; Aten et al., 2010 [36]; Maslowe & Yarhouse, 2015 [37]). In addition, based on similar viewpoints Richter et al. (2017) [31] also indicate the challenge of getting parental consent for same-sex sexualities. The parents' reactions can also depend on the children's gender (Diamond & Butterworth, 2008) [32].

7. Limitation

7.0.1. Limits on the target audience and data accuracy

The initial research object that the topic targets are parents with LGBT children to get the most accurate results. However, reaching this audience is extremely difficult. This

target group is difficult to identify in society because the prerequisite is that their children must be LGBT. It is not easy to determine the sex of these children if they have not yet revealed it. Research subjects with LGBT children at this age also do not often gather at one location to take direct surveys, so survey collection and quality assurance are also more complex. Therefore, to collect enough research data, researchers set up the hypothetical situation "You have an LGBT child" which provides data on the community's response to LGBT people. However, some limitations exist for not being studied on the most accurate data.

7.0.2. Survey Limitation

Researchers have collected the survey form of 201 parents of FPT students by asking for the survey form directly and giving a QR - parents will scan it with their phone, and the survey form will appear. During the collecting survey data process, many challenges were posed that it is quite difficult for parents of FPT students to approach this way.

7.0.3. Survey Scope Limitation

Researchers desire to conduct research on universities across Ho Chi Minh City; however, with the current resources, conducting the survey within FPT universities is the most suitable for now. Consequently, there will be a lack of accuracy and representation for the population.

8. Conclusion

The purpose of this study is to understand more about parents' attitudes and behaviors when their children come out. According to the research results on parents at FPT University, the parents' critical attitude when their children belong to the LGBT community is worry about their future, such as the difficulties their children face with criticism, stigma from society, and inability to overcome these barriers. Besides, there are mixed feelings of disappointment and confusion, pity and anger for their children. However, the surprising element in this survey is that parents do not feel too shocked or traumatized by their children's coming out.

The research results will provide data to analyze parents' attitudes and behavioral trends when faced with their children's coming out, thereby helping parents better understand their children's problems and have a better mental understanding to behave

appropriately with their children. In addition, the study helps children better understand that parents always love their children. However, when faced with this problem, most parents do not have time to accept and behave appropriately, mainly because they are too caring and worried about the children's future. Thereby helping parents and children have more cohesion in the family relationship, providing information and activities to help people in the LGBT community become more confident in the world that is working to promote human rights following the law proposed by the United Nations. LGBT is also one of the topics of interest to many generations, as well as efforts in the rule of law to strengthen their rights like others, and these data will significantly contribute to the promotion of human rights. equality for LGBT people worldwide in general, and Vietnam in particular.

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9. Appendix

TABLE 21: Questionnaire Table.

Variables		Question	Source
Parent's Attitude toward Children Coming Out			
Shock	SK1	I am shocked because I have never heard of the terms LGBT, gay, bisexual and think that my child is not one of them.	<i>PhDm QuAnh Phong, et. al (2019)</i>
	SK2	I'm shocked because I think LGBT is something on the radio, TV, and the internet, not in my family.	
	SK3	I am shocked that my child has become a special case, where I live, there is no one like that.	
	SK4	I'm shocked because I've heard a lot of stereotypes about LGBT people.	
	SK5	I'm shocked to the point of overreacting.	
Broke down, disappointed	DA1	I broke down, disappointed when my child's good, obedient image was broken.	
	DA2	I broke down, disappointed when my daughter didn't marry a boy, my son didn't marry a girl.	
	DA3	I broke down, disappointed at the thought that I wouldn't have a grandchild to carry.	
	DA4	I broke down, disappointed when I thought that my children could not take care of themselves without or getting married an LGBT person.	
Mix Feelings (Anger, Pity and Blame)	MF1	I am ashamed with my child because I think he's going out too much and trying to disappoint his parents.	<i>Ryan and Rees (2012) PhDm QuAnh Phong, et. al (2019)</i>
	MF2	I am ashamed of my children because the fact that my child is LGBT will cause me to be prejudiced by society, affecting my dignity, job, relationships and social status.	
	MF3	I am ashamed of them or that how they look or act will shame the family.	
	MF4	I am ashamed of myself for being unethical, so I was punished by "gods".	
Worry, Fear	WO1	I am worried, afraid that my child will be scrutinized, humiliated, violently by friends and society, both physically and mentally.	<i>PhDm QuAnh Phong, et. al (2019)</i>
	WO2	I am worried because my child's gender puts him in a disadvantaged group in society.	
	WO3	I am worried and afraid that my child will find it difficult to get hired and have no chance to advance at work.	
	WO4	I am worried because there is no one like me out there who cares, worries and supports my LGBT children to live up to their gender.	

TABLE 21: (Continued).

Variables		Question	Source
Parent's Behavior Intention toward Children Coming Out			
Parental Rejection	REJ1	I advise my child to get assistance if they want to change their gender identification or sexual orientation.	<i>Freedman (2008) Ryan and Rees (2012) Pham Quynh Phung, et. al (2019)</i>
	REJ2	Sometimes, I can get aggressive with my child because I am overcome with bad feelings about their gender identity.	
	REJ3	I try to influence my child to be more (or less) masculine or feminine.	
	REJ4	I ask my child to keep their sexual orientation a secret from the family and to refrain from discussing it.	
Parental Acceptance	ACT1	I may feel uncomfortable, but I support my child's sexual orientation.	<i>Freedman (2008) Ryan and Rees (2012) Pham Quynh Phung, et. al (2019)</i>
	ACT2	Even though it is not normal, I support my child's gender expression.	
	ACT3	I require that my child's LGBT identity must be respected by all extended families.	
	ACT4	When my child experiences discrimination due to their LGBT status, I speak out for them.	