

OMG I'M  
QUEER

**EDITOR**

M a S

**WORDS**

A C  
C a M  
Ja ( a a )  
Ma Pa\$  
M \$ H  
Ma F  
T Ba a

**PROOF AND EDIT TEAM**

Ma Pa\$  
M a F  
S K  
Sa R a

**PHOTOGRAPHY / ART**

La W  
Ma F  
M a Wa  
B S a

**DESIGN**

M a S  
Ma F

**SPONSORS**

C M \$  
Sa S C a A\$ a a

**SPECIAL THANKS**

M \$ 18Y \$ C  
Sa S C a V a  
Y  
a a

**FIND US**

f \$ 18 \$  
t \$ 18 \$

D a a  
[WWW.MINUS18.ORG.AU](http://WWW.MINUS18.ORG.AU)

**CREATED BY**



**ENDORSED BY**






OMG! TV  
QUEER



COMING OUT AS  
AS SAME SEX  
ATTRACTED OR  
GENDER DIVERSE  
doesn't have  
TO BE AN  
OMG thing



**sexuality and gender .7**

**country kids .9**

**doing it .10**

**tough times .12**

**tom ballard's story .14**

**telling dad .16**

**believe what you want .20**

**coming out .22**

**online b s .27**

**party party .28**

**support & resources .31**



All people have their own sexuality. Whether that's straight, gay, queer, bisexual, or something completely different; each person's own sexuality applies only to them.

N a a a a :  
' a a a a . Ba a , a  
\$a a a , a a





We caught up with three very different people about what it was like for them











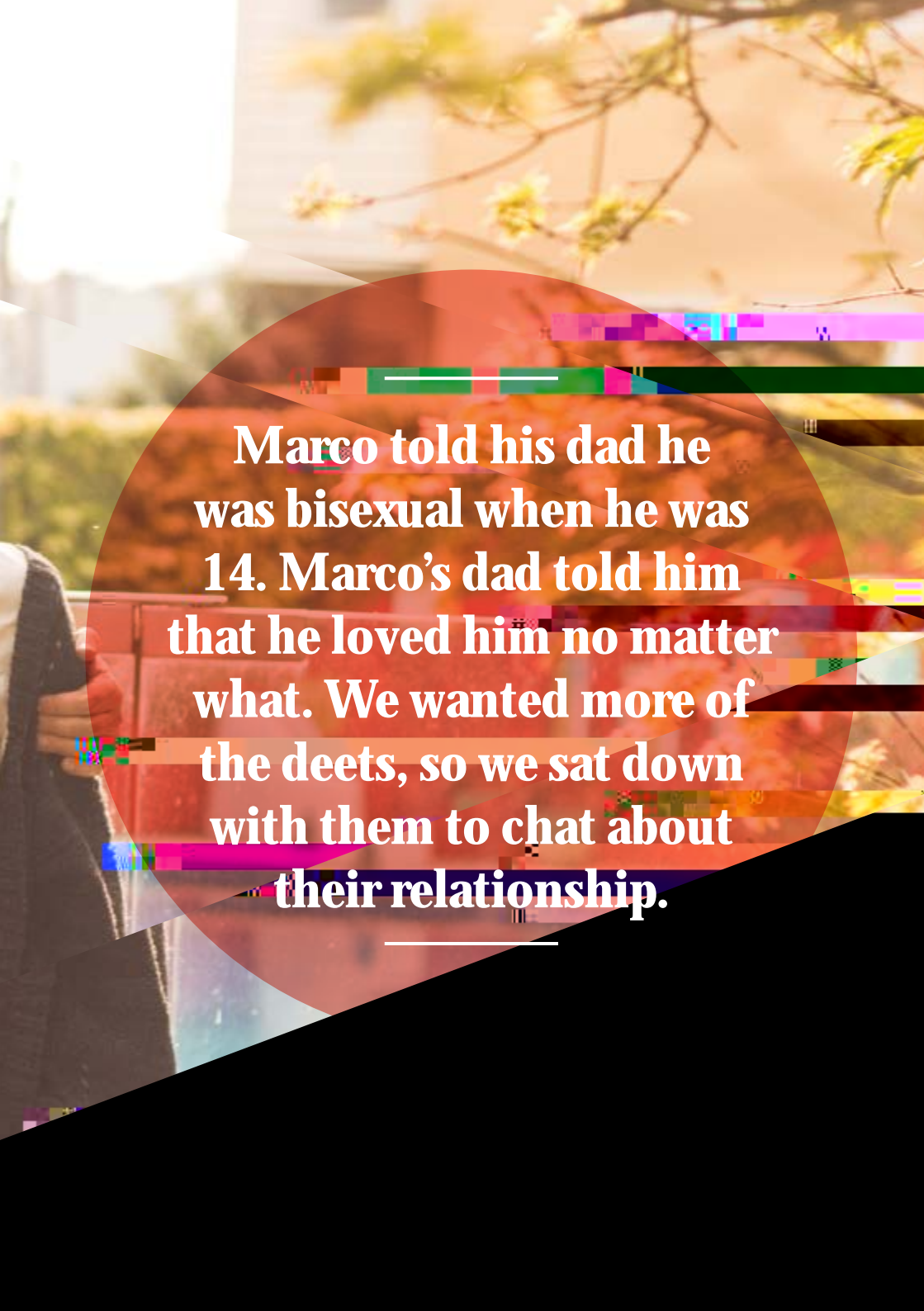


a \$ l, .H \$ l a  
a?D l a a a a?I THAT a l a ?!

F a , a \$ a \$ a a  
a a a .l a a \$ a a a,  
a a ,a \$ ,a ,a ,a  
\$ - a ( l ' a \$ a a a







**Marco told his dad he was bisexual when he was 14. Marco's dad told him that he loved him no matter what. We wanted more of the deets, so we sat down with them to chat about their relationship.**

---

### What's your family background?

Dad: OK, I'm from a traditional Italian family. My father was a doctor, and my mother was a teacher. We were a very close-knit family, and we had a lot of traditions. I grew up in a small town in the south of Italy, and we had a very strong sense of community.

Marco: Well, my father is Italian, and my mother is American. I grew up in a very diverse environment. My father was a doctor, and my mother was a teacher. We were a very close-knit family, and we had a lot of traditions. I grew up in a small town in the south of Italy, and we had a very strong sense of community.

### How would you guys describe your relationship?

Dad: Well, I think we have a very close relationship. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us.

Marco: Dad, I think we have a very close relationship. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us.

### What was it like when Marco came out?

Dad: I was a little surprised, but I was also very proud of my son. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us.

Marco: Well, my father is Italian, and my mother is American. I grew up in a very diverse environment. My father was a doctor, and my mother was a teacher. We were a very close-knit family, and we had a lot of traditions. I grew up in a small town in the south of Italy, and we had a very strong sense of community.

I was a little surprised, but I was also very proud of my son. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us.

### Did you feel that there were any conflicts with religious and cultural beliefs, because of Marco coming out?

Dad: No, I don't think there were any conflicts. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us.

### And Marco, you feel comfortable in that environment?

Marco: Yes, I feel very comfortable in that environment. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us.

### How important is that to you?

Marco: I think it's very important. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us.

### What was it like for the rest of the family when Marco came out?

Dad: I was a little surprised, but I was also very proud of my son. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us. I was always very involved in my children's lives, and I think that's helped to create a strong bond between us.

Marco: Well, my father is Italian, and my mother is American. I grew up in a very diverse environment. My father was a doctor, and my mother was a teacher. We were a very close-knit family, and we had a lot of traditions. I grew up in a small town in the south of Italy, and we had a very strong sense of community.

Dad: I ... a Ma  
 a a a a a J  
 a A a a a a  
 a a a a L a \$ ,  
 a a a a H a a \$  
 "

### In what ways has your relationship changed?

Dad: I ... a a a , a  
 \$ a \$ Y \$ \$ a  
 I \$ a a \$ a , a a  
 a . B a a a  
 a ? A a l

Marco: N \$ , a , a \$  
 a \$ , a a a a \$  
 . Ta a \$ a , a a l  
 a a a a \$ a a a  
 l a a a a  
 "

### Has coming out changed you?

Marco: W l a \$ l a , l a  
 \$ . S l a \$ a  
 a a M \$ 18,  
 a a l a \$  
 . l' a a a a \$  
 [ \$ ].

### Have you seen those changes in Marco?

Dad: H a a \$ , a . l  
 \$ a ' \$ a  
 a . H a \$ a a a \$ a  
 a a a a a a .

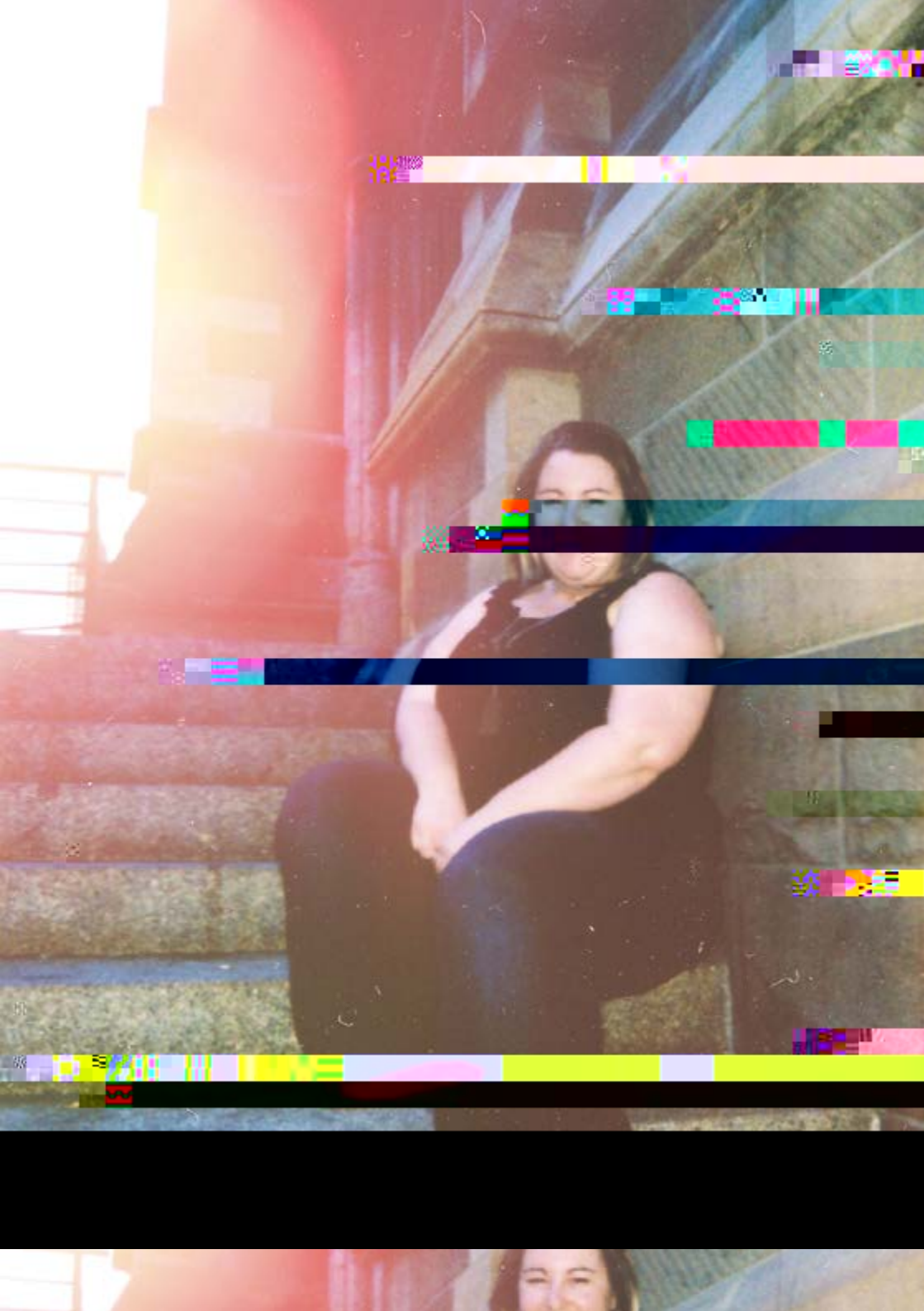
Marco: l' a \$ a a . A  
 a a a l a  
 a a a a . T a  
 E

Dad: T a a a .  
 M

M a Ra G .l aU C \$  
a \$ ,l \$ ;La E a .  
T a a 70.B a a \$  
a a .S Da Da a aM ,  
a a a a M .l \$  
a a .l C a \$  
a , \$ ,a a  
a \$ .

G \$ ,l \$ ; l a  
,a a a .l  
\$ ; \$ a a a l a .  
C a a \$ a ,a .

W l a 15,l l a a .M  
a a a a .S a ,l  
a - a a , 'W a W \$ J \$  
D a ,a a a a \$ .l  
\$ a a 10.1(a )10( a Da )33.2( a )3( )12 86 TD[( )10( 8B3M .1){60 }31. 0.1





planned it. I had just attended my first  
Minus18 event, and a video was posted

difficult. I'd lie in bed at night gripped

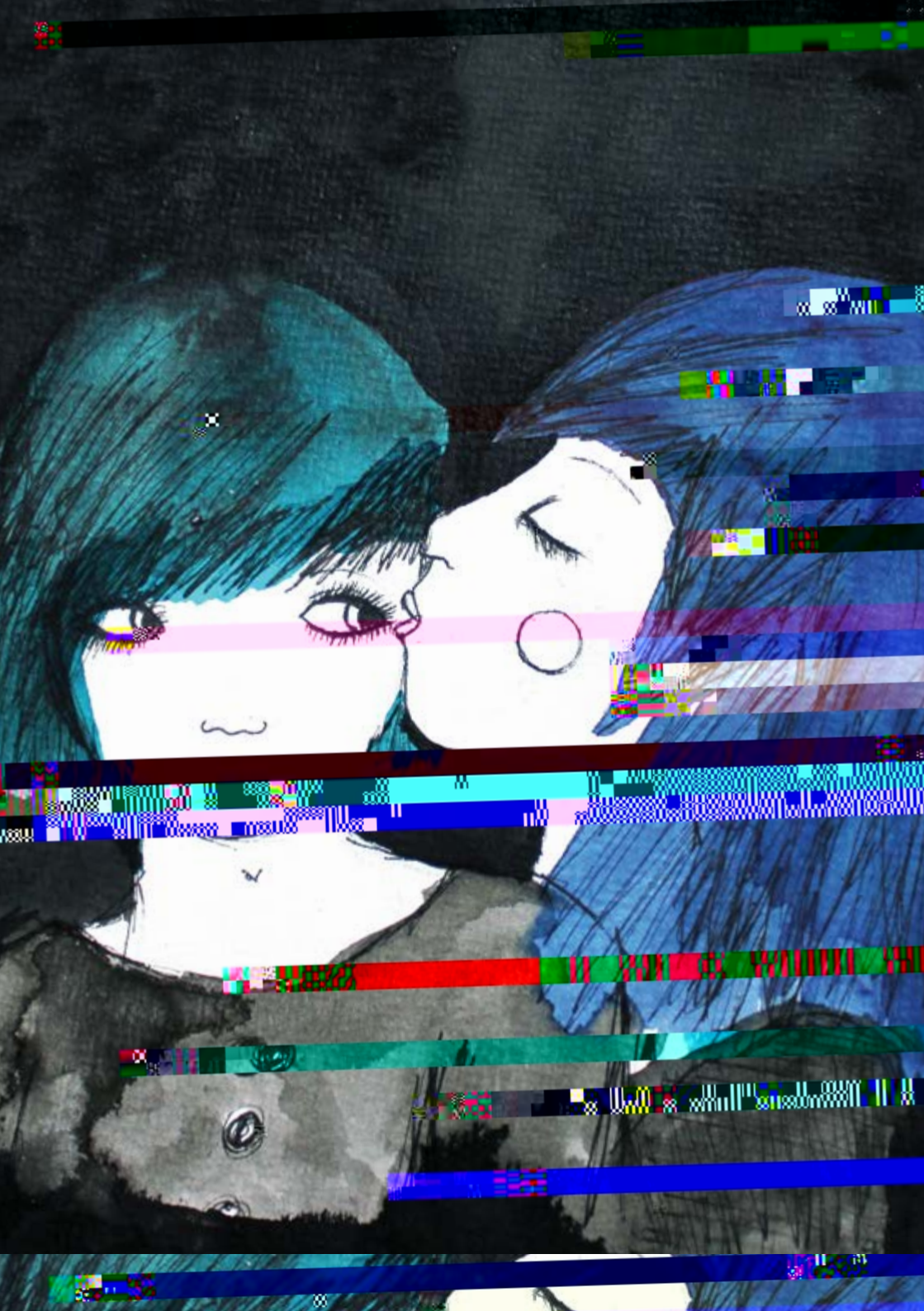
## Bisexual, 17

my first boyfriend and we'd been hanging out  
to find it strange how much time I wanted

walked in just as we flew to opposite sides  
of the bed. The penny finally dropped, and









When I was 17, I got a message through a website. It was just a short message commenting on something I'd mentioned in my



My 18th birthday party was mostly spent with my friends dragging my furniture onto the front lawn while my parents were away for the weekend, and getting rather drunk.

B  (a  a  a



heRe's sOMe  
Other stUFF  
YOU MIGHT  
Find handy

If you're new to all this, some of the words are probably new too. Stress less, though! Here are some of the descriptions we have for you.

### Gay

S a . Ga  
\$ \$a , \$ a \$ \$

### Lesbian

A ( a a ).

### Bisexual

S a a a \$ a .  
B \$a a \$ \$a ' \$ a a a  
a ' \$ . S \$ a \$  
\$a , a a a .

### Same Sex A

# more places to go.

## australia wide.

### SAFE SCHOOLS COALITION AUSTRALIA

Na a a F a  
Y a a (FYA), Sa S C a  
A a a a a  
a a a , a a  
\$ , a a a .FYA a a a  
a a a  
Sa S C a A a a a a  
a a a .A

[safeschoolscoalition.org.au](http://safeschoolscoalition.org.au)

### MINUS18

A a a a a a LGBT  
\$ , M \$ 18 a a a a  
a a a a a a  
A a a a a a  
J a a a a  
a a a a a  
a a a a a

[minus18.org.au](http://minus18.org.au)

### HEADSPACE

H a a a a a  
\$ a a a a a  
a a a a a  
a a a a a  
a a a a a  
a a a a a

[headspace.org.au](http://headspace.org.au)

### QLIFE

QL a a a a  
a a a a  
QL a a a a  
a a a a  
a a a a LGBTI

1800 184 527 [qlife.org.au](http://qlife.org.au)

### OII AND AISSG

O a a l l a a A a a  
a a A l S  
S \$ G \$ A a a (AISSG)  
a a a a  
[oii.org.au](http://oii.org.au) [aiissg.org.au](http://aiissg.org.au)

## act.

### SEXUAL HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING ACT

SHFPACT a a a a \$  
a a a a a a  
a a a a ALL \$  
[shfpact.org.au](http://shfpact.org.au)

### BIT BENT

B B a a a \$  
B a a W \$  
a a \$ LGBTIQ \$  
\$ , a a a a a

## vic.

### FAMILY PLANNING NSW

Fa Pa NSW a a  
a a a a a  
a a a a a  
a a a a  
[fpnsw.org.au](http://fpnsw.org.au)

### TWENTY10

T 10 a a a  
a a a a  
a a a a  
NSW a a .l a  
Ga a L a C \$ S NSW,  
\$ a a  
[twenty10.org.au](http://twenty10.org.au)



nt.



S a , a a ? l a a  
a a a a a. Sa 0 a a

S a 0 a a a a a a a a  
a a a a a a a a a a  
a a a a





