

## Institute for Social Science Research - PhD Student Project

**ISSR Impact Area:** Health

**Title:** *Health trajectories of gender and sexually diverse young people in Australia*

**Supervisor/s:** [Professor Lisa McDaid](#), [Dr Lisa Fitzgerald](#), [Dr Allyson Mutch](#), [Dr Judith Dean](#)

### **Funding:**

Student Scholarship required, top-up funding may be available to suitable candidate

### **Project description:**

Increasing numbers of young people are identifying as gender and sexually diverse, positioning themselves as trans, non-binary, genderqueer, gender fluid and or questioning. They are affected by socio-cultural and structural discriminations and often bypassed by traditional health education efforts. Yet the evidence base for how to support their health and wellbeing remains limited.

The PhD project will contribute to and build on the Sexual Health with Young Queer Queenslanders (SHYQQ) Study currently being conducted by the supervisors. The SHYQQ Study includes repeat qualitative interview data from 40 gender and sexually diverse young people living in Queensland. The successful student will lead on analysis of a SHYQQ topic area to be agreed between the student and supervisors. They will then build on this with primary data collection to better understand the contexts and pathways through which gender and sexually diverse young people negotiate and protect their health, particularly in terms of the support provided by parents/caregivers and healthcare providers. The findings will be a starting point for intervention development and the student will gain experience in qualitative data collection and advanced longitudinal data analysis techniques.

### **The candidate:**

We are seeking a candidate who has an excellent academic record and a particular interest and commitment in conducting high quality research to improve health. A social science background is desirable, but not essential.

### **Achievable Outcomes:**

- A PhD from The University of Queensland in a relevant field
- Experience working within an interdisciplinary team of researchers
- Experience with oral/written presentations at national/international conferences
- Scientific papers in high impact research journals