

Policy Proposal: Polyamory Discrimination

Polyamory/non-monogamy is the practice of dating more than one person, with the consent of all involved. Those are umbrella terms that encompass many different relationship styles and practices, some of which can be very complicated.

Polyamory is not currently classed as a recognised sexual or relationship orientation by the Government. Polyamorous/non-monogamous people potentially make up a population as big as the LGBTQIA* community within the UK.

Yet this relationship style is not counted as a sexual orientation and is therefore not protected against discrimination by the Equality Act 2010 or in many Educational Institutions' Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policies.

This means that legally, polyamorous people can be discriminated against, rejected for jobs, banking or housing if employers, banking companies or landlords do not agree with/recognise the relationships of that person.

If other minority groups are the victims of discrimination or abuse they can receive specific support and there are processes to deal with that situation. There is no equivalence for polyamorous people.

What Could be the Solutions?

UK Government and delegated governmental bodies to amend the Equality Act (or delegated bodies legislation in regards to equality) to involve and protect polyamorous and non-monogamous people across the country, not just students.