

Purpose

To investigate what parents of gay, bisexual, or queer (GBQ) adolescent sons think are the best and worst methods and resources to use while talking about sex, sexuality, and health with their sons and identify common issues these parents face.

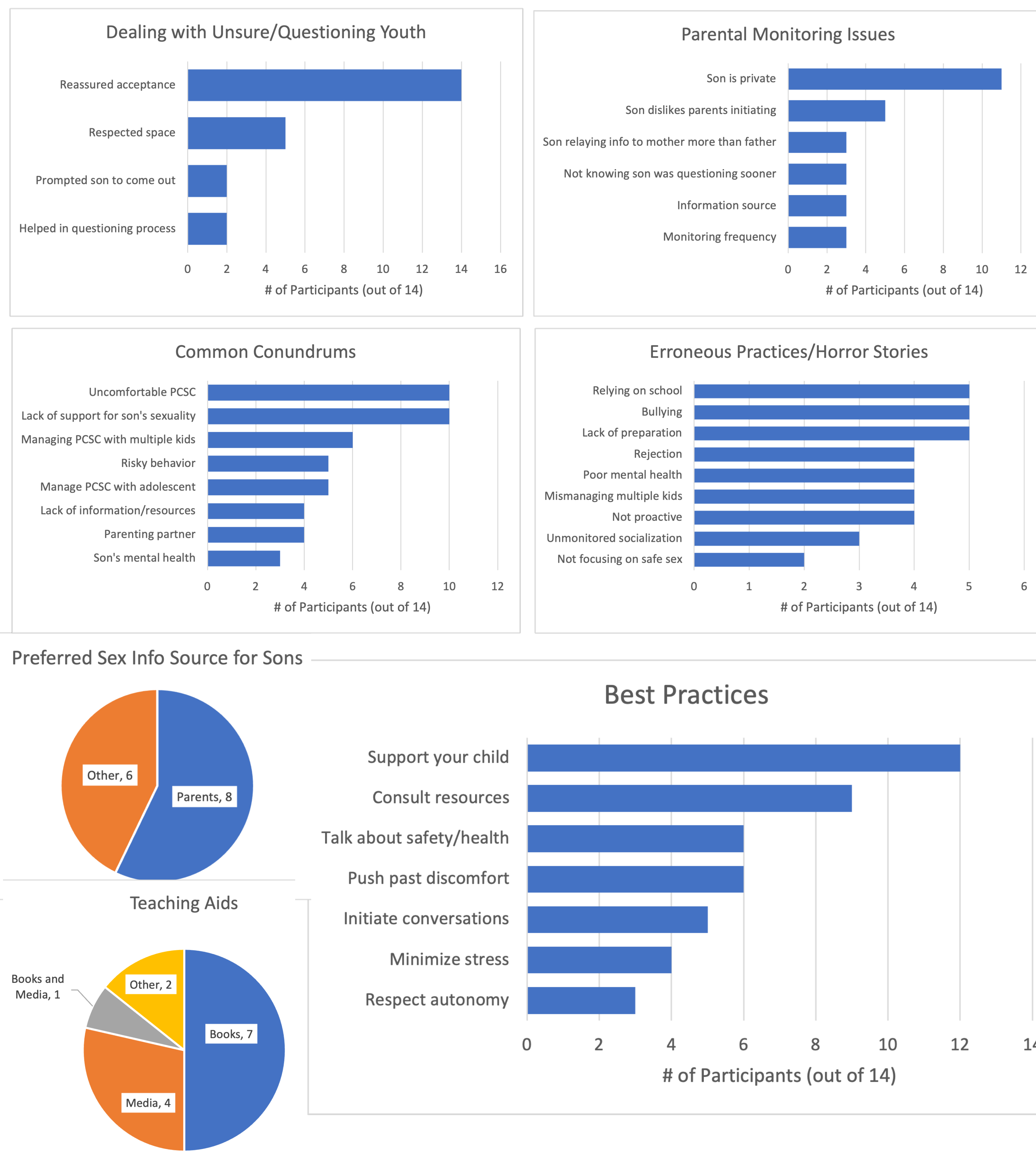
Research Questions

- What problems do parents have when discussing sexuality, sex, and health with adolescent sons identifying as gay, bisexual, or queer
- What are the conditions that make parent-child sexual communication (PCSC) easy or difficult for parents to have with their GBQ sons

As long as you're engaged, as long as you love your child, as long as you keep the conversation going, as long as they're alive, as long as they feel valued... there's hope. There's hope that there's resolution, and you will find a way to be at peace with your child, whether you agree... it's not a choice."

"...while it's uncomfortable, it is a necessary conversation to have. I mean, because you're thinking, you're talking about the long term emotional and physical health of your child. And the momentary discomfort that you might have... these conversations are outweighed by that long-term perspective of wanting your child to be happy and safe and healthy..."

Results



Materials and Methods

- 14 parents of adolescent GBQ sons
- Asked to participate in a 2-hour discussion about their experience with sexual communication with their GBQ sons
- Coding of interviews into themes and subthemes

Conclusions

- Participants reported that they, as **parents**, would like to be the sex info source for their sons. They utilize **books and media** as teaching aids.
- Parents emphasize **supporting** their sons is the best practice, while **neglecting** to address sex and health and **inactivity** are the worst practices.

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