

# PLHIV community engagement: Linking GIPA principles with quality of life

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## BACKGROUND

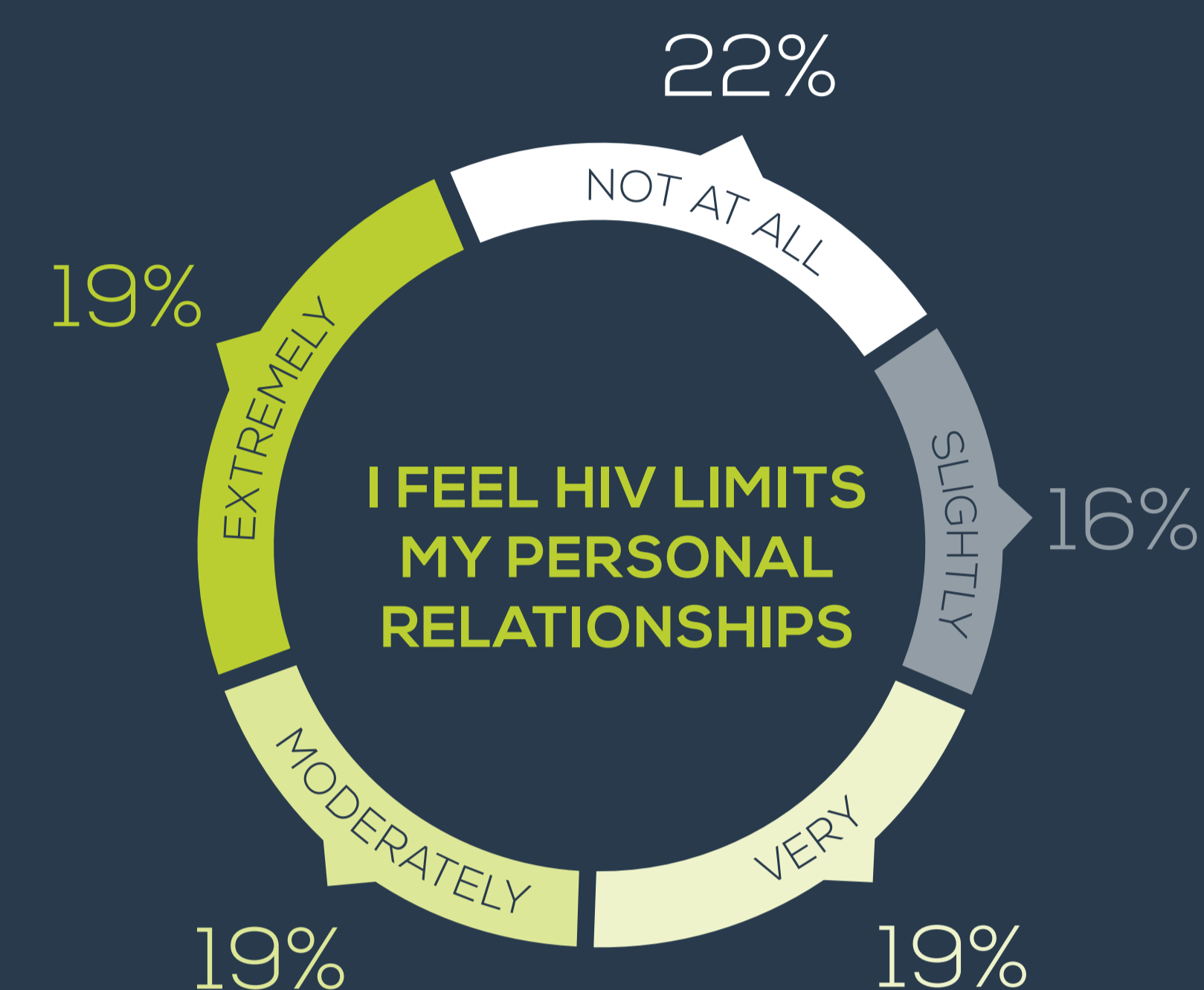
This project assesses Queensland Positive People's (QPP) utilisation of a greater involvement of people living with HIV (GIPA) approach by investigating people living with HIV's (PLHIV) self-reported assessment of engagement and quality of life (QoL).

## METHODS

- Over 6 weeks, 171 survey responses were received from PLHIV (95% sampling confidence with a 7.7% margin of error).
- Researchers conducted interviews with nine PLHIV handpicked for their diverse perspectives and completed three agency feedback sessions.
- The project examined the degree and quality of QPP's engagement with 17 diverse sub-populations, with an emphasis on enabling and disabling factors affecting involvement.
- It utilised an internationally validated QoL tool (PozQoL) which assessed the psychological, social, health and functional domains which was cross-referenced with the agency engagement data.

## RESULTS

- A significant proportion of Queensland PLHIV struggle with loneliness, social isolation, and stigma.
- PLHIV are eager for peer support to increase the social and psychological aspects of their QoL.
- PLHIV in regional areas and those under the age of 18 appear to experience greater barriers to agency engagement.
- Concerningly, 84% (n= 145) indicated that they fear rejection based on their HIV status, with 49% (n=71) 'very' or 'extremely' worried about this.



Calculated from 145 responses

84%  
Indicated that they fear rejection based on their HIV status



49%  
'Very' or 'extremely' worried

## CONCLUSION:

The findings support the literature that social support has a direct correlation with positive health outcomes. This project demonstrates that agencies can use the GIPA principles and QoL indicators as a mechanism for service quality improvements and advocacy.

For further information:

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