LGBT community still faces stigmas, stereotypes

With the federal government and more and more states recognizing gay marriage, gay couples, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community have become more accepted as part of mainstream society. However, even with the unprecedented acceptance, LGBT community members still face issues of prejudice, discrimination, harassment, and even violence.

Aldemaro Romero Jr. | College Talk

To talk about these issues we assembled a group of experts from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. They are Aldemaro Romero Jr., chair of the Department of Social and Criminal Justice, and professor of anthropology, who is an expert in the area of stigma and health in the LGBT community; Michael Shaw, chair of the department of mass communications, who is an expert in gender and sex roles in society and how sex and gender influence the progress of the program in the community; and Gary Hicks, chair of the Department of mass communications, who knows about stereotypes of LGBTQ community members in the media. Of all issues facing LGBT community members, they addressed to be violence – violence that has many consequences in society. A “lot of the violence against people in the LGBT community is still not being reported. Last fall we did not find the gender stereotyped violence in the city of St. Louis and women are supposed to be,” they said. “It is a very serious problem toward homosexual males. Frequently you find that people who are victims of violence are reluctant to talk about it or are not willing to talk with each other in a way that indicates they have problems and need the help of a friend. Many times others will see that as a threat to their own masculinity.”

Marijuana

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Edwardsville Rotary Club at 692-7538.

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Heroin

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Aldemaro Romero Jr. is the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. He can be reached every evening at 8, on WSIE, 88.7 FM. He can be reached at College_Arts_Sciences@siue.edu.