

## ABSTRACT

The present study examined a model delineating the correlates and psychological well being of coming-out intentions in a Chinese male sample in Hong Kong. The model is generated based on the Theory of Reasoned Action (TRA). In a sample of 193 Chinese males with homosexual orientation, 76.2% disclosed their sexual orientation to friends with same sexual orientation. Frequency of disclosure was lesser to friends (about 51%), and then to family members (about 30 to 38%). Disclosure to relatives or colleagues was still an uncommon phenomenon. Generally, they followed the identification milestones that began with same-sex sexual fantasy, followed by awareness of homosexual tendency, and same-sex sexual contact. The ages of self-identification and disclosure of homosexual orientation were closer. Results of the present study also showed that the sample did not present significant psychological distress.

Results of the present study supported the hypothesized model. Specifically, coming-out intentions had direct relationship with psychological well being. Significant correlates of coming-out intentions included support from homosexual community groups, attitudes toward coming-out, evaluation of the outcomes of coming-out, and perceived discrimination. The relationships between these correlates and psychological well being were indirect and mediated by coming-out intentions. Limitations of the present study, implications for future research and service development were also discussed.