



www.best4older-lgbti.org

Best4OlderLGBTI

CONCLUSION OF TESTIMONIAL VIDEO CAMPAIGN

Press release

The partnership of Best4OlderLGBTI project – funded by the Right, Equality and Citizenship (REC) programme of the European Union – is profoundly thankful to all the people who took part in the testimonial video campaign just ended helping us raising awareness on the rights of LGBTI older people.

Every Wednesday of October, a new video with a new story has been uploaded on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#), in order to create a series of five videos (available with subtitles in Romanian, Dutch, Greek, Portuguese, Italian and French). Scope of the campaign was creating a virtual space where the voices of an often discriminated and forgotten minority, the one composed by older LGBTI people, could be heard and seen.

Let's have a closer look to the protagonists of our stories!

The campaign started with [Raffaele](#), the owner of one of the last queer bookstores in the hearth of Bologna, Italy. From growing up as a closeted young gay man in the 70's in Italy to his wedding with his husband Luca, Raffaele offered us an insight on his personal journey of self-acceptance and discovery.

With the second video we travel to the Netherlands, meeting [Marjet and Ineke](#): a lesbian couple who share love, life and social commitment to the LGBTI Dutch community through their activism with Roze 50+, one of the most important senior LGBTI organization at an European Level.

In the third video we met [Gregory](#), a political scientist from Athens, Greece, a former spoke person of the Greek LGBTI community and one of the first public figures in the country to come out as a gay man. Through his words we go back in time in the 80's, from being a scandal and a public threat to the importance of coming out and embrace the freedom who comes with it.

With [Mizia](#) we go back to Italy, where she opened the doors of her own home to talk about her life as a trans woman and her political pride in reclaiming her own identity as a transgender person.

The video campaign ended with the story of [Antonios](#) and his love for his husband Steve who he met in the 80's and never left since. In his interview, he underlined the importance of acceptance for one another, regardless of someone's sexual orientation and gender identity: *"We are the same, we just express ourselves in some variety which according to the society characterize us as a minority, but there's no difference."*

The campaign was promoted through social medias and websites of all the partners involved, reaching hundreds of people across Europe, with numbers still growing!

You can find the complete list of videos [here](#).

Next steps: the Best4Older LGBTI partnership is currently working on a e-awareness campaign targeting the discriminations faced by LGBTI older people in their daily life, from the health care system to the public services, from teachers and employers to the general public.

Do you want to stay updated? Join our [mailing list](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#)!

If you want to learn more about the Project visit our website: www.best4older-lgbti.org

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Best4OlderLGBTI project, funded by the Right, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme, intends to fight against discrimination based on age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics of older people, and to promote the rights of older (LGBTI) people, through raising awareness of different target groups contributing for a more equal and inclusive society. The aim of the project is to develop a raising awareness campaign in six EU Member States, contributing for the decrease of inequalities and discrimination in attendance of public services and health and social care, as well as in encouraging the report of cases of discrimination.

Visit our website to learn more about the project!

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Best4 OLDER LGBTI

www.best4older-lgbti.org

PROJECT PARTNERS:

