I've never been gay bashed but…

I've had a bouncer waiting for me when I came out of the women's toilet as somebody complained.

I've had young fellas sneer and shout at me and felt too vulnerable to counter.

I've felt the need to use the term 'partner' rather than 'wife' in the staffroom.

I've had vile comments thrown at me on doorsteps and the street during the Marriage Equality referendum.

I have lost friends.

I had been told leave a group where I was a long-standing member if I 'continued to be gay'.

I have been told by a vice-principal the students don't need a 'Gay-Straight Alliance Club' any more than the need a 'Fat Club'.

I have been told by friends when I was coming out that it's okay to be gay, but I'd better not try anything on them.

I have been asked by a man if he could watch myself and my girlfriend make love.

I have been asked 'who is the man?' in the relationship.

I have dropped my wife's hand when approaching certain groups.

I have stopped conversations when I walked into pubs or restaurants with my wife.

I have been told that my girlfriend must have 'some pussy' to be able to turn me into a lesbian.

I have been asked several times if sexual abuse is what turned me gay.

I have been called man- hater.

I have been put into bridesmaid dresses that made me look and feel like a drag queen.

I have left bars & restaurants rather than face the stares if I use the women's toilet.

S. Donovan 2019