

WE VOTE TOO!

“WE VOTE TOO” – is a report on attitudes of the presidential candidates regarding the status and improvement of rights of LGBTI people in Serbia.

On March 17, association “Da Se Zna!”, which maps instances of violence and discrimination towards LGBTTIQA people, launched the campaign under the title “We Vote Too”. Purpose of the campaign is to learn about attitudes of the presidential candidates regarding the status of the LGBTI community in Serbia and its improvement. This way we want to imply that while making decision on who to vote for LGBTI people will take into consideration candidates attitudes towards human rights of LGBTTIQA persons. We want to encourage LGBTI people, as well as other citizens who care for situation with human rights, to exercise their voting rights and to vote for candidates who stand for equality and respect for human rights. Campaign will in most part be realized through the social networks, and will conclude with the report on attitudes of presidential candidates regarding the LGBTI community.

Initially, candidates received a questionnaire via email. Later, to receive as many responses as possible, association “Da Se Zna!” also contacted candidates’ campaign headquarters to receive information on whether candidates intend to respond to the questionnaires.



PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES:

1. Saša Janković

Group of Citizens “For Serbia Without Fear”

2. Vuk Jeremić

Group of Citizens “We Have To Do Better”

3. Miroslav Parović

Peoples Freedom Movement

4. Saša Radulović

Group of Citizens “Enough is Enough”

5. Luka Maksimović

Group of Citizens “Ljubiša Preletacević Beli”

6. Aleksandar Vučić

Coalition of SNS, SPS, SDPS, JS, PUPS, PS, SPO, PSS, SVM

7. Boško Obradović

Serbian Movement Dveri (Doors)

8. Dr. Vojislav Šešelj

Serbian Radical Party

9. Prof. dr. Aleksandar Popović

Democratic Party of Serbia (DSS)

10. Milan Stamatović

Group of Citizens “For Healthy Serbia – Milan Stamatović”

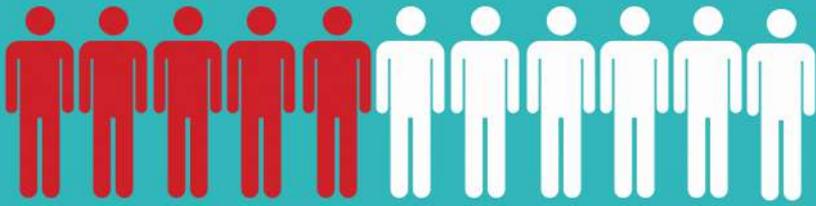
11. Nenad Čanak

Ligue of Social-democrats of Vojvodina

QUESTIONS THAT WE ASKED:

1. IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS THAT LGBTI CITIZENS FACE IN SERBIA?
2. DO YOU THINK IT IS SAFE NOWADAYS IN SERBIA TO COME OUT AS AN LGBTI PERSON?
3. IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THE LACK OF SANCTIONING OF VIOLENCE TOWARDS LGBTI CITIZENS AND WHAT STEPS DO YOU PLAN TO TAKE TO STOP SUCH PRACTICE?
4. ARE YOU AWARE OF THE DRAFT LAW ON GENDER IDENTITY, WHICH REGULATES RIGHTS OF TRANS PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT AREAS OF THEIR LIVES?
5. WOULD YOU SUPPORT PASSING OF THE LAW ON SAME-SEX PARTNERSHIPS?
6. ARE YOU PERSONALLY READY TO SUPPORT PUBLICLY IMPROVEMENT OF THE RIGHTS OF LGBTI PEOPLE IN SERBIA AND IN WHAT WAYS?





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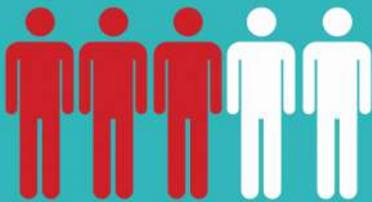
CANDIDATES
RESPONDED THE
QUESTIONNAIRE.

RESPONDED:

1. MIROSLAV PAROVIĆ
2. SAŠA RADULOVIĆ
3. BOŠKO OBRADOVIĆ
4. PROF. DR ALEKSANDAR
POPOVIĆ
5. NENAD ČANAK

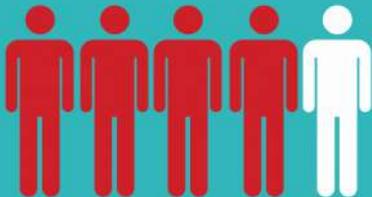
DID NOT RESPOND:

1. SAŠA JANKOVIĆ
2. VUK JEREMIĆ
3. LUKA MAKSIMOVIĆ
4. ALEKSANDAR VUČIĆ
5. VOJISLAV ŠEŠELJ
6. MILAN STAMATOVIĆ



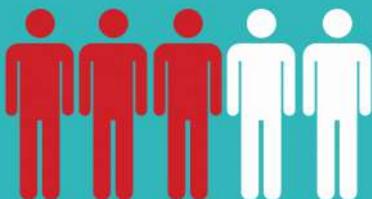
2 CANDIDATES

THINK THAT LGBTI COM-
MUNITY IS NOT EXPOSED
TO DISCRIMINATION
MORE THAN OTHER
CITIZENS.



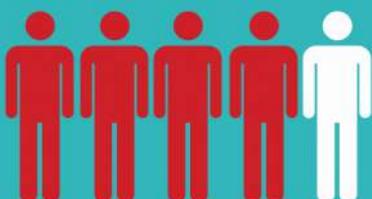
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CANDIDATES THINK THAT
IT IS SAFE TO COME OUT
IN SERBIA.



2 CANDIDATE

WOULD SUPPORT THE
LAW ON GENDER
IDENTITY, WHILE 2
OTHER CANDIDATES ARE
NOT AWARE OF THE
DRAFT LAW.



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WOULD SUPPORT
REGULATION OF THE
SAME-SEX PARTNERSHIP.

MIROSLAV PAROVIĆ

According to Miroslav Parović, LGBTI people have the same problems as the rest of the population, while coming out is safe, considering that citizens of Serbia are very tolerant towards all minorities. Parović did not notice that there is a different treatment of violence towards LGBTI people by the judiciary. However, he recognizes that judiciary, in general, is not in a good shape. For him trans people can only have the same rights as others, and he is not aware of the draft Law on gender identity. In his opinion, marriage is a union between a man and a woman, but property relations between two people of the same sex could be regulated legally because „this is where most of the abuse of sentiments with the purpose of material gain take place“. Parović is ready to protect all minority rights stipulated with the Constitution, but will not allow that someone has more rights than others.

**“CITIZENS OF SERBIA ARE VERY TOLERANT TOWARDS
ALL MINORITY COMMUNITIES”**



SAŠA RADULOVIĆ

Saša Radulović recognizes that LGBTI citizens do face violence and discrimination, and are not accepted by the society. He believes, LGBTI people have a valid reason to fear to come out because that would lead to violence and humiliation. As a reason for the lack of sanctioning of hate crimes towards LGBTI people he gives a non implementation of law and absence of empathy towards victims. Radulović is ready to support the Law on gender identity, which regulates rights of trans people, as well as a law that would regulate same sex partnerships. His engagement in improving the status of LGBTI people he sees in attending the Pride Parade and advocating for respect of laws.

**“IT IS NECESSARY TO RAISE AWARENESS OF
THE SOCIETY THAT BEING LGBTI IS NOT BAD,
UNNATURAL OR NOT NORMAL”**



BOŠKO OBRADOVIĆ

Presidential candidate Boško Obradović thinks that LGBTI people enjoy equal rights with the rest of the Serbian population, and they do not have any specific problems. For him sexual orientation is a private thing that should not be declared publicly, but he believes that it is safe to come out in Serbia. Obradović underlines that he condemns any type of violence and advocates for respect of law. He would not support passing of the Law on gender identity. Obradović is against regulation of the same sex partnerships and insists on his support for improvement of status of traditional families and values.

**“WE WILL NOT SUPPORT THE LAW ON
GENDER IDENTITY EVENTHOUGH WE ARE
NOT FAMILIAR WITH IT”**



ALEKSANDAR POPOVIĆ

Aleksandar Popović believes that he is aware of problems of different minority groups, but did not studied the problems of the LGBTI community. Based on his judgment of his close environment he claims that it is safe to come out publicly, but he agrees that claims of LGBTI organizations that stipulate differently should be taken into consideration. Popović does not think that there is a rule of law in Serbia, and he believes that this is the reason for non-punishment of violence towards LGBTI people. Popović did not read the draft Law on gender identity, and he is openly against regulation of the same sex partnership and allowing adoption of children by LGBTI people. However, he does admit that same sex partnerships are a reality and there are problems that could be resolved with legal measures.

**“I AM AWARE OF THE FACT THAT
SAME SEX PARTNERSHIPS ARE A REALITY”**



NENAD ČANAK

Nenad Čanak thinks that it is crucial to secure an opportunity for LGBTI citizens to talk about their problems and about homophobic and transphobic violence, gender based discrimination, deprivation of health services and problems at workplace. Čanak believes that there always will be individuals who are violent towards LGBTI people, however, he sees several ways to change that. He believes that inefficient protection system and political culture in which protection of human rights is not a priority is a reason for non-punishment of hate crimes. He is informed about the problems that trans people face, such as, for instance, problems regarding receiving ID documents, and would support the law on gender identity. Likewise, he would support the law on same sex partnerships and he is very open in his intention to publicly support the rights of LGBTI people.



**“I CARE ABOUT EQUAL RIGHTS THAT ARE
GUARANTEED BY THE CONSTITUTION”**



DA SE ZNA!

www.dasezna.lgbt

dasezna@dasezna.lgbt

Safe and anonymous violence reporting.