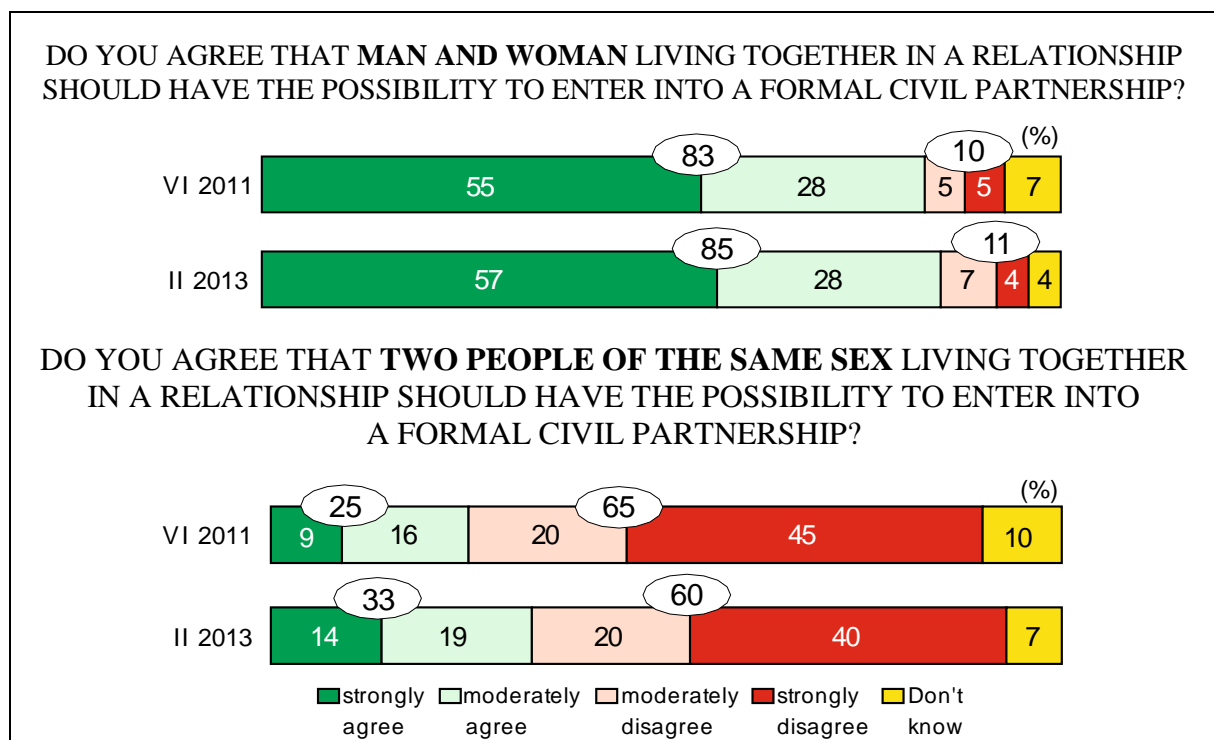


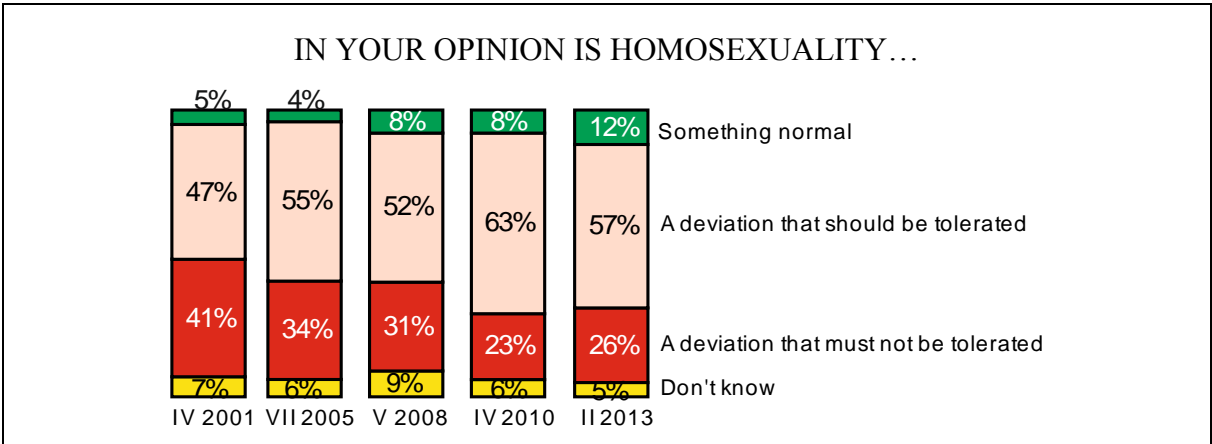
## ATTITUDE TO LEGALISATION OF CIVIL PARTNERSHIP AND SUPPORT FOR GAY AND LESBIAN RIGHTS

Recently, the Sejm has been concerned with draft legislation enabling legal civil partnership. All proposals were rejected. The decision of the Sejm does not mean that the debate about legalisation of civil partnership is finished, as Donald Tusk, the Prime Minister, has announced further efforts to regulate this issue.



The attitude to civil partnership depends on whether it concerns people of the same sex or different. Although the proposed legislation does not differentiate the sex of partners, social norms about homo- and heterosexual relations are markedly different. A vast majority of respondents (85%) approve of legalisation of civil partnership between a man and a woman, while one in nine (11%) is against. In case of people of the same sex, one-third (33%) accept the possibility to formalise their relationship, while three-fifths (60%) are against. Since 2011, the support for legalisation of heterosexual partnership has not changed, but the approval for homosexual civil partnership rose and its rejection has decreased.

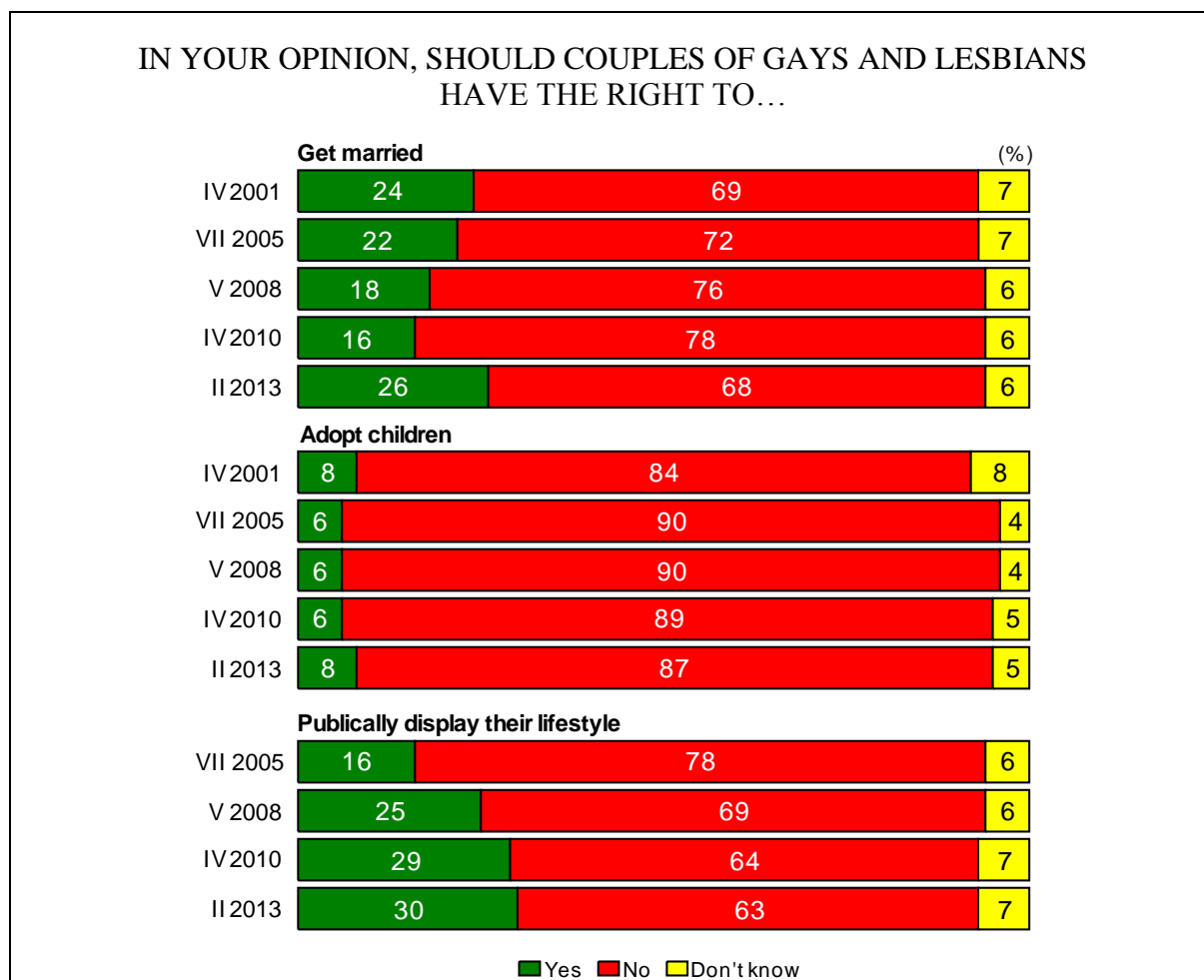
Relatively few Poles (12%) are of the opinion that homosexuality is something normal. The majority (83%) consider it to be a deviation from the norm. In that group, more than half (57%) think it should be tolerated, while a quarter (26%) believe there should be no tolerance. In the last three years, the number of people accepting homosexuality as normal has risen, but at the same time there has been an increase in the popularity of the idea that it is an unacceptable deviation. From a long-term perspective there is a slight decrease in intolerance.



Considering the socio-demographic categories, the conception of homosexuality as unacceptable deviation is relatively widespread among oldest, least educated respondents who practice religion several times a week. It is rare among the best-educated, who relatively often consider homosexuality to be something normal. The latter view is quite widespread among respondents who do not practice religion.

The majority of Poles have a negative attitude to potential rights for homosexual couples. Almost two-thirds (63%) think they should not be allowed to publically display their lifestyle, over two-thirds (68%) disapprove of homosexual marriage, and close to nine-tenths (87%) do not approve of giving them the right to adopt children.

In the last three years, the acceptance of marriage for homosexual couples has increased. A similar level of acceptance for marriage for gays and lesbians was last recorded in 2001.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *"Attitude to gay and lesbian rights and civil partnership"*, February 2013. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2013, N=1111. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.