

Heterosexual Questionnaire

One would seldom consider asking a person of heterosexual orientation any of the following questions. The fact that they are asked often of openly homosexual persons masks a hidden homophobia and acceptance of stereotypical thinking. This questionnaire is meant to reach some inner understanding, for heterosexual persons, of what it feels like to be the victim of prejudice and discrimination.

- ▽ What do you think caused your heterosexuality?
- ▽ When and how did you first decide you were heterosexual?
- ▽ Is it possible that your heterosexuality is just a phase you will grow out of?
- ▽ If you have never slept with a person of the same sex, how do you know that you wouldn't prefer that?
- ▽ To whom have you disclosed your heterosexuality?
- ▽ Why do so many heterosexuals try to seduce others into their orientation?
- ▽ Why must heterosexuals be so blatant, making a public spectacle of their heterosexuality? Can't you just be what you are and keep it quiet?
- ▽ Why are heterosexuals so promiscuous, always having affairs, etc...?

5-10% of all people are homosexual.

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This material does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Massachusetts Department of Education or the federal government.

NEWTON NORTH GAY/ STRAIGHT ALLIANCE

Our Goals:

- To promote awareness and understanding of gay/ lesbian/ bisexual issues and combat homophobia within the school.
- To provide a place where students can feel comfortable about their sexuality.

Things to remember about the alliance:

- All people, gay, straight, bisexual, and undecided, are welcome at our meetings.
- The sexual orientation of members is not assumed one way or the other. It is at the individual's discretion whether or not to disclose their sexual preference.
- Meeting information can be found on our bulletin board in red on Main Street or speak to Beth Holmberg in Beals House.

Resource Guide

Gay and Lesbian Help line: (617) 267-9001 (TTY/Voice)

Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Social Services
93 Massachusetts Ave.
3rd Floor
Boston MA, 02115
(617) 266-3349

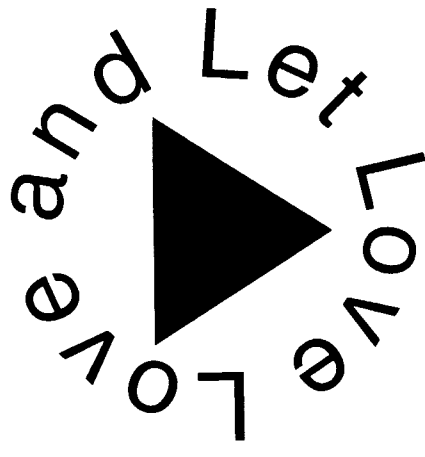
Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY)
P. O. Box 814
Boston, MA 02103
1-800-42BAGLY

Fenway Community Health Center
7 Haviland St.
Boston, MA 01115
(617) 267-7573

Newton North Gay/Straight Alliance

Presents

To B GLADay Transgender, Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian Awareness Day



DEFINITIONS

Homosexuality: Sexual attraction to and/or behavior with the same sex.

Bisexuality: Sexual attraction to and/or behavior with both sexes.

Heterosexuality: Sexual attraction to and/or behavior with the opposite sex.

Transgendered Person: Inclusive term for differently sexed and/or differently gendered individuals. Anyone who transgresses gender norms.

Transexual: Person whose gender identity is different from their biological sex; usually seeks sexual reassignment surgery and/or hormone therapy, but not always.

Transvestite: Person who enjoys wearing the clothes identified with the opposite gender. Most are heterosexual.

➔ **None of the above are diagnoses, and should not be treated as such.**

Homophobia hurts ALL people.

What is Homophobia?

Homophobia is the learned, socially transmitted fear and hatred of those who love and sexually desire those of the same sex.

Homophobia Includes:

- ➔ Thinking you can spot a lesbian/ gay/ bisexual person.
- ➔ Thinking that if a lesbian/ gay/ bisexual person touches you, they are making sexual advances.
- ➔ Expecting lesbians to be feminists.
- ➔ Looking at a lesbian/ gay/ bisexual person and automatically thinking of their sexuality rather than seeing them as a whole, complete person.
- ➔ Changing your seat in a meeting because a lesbian/ gay/ bisexual person sits in the chair next to you.
- ➔ Using the terms lesbian, gay, bisexual, as accusatory statements.
- ➔ Being afraid to shake hands with a lesbian/ gay/ bisexual friend.
- ➔ Feeling repulsed by public displays of affection by homosexuals, while accepting the same displays from heterosexuals.
- ➔ Assuming that everyone you meet is probably heterosexual.
- ➔ Not speaking out against homophobia due to being afraid of being identified as a lesbian/ gay/ bisexual.

Famous Homosexuals/ Bisexuals

Sophocles (496?-406 B.C.) Greek playwright
Socrates (470?-399 B.C.) Greek philosopher
Aristotle (384-322 B.C.) Greek philosopher
Julius Caesar (100-44 B.C.) Roman emperor
Alexander the Great (356-323 B.C.) Macedonian ruler
Richard the Lion-hearted (1157-1199) British King
Leonardo DaVinci (1452-1519) Italian painter/scientist
Julius III (1487-1555) Italian Pope
Hans Christian Anderson (1805-1875) Danish author
Walt Whitman (1819-1892) U.S. poet
Tchaikovsky (1840-1893) Russian composer
Willia Cather (1873-1947) U.S. writer
Virginia Woolf (1882-1941) English writer
Eleanor Roosevelt (1887-1986) U.S. Social Activist
Georgia O'Keefe (1887-1986) U.S. painter
Edna St. Vincent Millay (1892-1947) U.S. poet
Bessie Smith (1894-1937) U.S. singer
Tennessee Williams (1911-1983) U.S. playwright
Janis Joplin (1943-1970) U.S. singer

Myths about Homosexuality

MYTH: Homosexuals are a risk around children because they want to have sex with children.

FACT: The vast majority of child molesters are heterosexual men. Adult homosexuals have no more interest in having sex with children than do adult heterosexuals.

MYTH: Homosexuality is a mental illness which can be cured by psychotherapy.

FACT: The American Psychiatric Association does not consider homosexuality to be a mental illness.

MYTH: Homosexuals are very promiscuous.

FACT: As with heterosexuals some are celibate, some are in long term, mutually monogamous relationships, and others have multiple sexual partners sequentially.