

“That’s So ...” A Comprehensive (K-12) Inquiry Based Session on Diversity of Gender & Sexuality in HPE

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OASPHE Meeting

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WHO ARE LGBTTIQ PEOPLE?

Lesbian: A female who is attracted physically and emotionally to other females.

Gay: A person who is physically and emotionally attracted to someone of the same sex. The word gay can refer to both males and females, but is commonly used to identify males only.

Bisexual: A person who is attracted physically and emotionally to both males and females.

Transgender: a person whose gender identity, outward appearance, expression and/or anatomy does not fit into conventional expectations of male or female.

Transsexual: a person who experiences intense personal and emotional discomfort with their assigned birth gender and may undergo treatment to transition genders.

Two-spirit: umbrella term to refer to a person whose body simultaneously manifests both a masculine and a female spirit in Native American and Canadian First Nations communities.

Intersex: a general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male.

Queer/Questioning:

- Gender non-conforming/gender variant.
- Gender queer: Used to describe individuals who perceive their gender to be neither that of a male or female but outside of the gender binary.
- Questioning: A person who is unsure of his/her sexual orientation.

MYTH BUSTERS

Paraphrased from: EGALE Canada & Gay and Lesbian Educators of B.C.

MYTH 1: *“It’s unnatural”*

- Acting on one’s feelings is natural, while being forced to live in denial and in secrecy causes great – unnatural – pain.
- It’s about one’s quality of life, not the partner’s gender.

MYTH 2: *“LGBT educators are harmful role models for students”*

- Students do not learn to be LGBT... one IS LGBT.
- LGBT students most likely are raised by Hetero-parents and live in a hetero-sexist society.
- Positive role models are important for all students to realize they are productive members

MYTH 3: *“Elementary students will be confused if they learn about same-gendered families and LGBT issues”*

- Teaching is about helping students to think critically and to understand the diversity around them.

NEXT STEPS/RESOURCES:

RESOURCES FOR ONTARIO SCHOOLS

- Canadian Guidelines for Sexual Health Education, 2003
- Sexual Health Education in the Schools: Questions and Answers 3rd Edition, 2010
- Questions and Answers: Sexual Orientation in Schools, 2011
- Questions and Answers: Gender Identity in Schools, 2011 (materials 1-4 are available to order through www.catie.ca)
- Curriculum Links Between The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8: Health and Physical Education Interim Edition, 2010 (Revised) and the Fully Alive Program and Other Catholic Education Resources
- Healthy Active Living: Keep Fit, Stay Healthy, Have Fun (Thompson Educational Publishing, 2007)

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS and Programs

- Women Sports Foundation (WSF), It Takes a Team!
 - <http://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/home/athletes/for-athletes/know-your-rights/coach-and-athletic-director-resources/about-itat>
- Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport and Physical Activity (CAAWS), Homophobia in Sports
 - <http://www.caaws-homophobiainsport.ca/e/index.cfm>
- Egale Canada Human Rights Trust (ECHRT)
 - <http://egale.ca/>
- Gay Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN)
 - <http://www.glsen.org/>
 - “Changing the Game”: <http://sports.glsen.org/>
- Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays Canada (PFLAG Canada)
 - <http://www.pflagcanada.ca/en/index.html>

BOOKS:

- Macgillivray, Ian K. 2004. *Sexual orientation and school policy: A practical guide for teachers, administrators, and community activists*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.
- William J. Letts, James T. Sears., Eds. 1999. *Queering elementary education: Advancing the dialogue about sexualities and schooling*. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Anderson, Eric. 2005. *In the game: Gay athletes and the cult of masculinity*. Albany, N.Y.: State University of New York Press.
- Griffin, Pat. 1998. *Strong women, deep closets: Lesbians and homophobia in sport*. Champaign, IL: Human Kinetics.