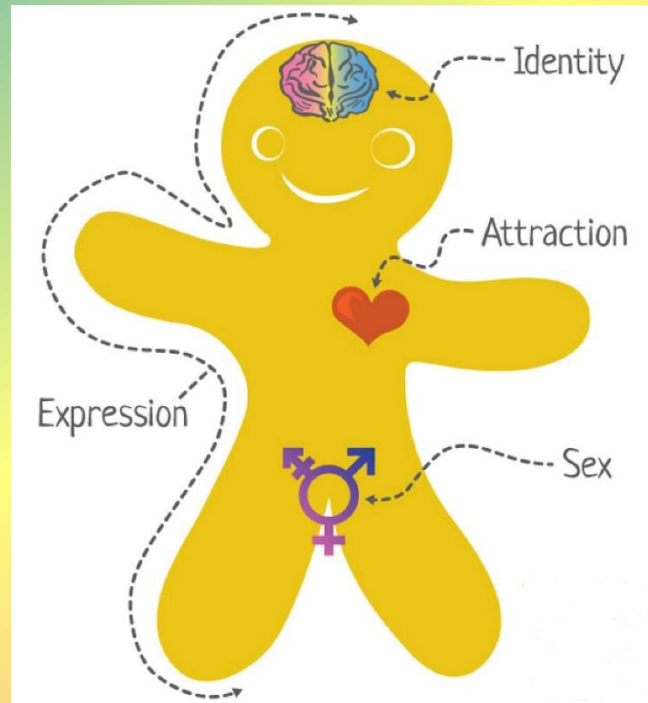


LGBTQ Training



Why do CASAs need to know about LGBTQ Culture?

- It is our responsibility to help children receive safer permanent homes. This includes the ability for a LGBTQ child to feel safe with their identity, sex and expression, in their permanent home.
- It also might include helping straight children who have grown up with straight or homophobic parents to feel safe with queer foster parents and/or adoptive parents.

Trans Identity Story

From This Day Forward

<http://www.pbs.org/video/pov-day-forward/>

Isolation

- 80% of gay and bisexual youth report severe problems with cognitive, social, or emotional isolation.
- 50% of lesbian and gay youth report parental rejection because of their sexual orientation.

Verbal Harassment

- 84% of LGBT students report being verbally harassed (name calling, threats, etc.) because of their sexual orientation.
- 91.5% of LGBT students report hearing homophobic remarks, such as “faggot,” “dyke” or the expression “that’s so gay” frequently or often.
- 44.7% of LGBT youth of color report being verbally harassed because of both their sexual orientation and race/ethnicity.
- Students who experience frequent verbal harassment because of their sexual orientation are less likely than other students to plan to attend college. 13.4% of LGBT students who report verbal harassment do not intend to go to college, twice the figure of those LGBT students who report only rare or less frequent verbal harassment (6.7%).

Violence

- 64.3% of LGBT students report feeling unsafe at their school because of their sexual orientation.
- In one study, 41% of self-identified gay and lesbian young people reported violence at the hands of families, peers, or strangers.
- Sexual minority students were more than twice as likely to report being in a physical fight at school in the prior year (31.5% of sexual minority students vs. 12.9% of others).
- Sexual minority students more often reported that they had missed school in the past month because they felt unsafe (19.1% of sexual minority students vs. 5.6% of others).

Violence

- A 2002 study found that bisexual students were three to six times more likely than their straight classmates to be threatened or injured with a weapon at school.
- FBI data shows that in 2005, 13.8% of hate crimes in the U.S.A., a total of 1,213 attacks, were motivated by bias against the victim's sexual orientation. 61.3% of those were committed against men who were or were perceived to be gay, while 1.9% of victims were or were perceived to be straight, a 2001 study found that LGBTQ teenagers are more likely to experience, witness, and/or perpetrate violence than their straight peers.
- A 2002 study found that LGB students who are victims of violence at school have elevated risk of suicidal and other health-risk behavior.

Homelessness

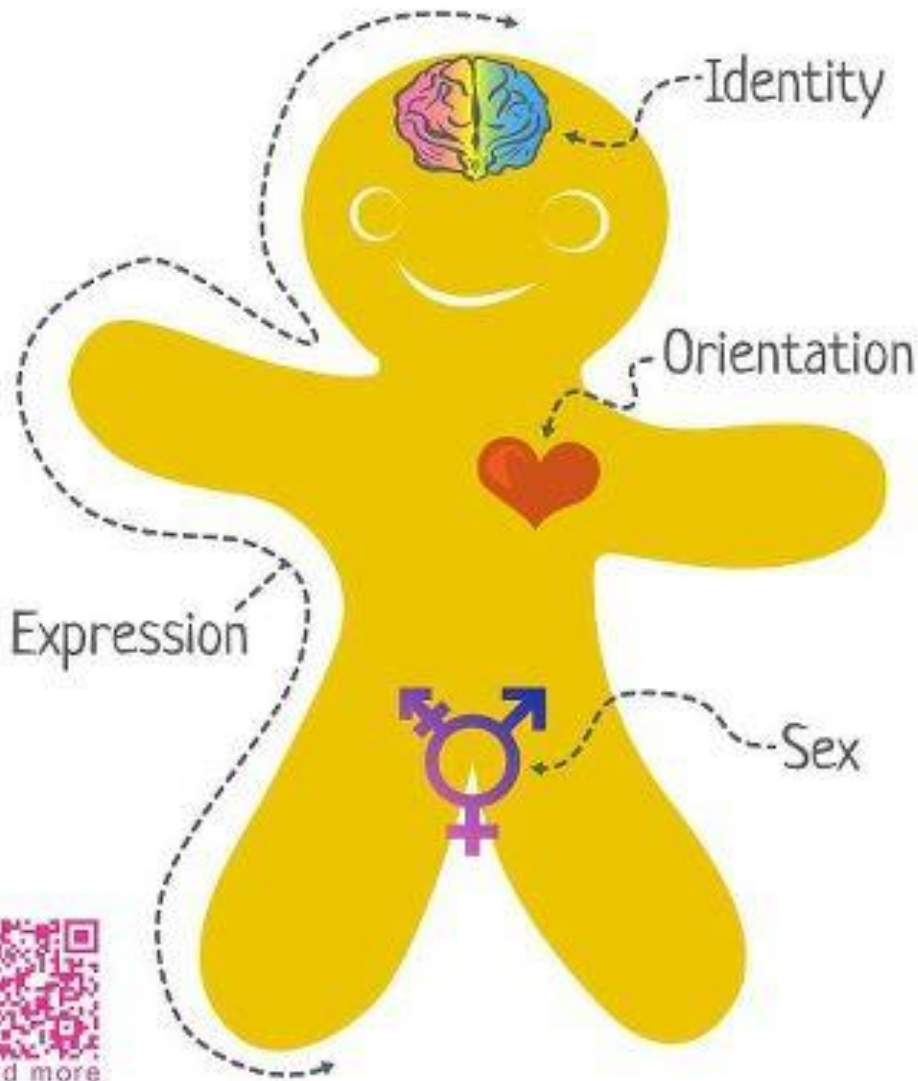
- According to a 2006 report, between 20 and 40 percent of homeless youth in the US identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. 26% of LGBT youth who come out to their parents are told to leave home. Many also report experiencing abuse both from family members and in shelters.
- 26% of gay youth are forced to leave home because of conflicts with their families over their sexual identities.
- Up to half of the gay or bisexual men forced from their homes engage in prostitution to support themselves, greatly increasing their risk for HIV infection.
- Half of a sampling of gay and lesbian young people in out-of-home care reported having been homeless at some point in the past.

LGBTQQAA

- Lesbian, a woman *attracted* to women
 - Gay, a man *attracted* to men
 - Bisexual, people *attracted* to both sexes
 - Transgender, when *identity* doesn't match sex/attraction
 - Transsexual, *transforming* from one sex to another sex
 - Queer, formerly a slur, now an inclusive verb for the above terms grouped as a *whole*
 - Questioning, a person who is exploring any of the above
 - Androgynous, not identifying with either *gender*
 - Asexual, a person who isn't attracted to either *sex*
- (Straight/Hetero/Cis, a person *attracted* to opposite sex)

The Genderbread Person

by www.ItsPronouncedMetrosexual.com



Gender Identity

← Woman Genderqueer Man →

Gender identity is how you, in your head, think about yourself. It's the chemistry that composes you (e.g., hormonal levels) and how you interpret what that means.

Gender Expression

← Feminine Androgynous Masculine →

Gender expression is how you demonstrate your gender (based on traditional gender roles) through the ways you act, dress, behave, and interact.

Biological Sex

← Female Intersex Male →

Biological sex refers to the objectively measurable organs, hormones, and chromosomes. Female = vagina, ovaries, XX chromosomes; male = penis, testes, XY chromosomes; intersex = a combination of the two.

Sexual Orientation

← Heterosexual Bisexual Homosexual →

Sexual orientation is who you are physically, spiritually, and emotionally attracted to, based on their sex/gender in relation to your own.



LGBT Youth Trafficking

LGBT youth are up to five times more likely to be trafficked than heterosexual youth.

-----Getting to Know Gender-Neutral Pronouns! -----

Traditional Masculine	He laughed	I called him	His eyes gleam	That is his	He likes himself
Traditional Feminine	She laughed	I called her	Her eyes gleam	That is hers	She likes herself
Gender Neutral (Singular They)	They laughed	I called them	Their eyes gleam	That is theirs	They like themselves
Gender Neutral (Ze)	Ze laughed (pronounced: "zee" as in the letter 'z')	I called hir (pronounced: "here")	Hir eyes gleam (pronounced: "here")	That is hirs (pronounced: "here's")	Ze likes hirself (pronounced: "here- self")

Allies Do:

- Use inclusive language – partner, significant other
- Don't assume all gays and lesbians are attracted to all people of the same sex/gender
- Challenge heterosexist curriculum
- Celebrate National Coming Out Day – Oct 11
- Ask for their PGP's
- Be patient
- Offer the “buddy system”

Allies Don't:

- “out” them
- Compare their story to others
- Assume people are gay or straight
- Let homophobic comments slide
- Make assumptions about their orientation
- Tolerate trans comments
- Ask personal physical questions

A Quiz:

If a woman is not at home in their birth sex and is attracted to people of the same birth sex, we would refer to them as....

A Quiz:

If a woman is not at home in their birth sex and is attracted to people of the same birth sex, we would refer to them as....

...transgendered or androgynous.
We don't know which. Some may also call themselves lesbians.

A Quiz:

Would you want to assume that they were one or the other?

A Quiz:

Would you want to assume? At what point in the relationship would you ask if they were indeed “a transgendered or an androgynous lesbian”, or if they would like to be called “they”?

A Quiz:

If someone is at home in their own gender/sex and yet attracted to people of all genders/sexes, we would refer to them as....

A Quiz:

If someone is at home in their own gender/sex and yet attracted to people of all genders/sexes, we would refer to them as....

.....Bisexual

A Quiz:

If someone is more at home in the gender/sex that they weren't born with, we would refer to them as....

A Quiz:

If someone is more at home in the gender/sex that they weren't born with, we would refer to them as....

...transgender, or questioning.

...So what would you call Trisha?

A Quiz:

If someone is more at home in the gender/sex that they weren't born with, we would refer to them as....

...transgendered, or questioning.

...So what would you call Trisha?

Trisha is transgender

One more Quiz Question:

Is Trisha transsexual?

From what we saw, we don't know conclusively, but knowing that she stayed married to her wife tells us that the likelihood is...

One more Quiz Question:

Is Trisha transsexual?

No. Trisha is becoming a woman but she is also still attracted to women, so she would not be considered fully transsexual.

Final Confounding Clarification:

If Trisha does become a woman by changing her hormones and organs to match that of the sex she was not born with, and she is still attracted to women, might she call herself a lesbian? Yes! This is why it is good not to use labels until you have gotten to know someone.

Tonya's Story

Tonya, a 21-year-old lesbian, lived in the foster-care system from age 2 to 20. By the time Tonya was 12, she had lived in ten different foster homes. At the age of 15, a minister and his wife finally adopted Tonya. The minister often forced Tonya to go to church, stand at the pulpit and “confess” her sin of being gay. At home, the minister repeatedly told her she needed “the gay” beaten out of her. Tonya was removed from the home, but never found a family who accepted her for who she was....

LGBTQ Youth

- 5-10% of children in foster youth identify as LGBTQ.
- 26% of LGBTQ youth are forced to leave their biological home *due* to their identities.