

# Supporting LGBTQ+ Students



# Acknowledgement



Special thanks to Kel O'Hara, Esq. with Equal Rights Advocates, for creating this presentation.

# Content Warning



***\*\*SASH Club Power Topics may include sensitive content that may be difficult to present and may possibly be triggering to some participants.\*\****

***You may want to seek the support of an ally during this presentation, especially if you're a survivor of sexual violence.***

# What's Ahead



- Why is it important to learn about LGBTQ+ students as part of understanding sexual violence?
- LGBTQ+ terms and identities
- Supporting LGBTQ+ classmates
- What can I do if I am sexually assaulted?
- What can I do if I experience or witness sexual harassment?

Note: the two videos in this presentation are only available via the hyperlinks on the slides.

# Why learn about LGBTQ+ students as part of understanding sexual violence?



- LGBTQ+ people experience sexual harassment and sexual violence at higher rates than their non-LGBTQ+ peers.
- LGBTQ+ survivors often receive less support than their peers because of discrimination and misunderstanding of their experiences.
- By supporting and accepting LGBTQ+ students, we are building a safer school community for everyone.

# Questions



1. When do you first remembering learning that some people are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or queer (LGBQ)?
2. When do you first remember learning that some people are trans?
3. Do you have any friends or classmates that identify as LGBQ?
4. Do you have any friends or classmates that identify as trans?

# LGBTQ+ Terms and Identities

# Sexuality, Gender Identity, and Gender Expression

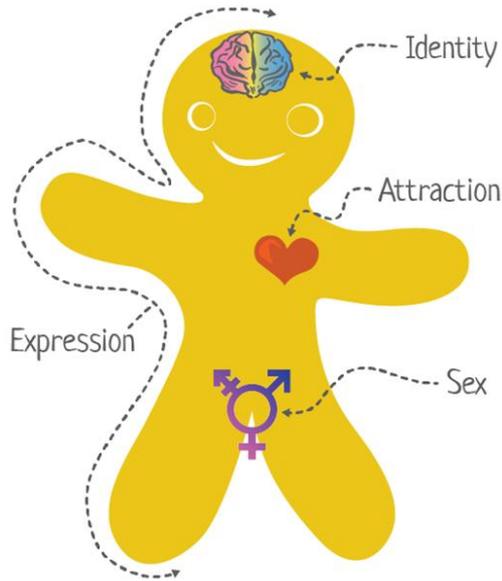


[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vlx9iZ9g\\_9I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vlx9iZ9g_9I)

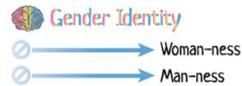
From True Colors United

# Understanding Gender and Sexuality

The Genderbread Person v4 *by its pronounced METROsexual.com*



⊖ means a lack of what's on the right side



Identity ≠ Expression ≠ Sex  
Gender ≠ Sexual Orientation

Sex Assigned At Birth  
 Female  Intersex  Male



Genderbread Person Version 4 created and uncopyrighted 2017 by Sam Killermann

For a bigger bite, read more at [www.genderbread.org](http://www.genderbread.org)

# Terms to Know: Gender

- Cisgender: describes someone whose gender identity is the same as the gender they were assigned at birth. Sometimes shortened to “cis”.
- Transgender: describes someone whose gender identity is different than the gender they were assigned at birth. Sometimes shortened to “trans”.
- Intersex: someone whose biological sex characteristics at birth do not neatly categorize them as male or female.
- Non-binary: umbrella term for someone whose gender identity is neither male nor female.

# Terms to Know: Sexuality



- Straight: describes people who are primarily attracted to people of the opposite gender (e.g. men who are attracted to women).
- Gay: describes people primarily attracted to people of the same gender; may specifically refer to men who are primarily attracted to other men.
- Lesbian: describes women who are primarily attracted to other women.
- Bisexual: describes people attracted to people of their same and another (or other) gender(s). Sometimes shortened to “bi”.

# Other Terms to Know

- LGBTQ+: umbrella term for people who are not straight and/or cisgender. Stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer, plus other related identities.
- Queer: umbrella term for someone who does not identify as cisgender and/or straight. Historically and still used as a slur in some communities, so not all LGBTQ+ people are comfortable with this term.
- Ally: a cisgender straight person who supports and respects members of the LGBTQ+ community.

# Talk About It



- Did you learn anything new about LGBTQ identity, gender, and/or sexual orientation from the previous slides?
- Was anything we just went over confusing or uncomfortable for you? Why?

# Supporting LGBTQ+ Classmates

# Questions



1. Do you think LGBTQ+ students feel safe and able to be themselves at this school? Why or why not?
2. Have you ever seen someone bullied, discriminated against, or otherwise mistreated at school because they are LGBTQ+?
3. What are some ways you can think of to make LGBTQ+ students feel safe and welcome at school?

# Supporting LGBTQ Classmates: Pronouns



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xpvricekxU>

From Minus 18

# Respecting LGBTQ+ Classmates



- Be willing to listen and learn from LGBTQ+ classmates.
- Remember that you can't tell someone's gender identity or sexual orientation just by looking at them. Don't assume!
- Ask for and use someone's correct name and pronouns whether or not the person is around. Practice if you need to!
- Include LGBTQ+ classmates in your friend group and social life.

# Standing up for LGBTQ+ Classmates



- Spend time reflecting on any anti-LGBTQ+ thoughts, feelings, or biases you may have and work to change them, even if it's uncomfortable.
- If someone makes an anti-LGBTQ+ comment or joke, tell them you find it offensive and that you don't want to hear it.
- If you see an LGBTQ+ classmate being harassed or discriminated against, interrupt the situation to help them get out of it, and then ask if and how they would like you to help (e.g. going with them to report the incident to a teacher).

# Standing up for LGBTQ+ Classmates



- Offer to accompany LGBTQ+ classmates if they are uncomfortable doing something or going somewhere (e.g. using the restroom that corresponds to their gender identity).
- Report anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination or harassment in writing to your principal.

# Making school more inclusive for LGBTQ+ students



- Start or join a GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) at your school.
- Ask teachers who support LGBTQ+ students to display LGBTQ+ stickers or posters in their classrooms to show they are safe and inclusive.
- Remind teachers of someone's name and/or pronouns if they are misgendered in class.
- Advocate for your school to adopt a non-discrimination policy that includes gender identity and sexual orientation if one is not already in place.

# Making school more inclusive for LGBTQ+ students



- Ask that teachers include LGBTQ+ history and issues in their curriculum.
- Request books by LGBTQ+ authors and about LGBTQ+ people for the school library.

# Do More



- Did you learn anything new about supporting LGBTQ+ students from the previous slides? What stood out?
- Were you uncomfortable with any of the suggestions? Why?
- What are some ways you will commit to supporting LGBTQ+ students moving forward?

# To Do Immediately if Sexually Assaulted



- Get away from the attacker to a safe place as fast as you can.
- Then call 911 or the police.
- Call a friend or family member you trust.
- You can call a crisis center or hotline to talk with a counselor.
- One 24/7 option, for all genders, is the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800-656-HOPE (4673).
- RAINN will connect you with a rape crisis center in your area.
- Visit the Survivor Support page at [www.sashclub.org/survivor-support/](http://www.sashclub.org/survivor-support/) for more helpline options and details.

# To Do Immediately if Sexually Assaulted



- Preserve the evidence, even if you are unsure you will report.
- **Do not:**
  - Wash, comb your hair, or clean any part of your body
  - Brush your teeth
  - Change clothes, if possible, so the hospital nurse can collect evidence
  - Touch or change anything at the scene of the assault
- Seek medical attention ASAP at your nearest hospital ER:
  - You need to be examined, treated for any injuries, checked for possible sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or pregnancy, and can receive preventative medicine.
  - The nurse or doctor will collect evidence the attacker may have left behind.
- Ask hospital staff to connect you with a local rape crisis center.



# If You are Sexually Harassed

- It isn't your fault...and you can get help to make it stop.
- Reach out ASAP to a friend, school counselor or trusted adult for immediate safety & support to bring the issue to your Dean of Students, Principal, or Title IX Coordinator.
- Confidential National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-4673  
[www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)

# Feedback & Suggestions

- SASH Club welcomes your feedback and suggestions on the content of this presentation. Contact us via:
  - [www.sashclub.org](http://www.sashclub.org)
  - Email: [info@sashclub.org](mailto:info@sashclub.org)
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  - Twitter: [@sashclubs](https://twitter.com/sashclubs)
- Contact an adult advisor with your questions or concerns about local issues.