LGBTQ+ Inclusion & Equity 101

About this space

- You're welcome to ask questions
- We are not a monolith
- Speak from your own experience
- We are in the room
- Show respect to others and yourselves
- Every training has limitations

Objectives

- Review LGBTQ+ terminology and the basic historical and sociological contexts of terms.
- Learn approaches to inclusive language for the LGBTQ+ Community.
- Understand key biases and assumptions of LGBTQ+ people and their roots in systems of oppression.
- Develop ways to celebrate and center LGBTQ+ communities.

LGBTQ+ Community & History

LGBTQ+

- Acronym(s) and "Queer"
- Why a "+"?
- Gender and sexuality
 - Shared history, community, and struggles
- Identity and categories
 - Putting language to experiences
 - Fluid and flexible
 - Varies greatly over time

Sexuality



Romantic & Sexual Attraction

Orientation

Aromantic Asexual L, G, B & beyond Flexible definitions

Gender

- Expression
- Identity
- Role/Stereotypes

Cultural & Historical Context

Trans & Nonbinary

- Trans Across
- Cis Same
 - Is this a binary?
- Gender Non-conforming

Cultural & Historical Context

Intersex

- Sex isn't binary
- Outside of "male" and "female"
- 1.7% of the population
- Non-consensual surgeries and

procedures very often performed

on intersex folks

What is Gender?

Not Stable Across Time

Legal Debates

Etymology

Gender and Sexuality

Blossoming Identities & Language

- We've always built communities
- Varied and sometimes contradictory definitions
- Influence of internet resource sharing

Dear Straight

Peopley Denice Frohman

Activity

- Reflect on the poem "Dear Straight People" with a partner
 - What did the poem make you feel?
 - Was there a line that stood out to you?

Regroup

- How do you feel when you encounter a policy or practice that seems like it might discriminate or not consider LGBTQ+ people?
- How can we grow by decentering straight and cis perspectives on gender and sexuality?
 - What is needed for that work?

"My silences had not protected me. Your silence will not protect you." - Audre Lorde

Inclusion & Language

- Why do we talk about "inclusive" language?
- Where language makes an impact?
 - Public spaces
 - Law
 - Healthcare

Systems of Oppression

Why talk about systems?



Some Key Biases & Assumptions

Sexualization Predatory

Unnatural or Abnormal

Monolithic

Unprofessional



Questioning Respectability Politics

- Define: is the use of respectability narratives to promote sociopolitical change
- Why?
 - Appealing through current systems
 - Survival
- Limits
- Who do we leave out?

Questioning Respectability Politics

Example:

- LGBTQ+ people deserve marriage rights because we're just normal couples who just want to raise kids and be part of our communities like everyone else.
- What lines are drawn?
 - Queer family structures
 - People who don't fit "normal"

Intersectionality

- Coined by Kimberle Crenshaw
- Compounding barriers
- LGBTQ+ people often have unique and beautiful identities and cultures connected to their intersectional identities. Some examples:
 - Ballroom culture
 - Native Justice Coalition
 - LGBTQ+ covens
 - **Queer and trans disability support networks**

Norms are a mundane daily kind of violence.

- Marquis Bey from *Black Trans Feminism*

Trans/Generation

Alok Vaid Menon

Activity

Authorities Activity

We know our genders and sexualities are personal, but where, how, and why are these experiences recognized?

Authorities Activity

Example: Birth Certificate



Authorities Activity

- Come up with another example in pairs
- We'll regroup and share in 5 minutes

Reflecting on Systems

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How will I respond when I notice myself acting on behalf of or in collaboration with systems that oppress LGBTQ+ people?



When I want to push back against those systems, who will I lean on for support?



Where do I want to continue to learn?

Celebrating Our LGBTQ+ Community

Why "Celebrate"?

Affirm

Support

Consider

Include

Accept

What Does It Mean to Celebrate a Community

Center

Value

Dream

How Can We Do This Work?

Evaluate

Empower

Invest

Closing Activity

How do you want support from your team in doing this work, showing up for LGBTQ+ people?

Share aloud or think to yourself

Listen to diverse LGBTQ+ perspectives

Learning More

Read books, TikToks, Instagram, & more

Pay attention to the news

Uplift LGBTQ+ people within organizations



Evaluation

https://forms.gle/pJEus7m4Tv2yRhVs9

