

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT LGBTQ PEOPLE?

In this activity, participants will be given a questionnaire to answer about their feelings surrounding LGBTQ people. Give people about 5-6 minutes to complete the questionnaire. The answers will be confidential, but people will be given an opportunity to comment on their answers as they wish during the discussion portion of the activity. Reiterate verbally that there are no “right” or “wrong” answers for these questions and the activity works best if people give honest answers, not the one they feel expected to give. In addition, this activity is not an effort to try to change attitudes and values, but to acknowledge what those beliefs are.

Once participants have completed the survey, proceed to the discussion questions and facilitate a discussion around this activity.

FACILITATION QUESTIONS

- What did you notice about the questionnaire? What were your observations?
- What did you think about or feel as you answered some of the questions?
- How often have you thought about any of these issues? What did you base your decisions upon?
- What surprised you about your answers? What are some ideas that you reconsidered?

FACILITATOR OBSERVATIONS

- A lot of these questions are situational in nature and are deliberately broad. Different situations can lead to different answers and indeed the idea that, “I don’t know how I would react unless that situation happened” is a legitimate response.
- As part of the Safe Zone program, we all have to challenge our thoughts and feelings surrounding LGBTQ issues. Every person is entitled to love, understanding, support and respect and that is what our allies should strive to attain.
- Ask yourself how you answer these questions now and how would you like to answer them in the future.

How Do You FEEL ABOUT LGBTQ PEOPLE?

Clarifying our attitudes and beliefs helps us become more conscious of what we feel. The purpose of responding to the following items is not to try to change your attitudes or values, but to help you understand what those feelings and values are. There are no “right” or “wrong” answers. Respond in a way that you truly feel, not how you THINK you should feel or how you WISH that you felt. Your answers will not be shared unless you wish to do so.

Read each statement below and circle the number that matches your feelings most closely regarding each question.

- 1 = Strongly Agree 2 = Agree 3 = Neutral 4 = Disagree 5 = Strongly Disagree
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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I feel comfortable when I am with people who I know are LGBTQ. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | If I found out that my best friend was LGBTQ, I think our relationship would probably be less close in the future. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I am comfortable with men who act “feminine” and women who act “masculine.” |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I am comfortable around LGBTQ people who kiss or display affection in public. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I would feel comfortable hugging or giving a friendly kiss to someone who was LGBTQ. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I feel self-conscious that people may question my sexuality if I spend time with people who are LGBTQ. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I can look at a person and know if they are LGBTQ. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I would feel comfortable if a close friend or family member started to date someone who was transgender. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I find humor on TV and movies about LGBTQ people to be okay because it is simply a joke. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I think that our society is too “politically correct” surrounding LGBTQ issues. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I am more comfortable around lesbian women than gay men. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I think that bisexual people have not decided which sex they are most attracted to yet. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I think our society is saturated with LGBTQ messages. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | A number of my closest friends identify as LGBTQ. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I would rethink my relationship with a parent if they were to come out as LGBTQ. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | I feel that LGBTQ couples should think carefully before adopting or having children because of how it could affect the children growing up. |