

SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY QUESTIONNAIRE

This exercise allows participants to answer a series of questions that are often relayed to LGBTQ people about their sexual orientation. Provide each participant with a copy of the questionnaire and allow them to complete the survey to the best of their ability. Mention to participants that if they don't identify as heterosexual, they can fill out the questionnaire for their own sexual orientation. Ask participants to use the space provided to record their answers and to use the back of the sheet if needed. Point out the bonus question and let participants know we will discuss the questionnaire after they are done. Once completed, proceed to the facilitation questions. Explain that this exercise is to help become aware of how much sexuality plays a part in our daily lives and will help identify behaviors and perceptions about sexuality.

FACILITATION QUESTIONS (ASK ANY/ALL QUESTIONS AS APPROPRIATE AND AS TIME ALLOWS)

- What are your reactions to this exercise?
- How difficult was it to answer these questions? What stood out for you?
- If you flip the first twelve questions around to “homosexual” or “bisexual,” how do they sound?
- How do you respectfully initiate and hold a conversation with someone about their sexual orientation, even approaching the situation as an ally?
- How did it feel to question a person's womanhood based on her clothing? What are other examples of how we expect women to conform to femininity and men to masculinity?
- Why do you think we as a society often assume that a person's physical appearance (gender expression) is connected to their sexual orientation?

FACILITATOR OBSERVATIONS

- The important part of this exercise is to understand that these questions are not abnormal or unusual for people who identify as LGBTQ. Flipping this around for people who may identify as heterosexual leads to awkwardness and misunderstanding as you try to struggle to find an answer. It is also possible that this is the first time that you may have even thought about these questions and yet LGBTQ people may be asked similar questions on a regular basis.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. At what age did you decide you were heterosexual?
2. Heterosexuals are often witnessed holding hands, hugging, or kissing in public. Why do heterosexuals seem to “flaunt” their sexuality?
3. Even with all of the social support marriage receives in our society; the divorce rate is still 40-50%. Why are there so few stable heterosexual relationships?
4. After seeing all of the images of heterosexuals on TV, movies, magazines, and the Internet, why do heterosexuals feel that they need to seduce others to their lifestyle?
5. With the number of images on TV, movies, and magazines, why do heterosexuals place so much emphasis on sex?
6. If you have never slept with a person of the same sex, how do you know that you are heterosexual?
7. A disproportionate majority of child molesters are heterosexual. Do you consider it safe to expose children to heterosexual teachers?
8. What do you think caused your heterosexuality? Did you have a masculine father figure or a feminine mother figure?
9. Is it possible that your heterosexuality is just a phase? Perhaps you did not date enough same-sex people growing up?
10. Why do heterosexuals all tend to hang out together and have such obvious symbols as wedding rings to announce their sexuality?
11. Why are there so many special rights for heterosexuals such as marriage, opportunity in the workplace, and anti-discrimination laws?

BONUS! Unlike the previous questions which address **sexual orientation**, this question addresses **gender identity**.

More than before, women today are wearing pants, blazers, and “masculine” clothing. How do we know that they are real women?