Understanding Our LGBTQ+ Youth: Educating Our Educators

Summer Davidson Gomez, LCSW
Coming Out Stars

Take your paper star, and write:
• Your name
• Your best friend
• Your community
• A family member
• Your dream career
• Your hopes and dreams
The Spectrum
Diagram of Sex and Gender (SOGIE)

SEX ASSIGNED AT BIRTH (anatomy, chromosomes, hormones)
- boy
- intersex
- girl

GENDER IDENTITY (psychological sense of self)
- man
- two-spirit/third gender
- woman

GENDER EXPRESSION (communication of gender)
- masculine
- androgynous
- feminine

SEXUAL ORIENTATION (erotic response)
- gay/lesbian
- bisexual/asexual
- straight

SEXUAL BEHAVIOR (who you do)
- sex with women
- sex with men

Adopted from the Center for Gender Sanity
The Transgender Experience
Gender-fluidity Worldwide
Gender Dysphoria
Phases of Transitioning

Social
Legal
Medical
Medical Transitioning
Creating a Safe Space
Creating Affirming Environments

Forms for Students and Families

Ensure forms are LGBTQI2-S inclusive.

• “Caregiver 1; Caregiver 2:”
• “Parent/Guardian”
• “Gender: Male; Female; Other”
Creating Affirming Environments
CA Education Code

• **CA Ed. Code Sections 200-220**: Schools must protect students from bias and discrimination, including harassment based on actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

• **CA Ed. Code Sections 234-234.5**: Admin., faculty and staff are required to intervene when they witness discrimination, harassment or bullying if they can do so safely.

ACLU of Southern California: LGBTQ Students – Know Your Rights
Start a Club! – GLSEN’s Findings:

1. GSAs make schools safer for LGBT students.
2. GSAs make schools more accessible to LGBT students.
3. GSAs help LGBT students to identify supportive school staff.
4. Most students lack access to GSAs or other similar clubs.

GLSEN.org
GSAs Benefit Everyone

A study from the University of British Columbia showed that in schools with GSAs the odds of suicidal thoughts were cut in half for lesbians, gays and bisexuals. And heterosexual boys were half as likely to attempt suicide.
Q & A

? !