



# What's in a Name? A discussion of current LGBTQA acronyms, definitions, concepts and guides

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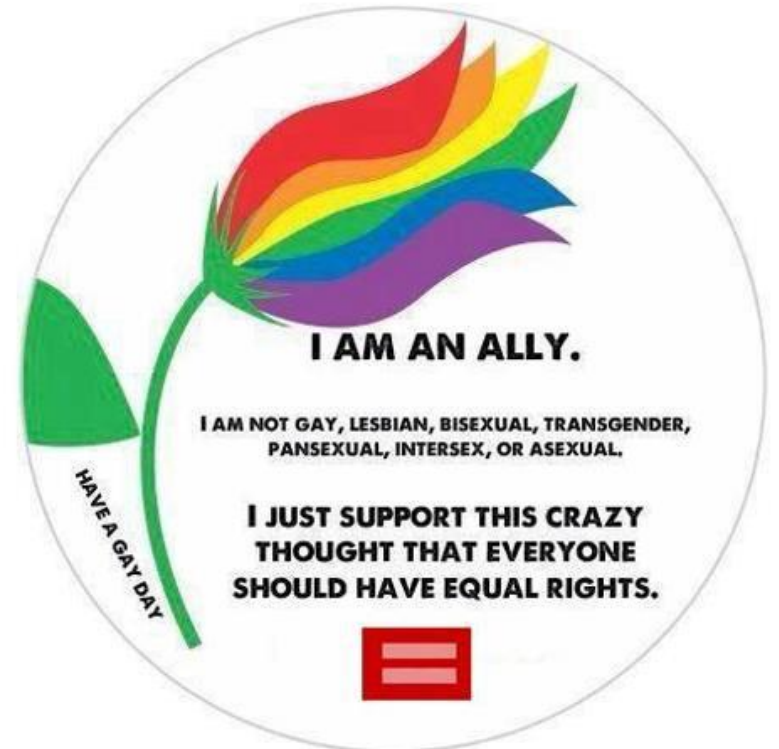
# Important Note

- **Please Note:** It is very important to respect people's desired self-identifications. One should never assume another person's identity based on that person's appearance. It is always best to ask people how they identify, including what pronouns they prefer, and to respect their wishes.



# Terms cont.

- Ally- Someone who advocates for and supports members of a community other than their own.
- Androgyny: (1) a gender expression that has elements of both masculinity and femininity; (2) occasionally used in place of “intersex” to describe a person with both female and male anatomy



# Terms cont.

- Cisgender- A person who by nature or by choice conforms to gender/sex based expectations of society.
- Crossdresser- Someone who wears clothes associated with another gender part of the time. This term has replaced “transvestite” which is now considered outdated and offensive.



# Terms Cont.

- Gender Conformity- When your gender identity, gender expression and sex “match” according to social norms.
- Gender Identity- an individuals’ internal sense of gender, which may or may not be the same as one’s gender assigned at birth
- Heterosexism- Assuming every person to be heterosexual therefore marginalizing persons who do not identify as heterosexual. It’s also believing heterosexuality to be superior to homosexuality and all other sexual orientations.



## Terms cont.

- Hermaphrodite: an outdated medical term used to describe someone who is intersex; not used today as it is considered to be medically stigmatizing, and also misleading as it means a person who is 100% male *and* female, a biological impossibility for humans



# Terms cont.

- Internalized Oppression- The process by which an oppressed person comes to believe, accept, or live out the inaccurate stereotypes and misinformation about their group.
- Invisible Minority- a group who's minority status is not always immediately visible, such as some disabled people and GLBT people.
- LGBT, LGBTQ, LGBTQA, TBLG: These acronyms refer to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Ally. Although all of the different identities within "LGBT" are often lumped together (and share sexism as a common root of oppression), there are specific related to each individual identity.



# Terms

- **Homosexual**: of, relating to, or characterized by a tendency to direct sexual desire toward another of the same sex – First referred to a Male. 1892 .The term 'homosexual' is not nowadays sex specific. It was first used by Victorian scientists who regarded same-sex attraction and sexual behavior as symptoms of mental disorders or moral deficiency. Homosexual men and women decided to use the term 'gay' in order to distance themselves from being labeled as somehow abnormal or ill. In fact, some people find the term 'homosexual' insulting and abusive and object to its use.





# Terms

- **Lesbian**: is the term most widely used in the English language to describe sexual and romantic attraction between females. The word may be used as a noun, to refer to women who identify themselves or who are characterized by others as having the primary attribute of female homosexuality, or as an adjective, to describe characteristics of an object or activity related to female same-sex attraction.



# Terms cont.

- Queer- An umbrella term to refer to all GLBT people.

A political statement, as well as sexual orientation, which advocates breaking binary thinking and seeing both sexual orientation and gender identity as potentially fluid.

A simple label to explain a complex set of sexual behaviors and desires. (eg. A person who is attracted to multiple genders may identify as queer)

Many older GLBT people feel the word has been hatefully used against them for too long and are reluctant to embrace it.



# Terms cont.

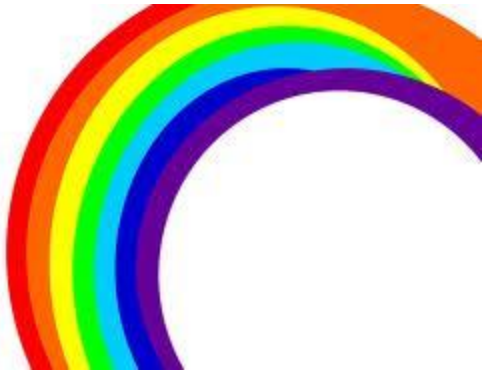


- **Gay**: related to, or having an emotional and physical attraction to the same sex. Most current term used since the the 1960's as the activist word for change-gay rights, gay marriage, and .....
- **Sex Identity**: The sex that a person sees themselves as. This can include refusing to label oneself with a sex.
- **Gender Neutral**- A term being used for support networks for people in transition.

# Terms cont.



- Transgender (TG or trans)- people whose psychological self (gender identity) differs from the social expectations for the physical sex they were born with.
  - Biological sex (one's body (genitals, chromosomes))
  - Social gender (levels of masculinity and femininity)Often society combines sex and gender, viewing them as the same thing. Transgender people are those who psychological self (gender identity), differs from social expectations for the physical sex they were born with.



## Terms cont.

- **Two-Spirit**: a term traditionally used by Native American people to recognize individuals who possess qualities or fulfill roles of both genders

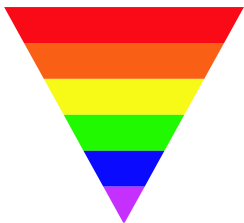
# Gay Symbols

- **Rainbow Flag-** The Rainbow Freedom Flag was designed in 1978 by Gilbert Baker to designate the great diversity of the LGBTIQ community. It's been recognized by the Intl. Flag Makers Associate as the official flag of the LGBTIQ Civil rights movement.



# Gay Symbols

- **Triangle**- A symbol of remembrance. Gay men in the Nazi concentration camps were forced to wear the pink triangle as a designation of being homosexual. Women who did not conform to social roles, often believed to be lesbians, had to wear the black triangle. The triangles are worn today as symbols of freedom, reminding us to never forget.



# Symbols



**Human Rights Commission:** Founded in 1980, HRC advocates on behalf of LGBT Americans, mobilizes grassroots actions in diverse communities, invests strategically to elect fair-minded individuals to office and educates the public about LGBT issues.



**Safe Space Training:** A person who has been through safe space training to offer a open environment for conversation, support, advising.





# Some of the *many* Organizations

- Campus Pride
- PFLAG-Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.
- GLAD- Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Defenders
- NCTE-Natl. Center for Transgender Equality
- COLAGE- Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere
- GLMA- Gay and Lesbian Medical Association
- GLSEN-Gay, Lesbian and Straight Educators Network (k-12 schools)
- Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund
- NGLCC-National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

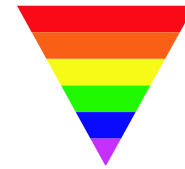
# National Anti Bullying Program

- **It Get's Better Campaign:**
- **What is the It Gets Better Project?**
- In September 2010, syndicated columnist and author Dan Savage created a YouTube video with his partner Terry Miller to inspire hope for young people facing harassment. In response to a number of students taking their own lives after being bullied in school, they wanted to create a personal way for supporters everywhere to tell LGBT youth that, yes, it does indeed get better.  
<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFC5C0278EC8A1245>

Knows the significance of a pink triangle	Knows the significance of the Greek lambda	Knows what the significance of the Stonewall Inn is	Knows what PFLAG is
Knows who Harvey Milk was	Knows what Delta Lambda Phi is	What does IGRA stand for???	Knows the significance of June 29, 1969
Knows what The Advocate is	Knows what Dignity is	Knows what Freedom Rings are	Knows what "In the closet" means
Knows what Erasure, kd lang, Melissa Ethridge have in common	Knows the significance of October 11	Knows who Harvey Fierstein or Tony Kushner is	Knows what Walt Whitman and Langston Hughes have in common
Knows someone who is Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	Knows who Matt Sheppard is	Has heard of the Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual student support group on their campus/community/high school	Knows where the Gay Games are being held 2014



# References



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- [www.itgetsbetter.org](http://www.itgetsbetter.org)

# Questions???

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