

flyreel

in Schools



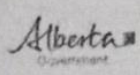
The Alberta Teachers' Association



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF EDUCATION



Calgary Sexual Health Centre



Edmonton Community Foundation



Calgary community board™



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Terms

Terminology and language can change over time, so you don't have to have all of these terms memorized. Sometimes, someone might identify with a term even if their identity doesn't exactly fit the definitions below. If someone comes out to you, just ask "what does that term mean to you?"

Ally: A person who is supportive of LGBTQ+ people and their rights. Allies may be gay, straight, transgender, queer, two-spirit, etc.

Asexual (ACE): A person whose attraction to others does not include sexuality.

Aromantic: A person whose attraction to others does not include romantic attraction.

Bisexual: A person who is physically and emotionally attracted to both males and females.

Cisgender: A person whose gender identity is the same as the sex they were assigned at birth.

Dyke: Slang term meaning lesbian, typically considered derogatory.

Faggot/Fag: A derogatory term for a gay man. Historically the term was used to describe a bundle of sticks used to burn individuals at the stake who went against the church, such as those 'accused' of homosexual behavior.

Gay: A male who is physically and emotionally attracted to other males. This term can also apply to both men and women.

Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA): Student run organizations found in some K-12 schools and universities that create safe and supportive spaces for LGBTQ individuals and allies.

Gender Expression: The way people communicate their gender identity to others by the way they dress, act, and/or refer to themselves.

Gender Identity: A person's internal sense of being male or female, or a combination of both, or neither.

Gender non-binary/Genderqueer: Terms for a person whose gender identity is neither woman or man.

Homophobia/Transphobia: An irrational hatred of people who are, or are perceived to be LGBTQ. Often exhibited by prejudice, discrimination, intimidation, or acts of violence.

Intersex: A general term used to describe people who are born with reproductive or sexual anatomy that does not fit the typical definitions of female or male.

Lesbian: A woman who is physically and emotionally attracted to other women.

Pansexual: A person who is physically and emotionally attracted to people of any gender.

Privilege: A right, benefit, or safety that is given to some people and not others.

Pink Triangle: Pink (for gay men) and Black (for lesbian women) triangle symbols were used by Nazis for gay and lesbian prisoners. Now they are reclaimed as symbols of gay and lesbian pride.

Queer: Historically used as a negative term for homosexuality and is still often used as a derogatory term against LGBTQ people. Many LGBTQ people and communities have reclaimed the word and use it in a positive way to refer to themselves and aspects of their identity.

Questioning: A person who is unsure of their sexual orientation or gender identity and experiencing a process of self-discovery.

Straight: Someone who is attracted to people of the opposite sex or gender to their own.

Rainbow Flag: A symbol of the LGBTQ movement designed in 1978 in response to the murder of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay man elected to public office in California.

"That's so gay": A common derogatory phrase that uses the term gay to describe something negative, stupid, or feminine.

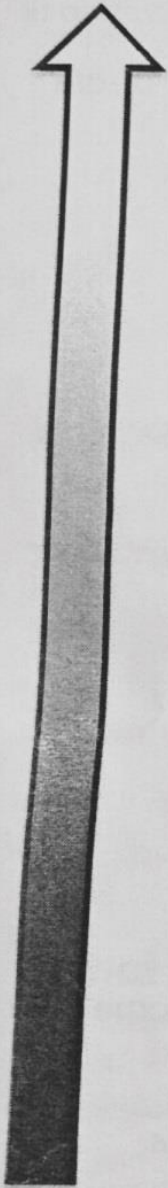
Trans/Transgender: A term for people whose gender identity does not conform to the sex to which they were assigned at birth.

Two-Spirit: A spiritual identity for some FNMI (First Nations, Métis, Inuit) people. This term implies the embodiment of both masculine and feminine spiritual qualities within the same body.

Allyship Spectrum

Allyship is a lifelong process of learning and growth. Just as LGBTQ+ people may go through stages of "coming out," heterosexual and cisgender people can experience changes in attitudes toward LGBTQ people over time.

Where are you in the process of becoming an ALLY?



Nurturance

Views LGBTQ people with dignity, love and respect. People at this level are not only able to see homophobia and transphobia in others, they are also willing to examine their own attitudes and behaviors. They are always learning and growing.

Advocate

Acknowledges that being LGBTQ in our society takes strength. People at this level are willing to challenge homophobia and transphobia in others.

Support

Might be uncomfortable with LGBTQ people but believes that homophobia and transphobia are unfair. Supports the rights of LGBTQ people but may not want to be associated with them.

Acceptance

Accepts that LGBTQ people exist but does not actively support their rights. Characterized by statements like "what you do is your own business" or "it's fine with me, just don't flaunt it."

Pity

Believes that straight and cisgender people are superior to LGBTQ people. Believes that LGBTQ people can be cured and that we should feel sorry for them.

Repulsion

Believes that LGBTQ people are sick, crazy, immoral, sinful, etc. and should face punishment.

TIPS FOR ALLYSHIP:

- **BE SELF-REFLECTIVE!** Be aware of your own prejudices and work to change them.
- **SPEAK UP!** If you feel safe, let those who behave disrespectfully know that you don't appreciate it.
- **BE A FRIEND!** Show kindness and support to the targets of negative behavior.

What is a GSA?

Gay-Straight alliances or queer-straight student alliances are student-run school-based or community groups. They work to create welcoming, caring, and safe spaces for sexual and gender minority (LGBTQ+) students and their allies in schools. GSAs provide a safe space that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.



What are my rights as a student?

No matter where you go to school...

1. You have the legal right to feel safe and welcome at school.
2. You have the legal right to create a Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) or a Queer-Straight Alliance (QSA).
3. You have the legal right to use the washroom that is consistent with your gender identity.

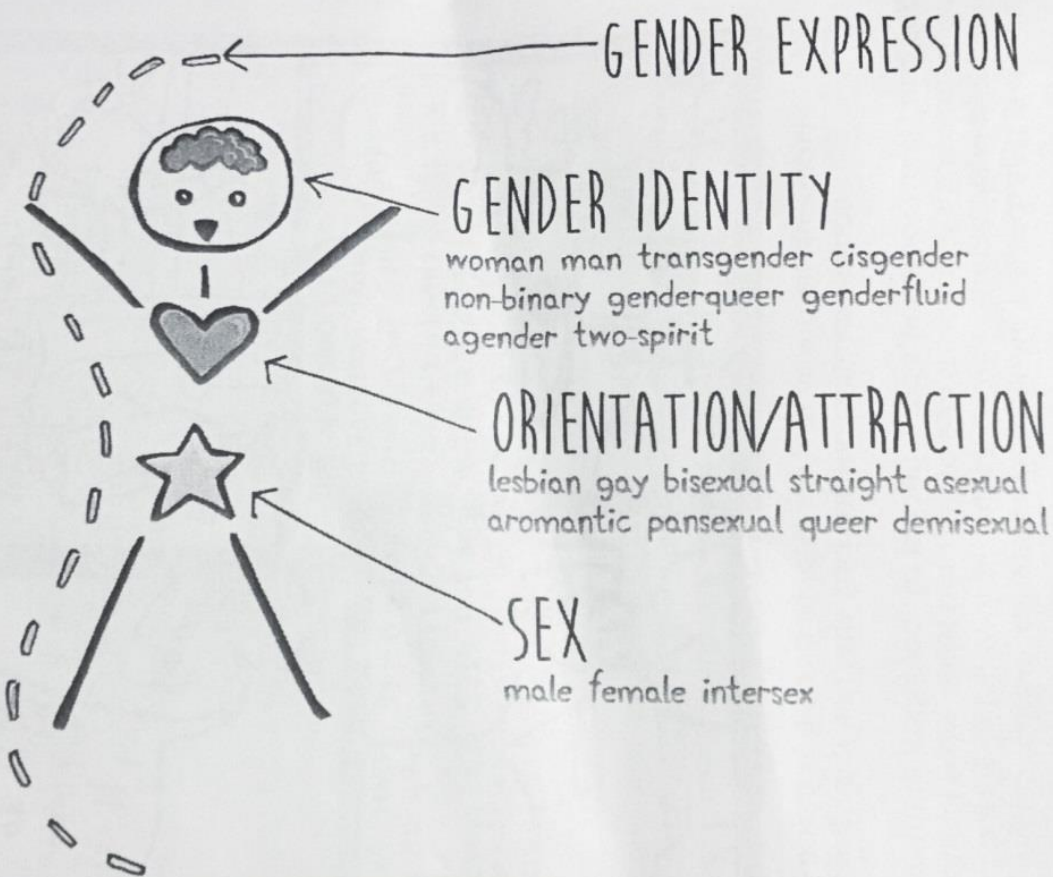
For support with setting up a GSA or for information about your rights, visit albertaGSAnetwork.ca

Alternatives to Homophobic Language

Instead of saying "That's so Gay" say "That's so...":

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| ludicrous | bizarre | silly | bothersome |
| weird | boring | original | pathetic |
| monotonous | goofy | senseless | meaningless |
| mindless | strange | unusual | eccentric |
| ridiculous | outmoded | irritating | frustrating |
| wacky | feeble | annoying | sad |
| unfashionable | laughable | pointless | tired |
| tedious | curious | outlandish | quirky |
| foolish | passé | grating | unconventional |
| odd | weak | | |

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Calgary, Edmonton and online resources to check out!

www.fyrefly.ualberta.ca/YouthResources