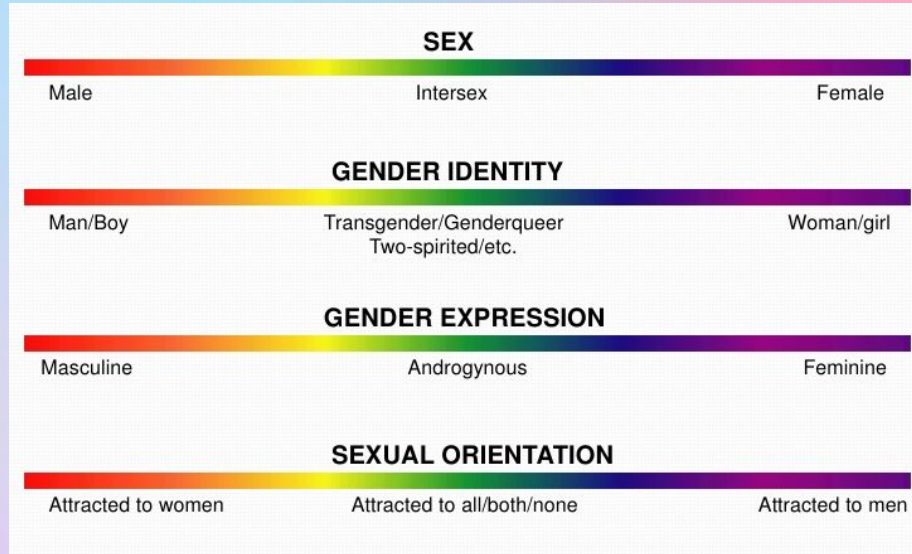


The Importance of  
LGBTQ+  
Awareness and  
Acceptance in  
Educational Spaces

# Introduction

Gender and sexuality exist on spectrums, with many identities within them.



# The ABC's of the LGBTQ+ Community

LGBTQ+ is an acronym. What does each letter stand for and mean?

# L: Lesbian

- A lesbian is a woman who is exclusively attracted to other women/feminine presenting people.



## G: Gay

- Someone who is attracted exclusively to those of the same gender
- Typically used for men
- Often used as an umbrella term for other lgbt+ identities



## B: Bisexual

- Someone who is attracted to two or more genders
- Not to be confused with Pansexual (definition later)



# T: Transgender

- When someone identifies as a gender other than the one they were born as.



## Q: Queer

- A sexuality or gender identity that does not correspond to established ideas of gender and sexuality
- Often used as an umbrella term for most lgbtq+ identities
- Some people who identify as queer also identify with other labels but prefer the use of the umbrella term





# I: Intersex

- Someone who was born with a combination of male and female biological traits



# A: Asexual/Aromantic

- Asexual: the lack of sexual attraction to others
- Aromantic: the lack of romantic attraction to others



## Bonus- P:Pansexual

- Someone who is attracted to others regardless of gender
- Usually based on personality, not appearance.



## Bonus- N: Non-binary

- Gender identity that does not conform to traditional ideas of gender (male or female)



# Why is Awareness and Acceptance important in education?

- LGBTQ+ are much more likely to experience mental health issues, such as anxiety and depression and LGB youth are more than 2x more at risk for suicide and Trans individuals are at 4x the risk.
- LGBTQ+ youth who had strong social support are at half of the risk for suicide than their peers with low to no support.
- Fewer than 1 in 3 trans and non-binary youth are supported by their families.
- LGBTQ+ youth who are accepted and supported at school have significantly lower rates of attempting suicide.
- LGBTQ+ youth who live in a community that is accepting are at significantly lower risk of attempting suicide.

# Resources:

- [Thetrevorproject.org](https://www.thetrevorproject.org)
- [GLAAD.org](https://www.glaad.org)
- [HRC.org](https://www.hrc.org)
- [NAMI.org](https://www.nami.org)
- [Glsen.org](https://www.glsen.org)
- [PFLAG.org](https://www.pflag.org)

# Questions & Discussion