

LGBTQ+

What are the different sexual orientations?



19. APRIL 2019
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LGBTQ+

What does LGBTQ+ stand for?

LGBTQ+ is actually a shortened version of the official acronym. The full acronym is LGBTTQQIAAP with each letter representing a sexual orientation; those being lesbian (L), gay (G), bisexual (B), transgender (T), transsexual (T), queer (Q), questioning (Q), intersex (I), asexual (A), ally (A), and pansexual (P). The full acronym has been criticized on the grounds that it left out many sexual orientations. The shortened acronym LGBTQ+ stands for lesbian (L), gay (G), bisexual (B), transgender (T), queer (Q) representing the most prominent and most talked about. The plus in LGBTQ+ represents all sexual orientations and gender identities that are not as prominent and talked about but that are still part of the community. Some people prefer not to include the + as they believe that Queer is enough of an umbrella term to cover everyone. Other individuals prefer to leave out Q+ as they think that LGBT is easier to remember and say and/or that the acronym has also become an umbrella term.

Rights

The LGBTQ+ community has been fighting for their rights for over 50 years and have achieved legalization and full recognition of civil rights for same sex couples in 26 countries. The fight for equality caused multiple bans on same-sex marriage in the US, and achieved only minimal civil rights in the US, before May 9th, 2012. On May 9th, 2012 President Obama openly supported the LGBTQ+ community and their rights and legalized same-sex marriage in all of America on June 26th, 2015. This action caused multiple countries to follow the footsteps of America and legalizing same-sex marriage in 26 countries.

Brief History of same sex marriage

Same-sex marriage has been illegal throughout the world for a long time. In the 1970s a gay couple applied for a marriage license but were denied on the grounds that they were both men. Later in 1973, Maryland was the first state to ban same-sex marriage. In 1976 the first gay marriage makes news, not because of them being two men, but publicly requesting and being denied the blessing of the Episcopal church. In 1983 the story of Karen Thompson and her partner Sharon Kowalski begins the conversation of Spousal rights between same-sex couples. Thompson was refused care for Kowalski after a car crash, by Kowalski's parents, despite her original wishes. Thompson later became a key spokesperson for Lesbian and Gay couples' rights. The 2000s were very influential in the fight for and against same sex marriage.

- In 2001 the Netherlands became the first country to legalize same sex marriage.
- Between November 2002 and October 2003, several bans for same sex marriage were approved within the US; President Bush states that he believes marriage is reserved for heterosexual couples.
- In November 2003 Massachusetts becomes the first US State to legalize same sex Marriage.
- In 2004 New Mexico and New York Town of New Paltz start marrying same-sex couples.
- In May 2004 the first legal marriage in America took place.
- In 2010 Iceland first openly gay prime minister marries his partner.
- In 2010 Argentina legalized same sex marriage, the first country to do so in South America.

- May 9th, 2012 was one of the biggest moments for the LGBTQ+ community as President Barack Obama was the first president to openly support same-sex marriage and all levels of civil rights for LGBTQ+ people.
- On June 26th, 2015 same-sex marriage was legalized in all 50 US states.
- As of 2017 same-sex marriage is legal in the Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, Spain, South Africa, Norway, Mexico, Sweden, Iceland, Portugal, Argentina, Denmark, Uruguay, New Zealand, France, Brazil, England, Wales, Scotland, Luxembourg, Finland, Ireland, Greenland, United States, Colombia, Germany, Malta, Austria, and Australia, that totaling up to 26 countries.

Offensive terms

"That's so gay" - This term is one I often hear in schools. In this case, gay is being used usually to describe something as being foolish, ridiculous a nonsensical, which sends the message that being Gay or LGBTQ+, in general, is foolish. This term is thrown around carelessly whether it be verbally or written, the effect it causes isn't lessened. The carelessness of the people who use it don't/rarely consider the true struggles of being LGBTQ+ and the discrimination that comes with it.

"Faggot"- is a derogatory word used to describe a gay man, often abbreviated to fag. This term is most commonly used in the United States but has begun to gain popularity outside of the States. Some people I hear using it in school clearly aren't aware or considerate of the meaning, the few people I mentioned it to either apologized and said they weren't going to do it again or say it's a joke and ask if I don't get jokes.

"Tranny"- is a derogatory word used to describe people who are transsexual or transgender.

"That Homo" or just "Homo"- is used as a rude term towards gay people, it is a shortened version of the word homosexual. It is used in almost animalistic terms where gay people are more object or animals than human.

"Queer"- is in more of a grey zone when it comes to the level of disrespect it creates. Previously it was used as a rude word to people of the LGBTQ+ community instead of asexuality, but recently the LGBTQ+ community has gained the word back. Now it is seen as sexuality and not an insult by most LGBTQ+ people.

"Homosexual"- can also be said to be in a grey area, as it is just the term for sexuality but has been partially taken by homophobic people, to be used as an insult. How people interpret the use of homosexual, truly depends on the person and the context it is used in. Be careful when you use it.

Pride Month

Pride Month occurs in June and is where all the LGBTQ+ communities throughout the world come to celebrate the freedom of being themselves. Pride month is to celebrate and recognize the difficulties minorities had to face and the decades of prejudice they had to overcome. Pride month celebration is not limited to the LGBTQ+ community but open to everyone that wishes to show their support and celebrate the people in the community. Pride month is celebrated in over 100 cities, and it's celebrated by marches, film festivals, concerts, plays, sports events, and 5ks.

Lesbianism

Definition

The first definition of Lesbian: females who are attracted to females in a romantic, erotic, and/ or emotional sense

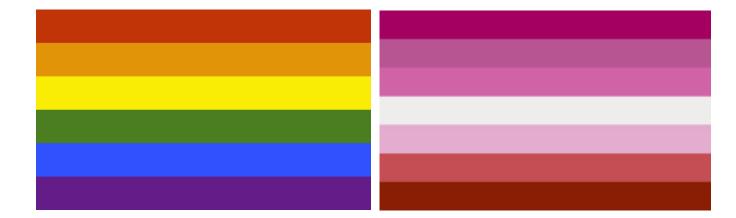
The second definition of Lesbian: relating to the small island of Lesbos

Origin of the word

In the 1590s the word lesbian was relating to the island of Lesbos. Lesbos from Latin *Lesbius* was a Greek island in the Aegean Sea home of the poet Sappho. Sappho was a lyric poet whose erotic and romantic verses embraced men and women. Her writing related to homosexual relations between two women, characterized by an erotic interest in other women. Sappho's association with erotic love between women in writing dates back to 1732. The continued use of lesbian formed the modern word in the 19th century.

Current Lesbian Flag(s)

There are currently two lesbian flags, one of which is the iconic rainbow flag representing how diverse the LGBTQ+ community is. The other is the official lesbian flag featuring 7 different shades of red, white, and pink, sometimes a lipstick mark is in the corner of the flag to celebrate lipstick lesbians. A lipstick lesbian is a member of the lesbian community but prefers a 'feminine' image rather than 'masculine' one. There are two more flags that can be used to represent the lesbian society but are not as often used. The most used ones being the pink and rainbow ones.



Treatment towards Lesbianism

Over the year's lesbians have been treated similarly to gay men, but sometimes not as harshly because they were biologically female. In countries such as Brunei the penalty for the same gender sex can range from 40 strokes of the cane and/or up to 10 years in jail.

In other countries punishments are usually a prison sentence and in extreme cases execution. The punishment including death is only present in less than 10 countries according to research, although there are 70 countries that criminalize same-sex relations.

What do people think Lesbianism is?

The survey about the LGBTQ+ community sent out to all teachers had 15 responses. One of Out of those 15 people who responded 93.3% believed that lesbian meant a homosexual female and 6.7% believe it meant a homosexual person. The correct one if you go by definition would be a homosexual female, however, the 6.7% isn't entirely wrong since there is a small percentage of people who try to use lesbian in the same sense as gay, which is as an umbrella term.

Famous Homosexual Females

- -Ellen DeGeneres (Comedian, TV show host)
- -Amandla Stenberg (Actress/Model)
- -Jane Lynch (Actress)
- -Hayley Kiyoko (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Caster Semenya (Olympic Gold Medalist)
- -Lea DeLaria (Actress)
- -Portia De Rossi (Actress)
- -Sandra Bernhard (Actress)
- -Ellen Page (Actress)
- -Alice Walker (Author)
- -Sappho (Poet)
- -K. D. Lang (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Jane Addams (Activist)
- -Tove Jansson (Author)

Gay/Homosexuality

Definition

The first definition of the word gay: males who are attracted to males in a romantic, erotic, and/or emotional sense.

The second definition of the word gay: full of joy, merry, light-hearted, carefree.

The first definition is now the more used definition of the word, as the second definition has fallen out of use and was more commonly used in the 14th century.

Origin of the word

The word gay meant merry and joyful in the 14th century and most likely originated from Frankish and old high German. Over the years and in a different location the meaning shifted. In old England and Scotland formally, it could've meant moderately. Although it was used to describe things to be "merry" "joyful", in the 1890s it developed a promiscuous undertone, for example, "a gay house" was a brothel. The now more common use of gay began to appear in psychological writing in the late 1940s. Gay is now used as a slang for homosexual as it is shorted and easier to say.

Current Gay (Rainbow) Flag

The flag includes the spectrum of the rainbow as it represents the diversity of the different sexualities and how colorful the community is. The flag not only represents gay men but has become a general representation of LGBTQ+, often used in LGBTQ+ marches. It used to represent peace.



Treatment towards Gay Men

It is no surprise at this point that gay people are still being treated unfairly. The recent situation in Brunei just being the tip of a very big iceberg. Brunei has recently allowed the death penalty against same-sex relationships. In Brunei same-sex relationships are illegal and people can be charged with up to 10 years in prison. In the world, there are 70 countries that criminalize same-sex relationships. The punishments that can be given for being in a gay relationship can range from 10 years in prison, whipping or death. Same-sex sexual intercourse is now punishable by stoning in Brunei. Treatment of gay males/couples around the world has improved, although there are still hate crimes directed towards the LGBTQ+ community, like the Orlando Pulse nightclub shootings.

What do people think Gay is?

I created a survey that was sent out to teachers that included a question about different sexual orientations and what they mean. I did this to find out how educated the teachers were on the topic and if they were confident to talk about it. Out of the 15 responses, only 6.7% were LGBTQ+ and 0% were homophobic. Out of all the responses asking what the definition of gay was 93.3% answered "A homosexual person" and 6.7% answered "A homosexual male". In this question, both parties were correct, because gay has become an umbrella term to define both gay males and lesbian females, although if you were to be more specific it would only mean a homosexual male.

Famous Gay Men

- -Troye Sivan (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Marc Jacobs (Designer)
- -Elton John (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Tim Gunn (Film Director/Author)
- -Neil Patrick Harris (Actor)
- -Michael Kors (Designer)
- -David Burtka (Actor)
- -Tan France (Stylist)
- -Andy Warhol (Artist)
- -Ryland Adams (Youtuber)
- -Oscar Wilde (Playwright)
- -Tom Daley (Olympic Gold Medalist)
- -Jeffree Star (Youtuber)
- -Thomas Sanders (Youtuber)

Bisexuality

Definition

The first definition of bisexual: Attracted to both males and females, in a romantic, erotic and/ or emotional sense

The second definition bisexual: A flower having both stamens and pistils

The third definition of bisexual: A species having two distinct sexes

Origin of the word

In the 19th century, bisexual meant having organs of both sexes in one being, "bi" meaning two. The meaning of bisexual changed to be used as "attracted to males and females" began in the 20th century, however ambisexual was used instead of bisexual before the 1950s.

Current Bisexual Flag

The current bisexual flag was designed by Michael Page because he noticed how most bisexual people felt no connection to the rainbow flag and wanted to create one that all bisexual people could support. The three colors used in the flag each represent something, the top 40% of magenta represent same-sex attraction, the bottom 40% of blue representing heterosexuality and the middle 20% of lavender being a mixture of the colours represents attraction to males and females.



Treatment towards Bisexuality

The treatment towards bisexuality varies because they are attracted to males and females. For example, if a bisexual female was in a relationship with a male, people wouldn't say anything, because they are following the rules of the heteronormative society, whereas if they were dating a female, they would receive the same punishment as lesbians. For bisexual people they often hear comments that don't seem like much but in reality hold a lot of meaning, a common question could be "it's just a phase" and "just pick one". These phrases can be ignorant and condescending towards bisexual people.

What do people think Bisexuality is?

The teacher survey about the LGBTQ+ community featured a question about bisexuality and what it means. From the 15 responses of the test, 93.3% of people answered, "attraction to men and women" and 6.7% of people answered, "fluid sexuality". The correct answer being "attracted to men and women".

Famous Bisexuals

- -Angelina Jolie (Actress)
- -Stephanie Beatriz (Actress)
- -Stefani Germanotta/Lady Gaga (Singer/Songwriter)
- -David Bowie (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Ashley Frangipane/Halsey (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Kesha Sebert/ Ke\$ha (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Freddie Mercury (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Annabella (Bella) Thorne (Actress)
- -Shane Dawson (Youtuber)
- -Billie Joe Armstrong (Singer)
- -Ezra Miller (Actor)
- -Keiynan Lonsdale (Actor)

Transgender

Definition

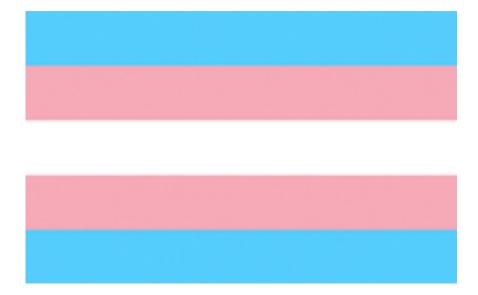
The first definition of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does } [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose sense of identity and gender does] [classification of transgender: A person whose se

Origin of the Word

Transgender]^[]|^\delta\became more ça\delta\alpha\alpha\notation in the late 20th century. "Trans" means two atoms or groups opposite of each other, and "gender" meaning male, female, either or neither (what you feel yourself to be).

Current Transgender Flag

The current transgender flag was designed by Monica Helms, an openly transgender women, in 1999. The transgender flag features 5 strips of color mirroring each other, the furthest being blue, then pink, then white in the middle. The pink is for female, the blue is for male and the white represents intersex and transitioning by being a neutral color. There is a second transgender flag that is less popular featuring pink and blue with a transgender symbol in white in the middle, created by Michelle Lindsay.



Treatment towards Transgender

Even though the LGBTQ+ community has made a lot of progress in the last few decades, by winning the rights to marriage and more, the transgender community still faces a lot of discrimination and transphobia. The majority of transgender people are more vulnerable to harassment and issues when it comes to hiring and promotions. The harassment of transgender people spreads onto family member who gets harassed for being affiliated with a transgender person. On a day to day basis, some may have to listen to and face mindless, insensitive comments such as "You can't just change your gender, it's not possible".

What do people think Transgender is?

From the 15 responses, I received from the "What do you think? LGBTQ+ survey, 100% of people agreed that transgender meant "A person whose sense of personal identity and gender does not correspond with their birth sex. The answer was correct, as "trans" means two opposites in one being, and "gender" meaning a sense of personal identity, hence transgender.

Famous Transgender People

- -Caitlyn Jenner (Former athlete/Reality TV show star)
- -Andreja Pejić (Model)
- -Lana Wachowski (Author)
- -April Ashley (Model/Actress)
- -Laverne Cox (Actress)
- -Janet Mock (Editor)
- -Jenna Talackova (Model/TV personality/Pageant contestant)
- -Alexis Arquette (Actress)
- -Chaz Bono (TV personality)
- -Candy Darling (Actress)
- -Carmen Carrera (Model
- -lan Harvie (Comedian)
- -Nadia Almada (Reality TV show star)
- -Balian Buschbaum (Olympic pole vaulter)

Queer

Definition

The first definition of Queer: Something feeling strange, odd, or ill

The second definition of Queer: offensive/informal towards a homosexual person

The third definition of Queer: A sexuality that rejects normative definitions of appropriate feminine or masculine sexual behavior

Origin of the word

In the 1500 Queer meant strange or peculiar and it was based on the German word *query* which means diagonal or crosswise. The first uses of it in terms of homosexuality was in the 20th century.

Current Queer Flag

The Queer community doesn't really have their own official flag, because queer is sometimes used as an umbrella term for some of the LGBTQ+ community but also, because queer used to be an offensive term for homosexual people. For the queer community, the flag used to represent them is most probably the iconic rainbow flag.



Treatment towards Queer people

The queer part of the LGBTQ+ community is not as well know and also not as represented, which means that there is less hate targeted towards the community specifically. That, in turn, doesn't mean that they are safe from the discrimination, as they are still part of the LGBTQ+ community. They face problems on a day to day basis in public environments due to disadvantages of being LGBTQ+ in general but also comments like "So which one are you?"

What do people think Queer is?

In the survey of all MS teachers, the questions about Queer got 3 groups of responses. The first 73.3% thinking it was "A sexuality that rejects normative definitions of appropriate feminine and masculine sexual behavior", 20% thinking it means "fluid sexuality" and 6.7% thinking it means "attracted to both men and women". The 73.3% were correct, the 20% choosing "fluid sexuality" picked the definition of Abrosexuality and 6.7% picking the definition of Bisexuality"

Famous Queer People

- -Sarah Paulson (Actress/Director/Producer)
- -Héloïse Letissier (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Sara Ramirez (Actress)
- -Elly Barnes (CEO)

Abrosexuality

Definition

The first definition of Abrosexual: Fluid Sexuality - when your sexual orientation is always changing

Origin of the word

Abrosexual is most likely based off of the Greek word which means delicate.

Current Abrosexual Flag

The Abrosexual flag was supposedly created by a Tumblr user. It is unknown why they chose these colors.



Treatment towards Abrosexuals

The treatment could vary, as Abrosexuality is fluid, it is different for each person it could change daily, weekly, monthly or per year. So, if an Abrosexual male was attracted to women for a year it would not cause discrimination as opposed to if they were attracted to men. People who identify as Abrosexual are usually forced to answer a question like "So are you lesbian" and "Is it the same as Bisexuality?" There is not much information present about Abrosexuality or the discrimination against it.

What do people think Abrosexuality is?

In the survey to MS teachers, 60% answered: "I don't know" when asked what Abrosexual is, 33.3% answered, "Fluid Sexuality" and 6.7% answered the definition of Queer. Abrosexual's definition is Fluid sexuality and only 33.3% got that correct. The 66.7% who got it incorrect or didn't know shoes how there are more than the mainstream sexuality and that has to be made aware of. For teachers, this is particularly important because teachers need to be prepared to talk about things they don't fully understand and knowing the definition can already make it more comfortable for a student struggling to talk about being Abrosexual.

Pansexuality

Definition

The first definition of Pansexual: Not limited in sexual choice with regard to biological sex, gender, or gender identity

Origin of the word

Pansexual (pansexualism) originally meant that the sex instinct in humans affects all human's activity both mental and physical.

Current Pansexual Flag

The current Pansexual flag was created in 2010 on the web. The flag colors represents how pansexual people can be interested in all genders. The different colors each represent something pink representing women, blue representing men and yellow representing non-binary and gender nonconforming people.



Treatment towards Pansexuality

People's treatment towards Pansexuality is somewhat similar to the way they treat Homosexuality and Lesbianism, the punishments for being LGBTQ+ could vary depending on the sex of your partner, due to different laws. For Pansexuality you would often hear questions like "So it's Bisexual", "But there are only two genders" and "So do you like pans?". The treatment towards Pansexuality is very similar to the treatment towards bisexuality because they are often regarded as the same thing.

What do people think Pansexuality is?

In the survey sent out to the MS teachers, to observe the average level of knowledge the teachers have about the LGBTQ+ community and the different sexualities within. For the question "What is the definition of Pansexual?" 86.7% answered "Not limited in sexual choices regarding biological sex, gender, or gender identity," 6.7% said "Attracted to no one" and 6.7% said, "I don't know". The correct answer was given by 86.7% which shows that most teachers know about some not as talked about sexualities.

Famous Pansexual

- -Shane Jenek/Courtney Act (TV personality/Drag Queen)
- -Janelle Monáe (Musician)
- -Miley Cyrus (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Jazz Jennings (Youtuber)
- -Asia Kate Dillon (Actress)
- -Angel Haze (Rapper/Singer)
- -Joe Lycett (Comedian)
- -Madonna (Singer/Songwriter)
- -Brendon Urie (Singer/Songwriter)

My Story

My aim with this entire project was to make people aware of the sexualities and some of the struggles they face. I used the survey to see how many teachers knew enough about the sexualities to be able to roughly understand everything. So far in this explanation booklet I've only talked a lot about the fact of each sexuality, so I would like to share my personal experience on being an LGBTQ+ teenager.

Autumn 2016

I was friends with a new girl in my school, she was an activist and spoke publicly about the LGBTQ+ community. At first, I didn't understand, marriage was for boy and girls, it's wrong otherwise, isn't it? I was frankly disgusted by the idea of same sex relations; I was naive, and I didn't understand. Overtime my eyes began to open to the truth, I did research and learned to understand what it was. It's not disgusting, or dangerous it was simply human.

I realized the dynamics of the heteronormative society, and I began to learn that the world contains more than what you see with your own eyes. Growing up I never heard or talked about same sex relations, so finding out about it changed my life. My friend, "M" came out and said I am LGBTQ+, she never hid it, but I was still taken aback. She is one of the biggest reasons why I am, who I am today. After she had told me she explained more about what it was, and what she feels like.

I continued my research, I wanted to understand what it was. I began to read stories that broke my heart, stories of people being hurt and discriminated against, because of who they love. At the same time, I read about the good too, the increasing level of freedom in the world, and heartwarming stories of LGBTQ+ proposals. After a couple of months of adapting and learning, I understood that being LGBTQ+ was not being the label "LGBTQ+" but human. M had opened my eyes to the community, I've come to know and love.

Spring 2017

M and I were best friends, with two additional people "L" and "S". M suggested and liked making jokes that L was bisexual. M said that it seems like L was that sort of person and that it would fit L. L insisted that she wasn't, so I became the subject. M said I also seemed like that, so I said "I am like 70% attracted to boys and only 30% attracted to girls. I like boys more, I sorta like girls but boys more".

I heard about the Pulse nightclub shooting on June 12, 2016, almost a year after it had happened, and I was heartbroken. When I first found out a year earlier, I classified it as senseless act without out knowing the details. When I finally opened my eyes and realized that it was a planned hate act. The people in Pulse were targeted because of who they were LGBTQ+ people of color. They were targeted because they were proud of who they were, they didn't hide who they loved and were brave enough to love and celebrate their true colors.

Spring 2018

I went back on that thought when a boy I liked said he was homophobic, I tried to ignore the part of me that liked girls. I was finally fed up with hiding so I told him I'm bisexual, he responded with a simple so what. How was he homophobic then? He said I come from Hungary I have to be homophobic. What? I answered you clearly are not, if you have to pretend to be Homophobic in Hungary you don't need to do that here. That didn't work so

while he tried to convince himself he was homophobic; I was trying to convince myself I wasn't Bisexual. Yet I couldn't suppress my Bisexuality anymore.

So that was who I became, a girl that liked boys and girls, trying to convince myself that I liked boys more because I was struggling with internal homophobia. Internal Homophobia being something where you feed off of negative ideologies and comments towards the LGBTQ+ community, and you don't necessarily think it's wrong but a part of you is convinced it is. I tried to lie to myself, to convince myself that I like boys more, but I don't. I identified as bisexual, for a long time I lived with that description, it was easy to explain, and truly people didn't care. My internal homophobia lessened, and everything was fine, or so I thought.

I had problems with my sexuality and the feeling of not being myself around my parents. I asked what they thought, and it was mostly about how it was unnatural or something, so I let it go, I was too preoccupied with other things to care.

Summer 2018 - New beginning at ISZL.

I made friends and didn't feel the need to hide myself. I didn't care what people thought, because at only a week or two into school, I didn't care much about the people either. I was going to be who I always wanted to be, and if they didn't agree, they could mind their own business. I was still struggling in the beginning of school, unable to control my internal homophobia, I saw myself as dirty, soiled, unlovable and inhuman.

I kept those having those thoughts, until one of my friend's "V" and Miss Herzog reminded me that it's okay to feel lost and it's okay to ask for help. I began to embrace myself and my sexuality, but bisexual just didn't feel right. Bisexual wasn't quite what I felt, I found out that I actually identify with pansexual more than I do with bisexual. Pansexual means I am "not limited in sexual choice with regard to biological sex, gender, or gender identity". I fall in love people whose personality is beautiful. Someone asked me if I'm attracted to pans. So, to answer the most common questions, Yes, I am pansexual, I am attracted to people regardless of their gender (Yes there is more than two genders), No I am not attracted to pans and no it is different from Bisexual.

December 2018 to February 2019

In the early winter of 2018, we began to do a lot of important stuff for the LGBTQ+ community and we were able to meet Dr Elly Barnes in February 2019. The Meeting with Dr. Barnes was really impactful, and it made me realize how much my journey had impacted other lives. I was flattered and honored when she supported my ideas and complimented me.

After the assembly to the whole of MS with Dr. Barnes, I had Individuals and societies. We were having a class discussion, some people said things I don't agree with and compared sexuality to things that I don't believe were appropriate for comparison. I reacted maybe too passionate, and someone else commented something that in my eyes was hypocritical, I snapped, and will unnecessary force and anger express my displeasure. I look back now and recognized I could have handled that better, by keeping my calm and accepting not everyone with be open and understanding.

March-April 2019

Someone asked why I was so "sensitive" about the topics and jokes about LGBTQ+. The answer is very simple I think it's rude to make jokes about something you don't fully understand. Some people don't realize the struggles people have to go through, so in my

opinion it's very ignorant to make those comments, even if it is meant as a joke. People forget how privileged they are to be born in a society that is accepting and giving, others sometimes don't have that. People are homeless because of their sexualities, so the comments aren't appropriate or funny.

I will continue to spread awareness and defend the LGBTQ+ community. I'm just a normal, happy, loved pansexual (update: bisexual after all but it doesn't matter) cis girl, and if you have a problem with that, my sexuality is none of your concern either way. After all, ...

Love is Love

GBTQ+

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