

of

STATE AND LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS AGENCIES CONFERENCE

PRESENTED by:









# LGBTQ+ Communities & The Workplace

Chris Handberg, M.Ed. Executive Director Pronouns: he/him/his



### **Ground Rules**

- Respect
- E.L.M.O.
- Meet Folks in the Process
- One Diva, One Mic

# LGBTQ+

- Lesbian
- Gay
- Bisexual
- Transgender
- Queer/Questioning

### "Preferred" Pronouns

		Nominative	Objective	Possessive	Possessive	Reflexive
		(subject)	(object)	Determiner	Pronoun	Reliexive
				Traditional Pronouns		
Masculine	He	He laughed	I called him	His eyes gleam	This is <i>hi</i> s	He likes himself
Feminine	She	She laughed	I called <i>her</i>	Her eyes gleam	This is hers	She likes herself
Gender Neutral	They	They laughed	I called them	Their eyes gleam	That is theirs	They like themselves

# A Few Key Words

- Ally
- Asexual
- Assigned Sex
- Cisgender
- Closeted
- Coming Out
- Gender
- Gender Binary
- Gender Identity

- Genderqueer
- Heterosexism
- Homophobia
- Intersectionality
- Intersex
- Outing
- Pansexual
- Queer
- Transgender

# GENDER MODELS

#### **Traditional Gender Model**

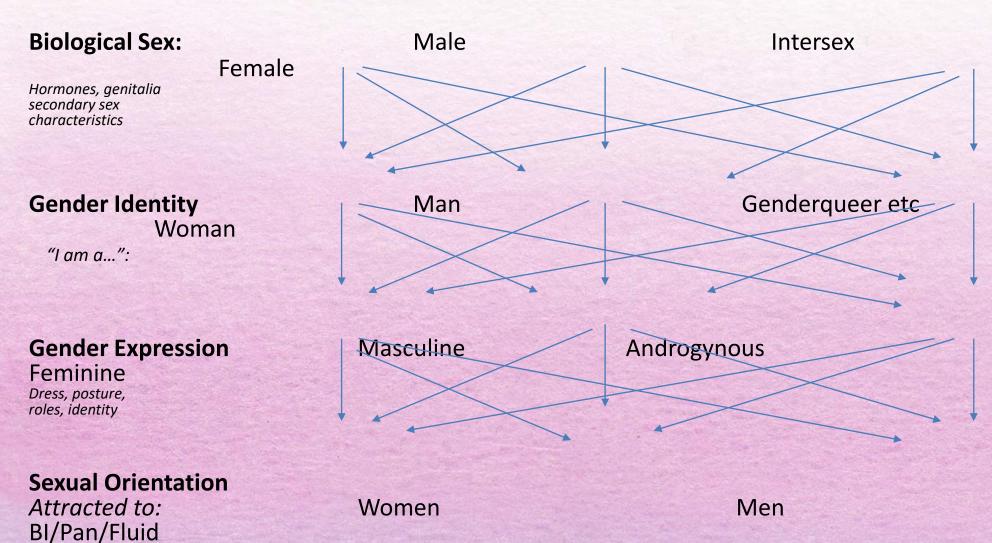
**Sexual Orientation** 

**Female Biological Sex:** Male Hormones, genitalia secondary sex characteristics **Gender Identity** Man Woman **Gender Expression** Masculine **Feminine** Dress, posture, roles, identity

Attracted to women

Attracted to men

### **Revolutionary Gender Model**



# LANGUAGE

- Homosexual
- Transsexual
- Hermaphrodite:
- Frigid/Low Sex Drive
- Friend
- Choice/Preference
- Lifestyle
- Special Rights
- Queer

- LGBQ
- Transgender
- Intersex
- Asexual
- Partner
- Orientation/Identity
- Life
- Equal Rights
- Queer

# Institutional Mistrust

• LGBTQ people do not feel comfortable in the institutions designed to help

• Historic oppression by governments, companies, society still leave scars

• "Coming out" is an exercise in trust

What situations could make a person who identifies as LGBTQ+ uncomfortable or feel unsafe at work?

#### **Real Life Issues**

- A manager gave an employee the afternoon off and insisted she watch a video on "healing from homosexuality"
- An person who identifies as LGBTQ+ feels unsafe because a co-worker displays a "Make America Great Again" sign
- An employee casually tells their co-workers that another employee is gay without his consent
- A transgender employee using the restroom which matches their gender identity, a co-workers complains
- A newly married gay man adds his husband to insurance, but the benefits director insists he fills out a form declaring he is in a domestic partnership

What situations could make a person who identifies as LGBTQ+ uncomfortable or feel unsafe at work?

### Human Rights Campaign Corporate Equality Index

Founded in 2002,

The number of employers rated from the first CEI to the present has expanded from 319 to 947, encompassing all major industry sectors and a global impact on 553 international employers. Originally 13 companies qualified for a 100 rating. In 2018, it was 609.

# The criteria for rating in the CEI:

- Non-discrimination policies across business entities;
- Equitable benefits for LGBTQ workers and their families;
- Internal education and accountability metrics to promote LGBTQ inclusion competency; and,
- Public commitment to LGBTQ equality.



Employee Resource Groups

#### **Employee Resource Groups**

- Bring together LGBTQ+ Employees & Allies
- Create a forum for discussion, advancement, and community
- Employee Recruitment and Retention
- Build programs which create a safe environment for employees
- Support local community groups
- Honest evaluation of inclusivity practices

# BEING AN ALLY

## **Being an Ally**

- Educate yourself.
- Assume that making mistakes is part of the learning process of being an effective ally.
- Use appropriate language. Learn new terms as language and terminology evolve.
- Confront inappropriate language and behaviors.
- Take responsibility for equalizing power.
- Ask questions and accept feedback.
- Appreciate the risk people who are LGBTQ+ take in coming out.
- Regard people who are LGBTQ+ as whole human beings.
- Continue to work on your level of acceptance.
- Openly and honestly express your feelings.

# QUESTIONS?

**Chris Handberg** 

chandberg@indypride.org