



Writing for Change

RAISING AWARENESS OF DIFFERENCE, POWER, AND DISCRIMINATION

1.4 Talking About Being “Out”

Objectives

Create an awareness of differences in sexual orientation.

Analyze consequences of the presence of difference in this milieu.

Explore feelings and attitudes around sexual orientation.

Materials needed

Pen and paper, or copies of the handout

Time needed

Five to ten minutes

Instructor directions

Have students write individual responses to the first set of questions.

Ask them to share what they feel comfortable with in group discussions of the last question.

Variation

Have your students answer the above questions in regard to people in the class who consider themselves atheist.



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1.4 Talking About Being “Out” Handout

Directions

Answer the following questions:

Do you know of any people in your school whose sexual orientation differs from yours?

How do you know?

Are you comfortable with that person or those people? Why or why not?

Do you think that person or those people is comfortable with you? Why or why not?

Form small groups and discuss the following:

What are some factors that might encourage or discourage a person about being “out” as homosexual or bisexual in this class or your school?

What are, or what do you think would be, the consequences of a person being “out” as homosexual or bisexual in this class or your school?

Variation

Answer the above questions in regard to people in your class or school who consider themselves atheist.