

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA

MAY 17, 2009

Participate! It's YOUR day!

**HOMOSEXUALITY
KNOWS NO BORDERS**



- ▶ In every culture, past and present, there have been same-sex relationships.
- ▶ Gay and lesbian people are all ages. They come from all ethnic backgrounds, socioeconomic classes and educational levels.



Heal+h Services



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- ▶ Being gay or lesbian is less common than being straight. But this doesn't mean it's not normal. Left-handed people are a minority, but this doesn't mean they're abnormal.

Know the lingo!

LGBTQQ



Health Services

▶ **Lesbian**

- Women who are attracted to women.

▶ **Gay**

- Men who are attracted to men.

▶ **Bisexual**

- People who are attracted to both men and women.

▶ **Transgendered**

- An umbrella term that includes transsexuals, cross-dressers, drag queens and drag kings, gender outlaws, and all those whose gender roles are ambiguous. This identification challenges traditional notions of sexuality and gender. Transgendered people may be heterosexual, bisexual, or homosexual.



Know the lingo!

LGBTQQ



Health Services

▶ Queer

- A term which has been reclaimed by members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities to refer to people who transgress culturally imposed norms of heterosexuality and gender traditionalism. Queer might be broadly defined as resistance to regimes of the “normal.” Although still often an abusive epithet when used by bigoted heterosexuals, many queer-identified people have taken back the word to use it as a symbol of pride and affirmation of difference and diversity.

▶ Questioning

- A term describing men and women in transition or questioning their sexual orientation or gender.



Homophobia



Heal+h Services

- ▶ Homophobia is the irrational judgement and fear of LGBTQQ people. It can lead to discrimination, stereotyping and violence. Homophobia hurts everyone, gay and straight alike.

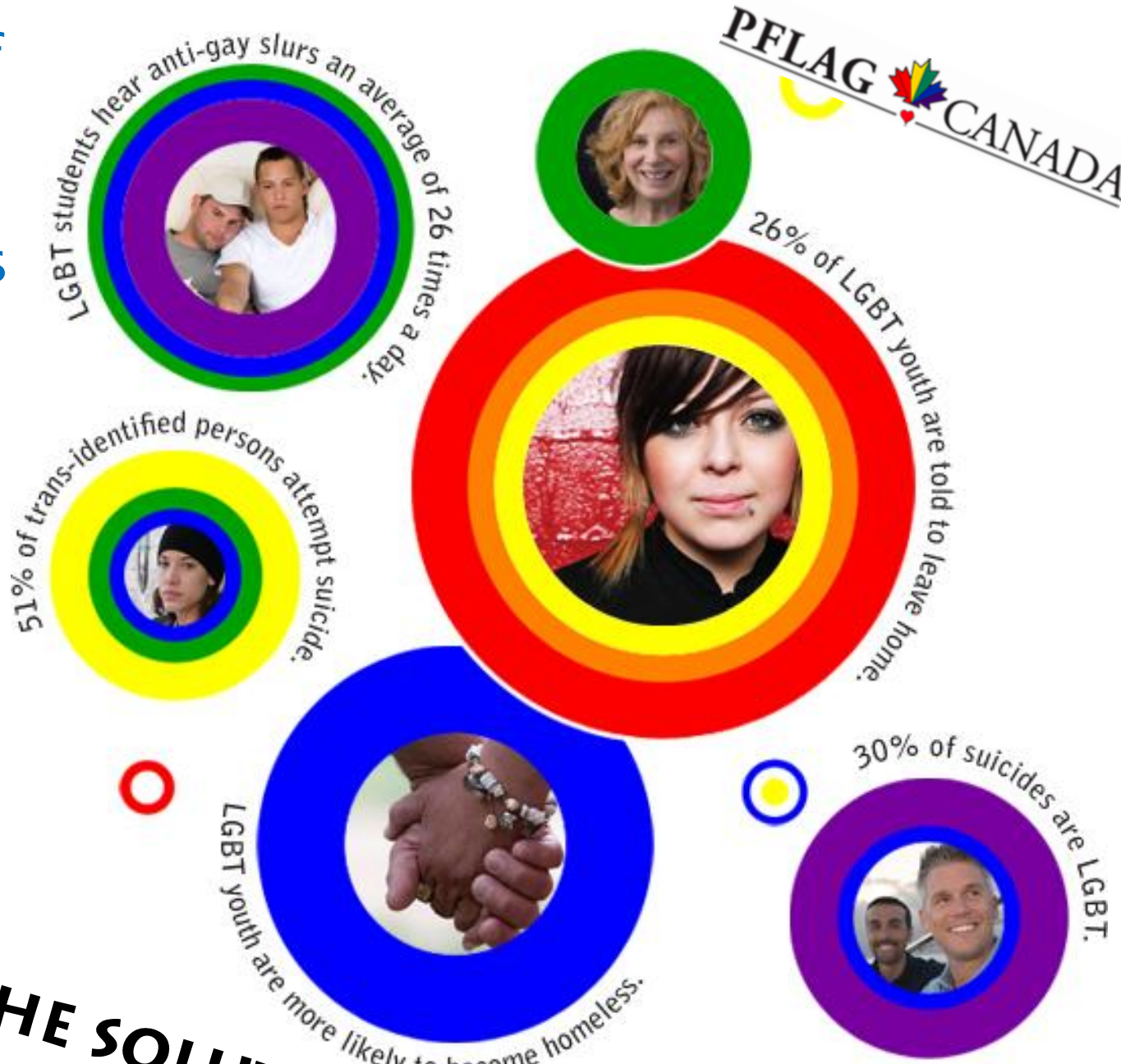


BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

BE AN ALLY!

The impact of homophobia has serious consequences to the individual and society.

Homophobia is hurtful, ignorant, and unacceptable.



BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

BE AN ALLY!

Be an Ally!



Health Services

- ▶ Help LGBTQQ people feel supported and included.
- ▶ Support fairness and justice for everyone.
- ▶ Learn about LGBTQQ people's lives.
- ▶ Go to the LGBTQQ Pride Day parade.



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A partial view of the Earth from space, showing the blue and green of the planet against the black of space.

Be an Ally!



Health Services

- ▶ Use the term “partner” rather than boyfriend or girlfriend. This shows you accept both same-sex and opposite-sex relationships.
- ▶ Learn to use the words *queer*, *gay*, *lesbian*, *bisexual* and *transgendered* with comfort.
- ▶ Let people know you don’t want to hear offensive slang, anti-gay jokes, stereotypical remarks, or put-downs of LGBTQQ people.



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USEFUL LINKS



Heal+h Services

www.homophobiaday.org

www.diversity.uwaterloo.ca

www.pflagcanada.ca

www.rainbowhealth.ca/english/homophobia.html



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