



Resources for professional development and for the classroom

This document is divided into a range of areas focused on resources for teaching and training around sexual orientation and gender identity. See table of contents below.

Other resource lists can be found at:

- Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria Clearinghouse www.glhv.org.au
- Celebrating Diversity CD-ROM
www.mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/seagroup/web/index.html
- Shout – School’s Out!
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~shout/>

Professional Development/Training Manuals for Teachers	2
Professional Development Programs	3
What can a teacher do to make a difference to school climate?	4
Classroom resources	5
Novels and personal stories	8
Recommended Reading for Teachers: General information around sexuality	10
Booklets/pamphlets.....	11
Reports & research	13

Professional Development/Training Manuals for Teachers

<p>Affirming Diversity An Educational Resource on Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Orientations</p>	<p>New Zealand Family Planning Association, 1994 Available at Family Planning Victoria, Box Hill. Phone (03) 9257 0146</p>
<p>Not Round Here Affirming Diversity & Challenging Homophobia. A Rural Service Providers Training Manual</p>	<p>Human Rights & Equal Opportunity Commission, Sydney. Miller, Kenton Penley & Mahamati, 2000 Phone (02) 9284 9600</p>
<p>Block Out: Challenging Homophobia Training Manual for Youth Service Providers</p>	<p>Miller, Kenton Penley & Mahamati, Second Story Youth Health Service, SA, 1995 For copies contact Second Story Youth Health Service (08) 8232 0233</p>
<p>Out With Homophobia Training Manual for addressing homophobia and sex-based discrimination in schools</p>	<p>Family Planning Queensland, 1999 Available at Family Planning Victoria, Box Hill Phone: (03) 9257 0146</p>
<p>Pride and Prejudice Training Program A sexual diversity and homophobia program for students, including a video</p>	<p>Website: www.prideandprejudice.com.au</p>
<p>STEP Manual An Educational Resource for those working with Indigenous, Refugee & same sex attracted young people</p>	<p>Victorian Child Adolescent Health, Mental Health Promotion Officers & Christine Farnan, 2001 Contact your local Mental Health Promotion Officer at CAMHS for copies</p>
<p>Talking Sexual Health: A National Framework for Education about STIs, AIDS and Blood-borne Viruses in Secondary Schools</p>	<p>Available from the Australian Centre for Sex Health & Society & Family Planning Victoria</p>
<p>Celebrating Diversity in Schools CD ROM Developed by Gay and Lesbian Youth Project, Knox Youth Services, ARCSHS and Women's Health East</p>	<p>Website: www.mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/seagroup/web/index.html</p>

Professional Development Programs

A number of organizations run professional development programs for schools:

Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, LaTrobe University
(03) 9285 5382

Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria www.glhv.org.au

Family Planning Victoria www.fpv.org.au (03) 9257 0100

Or try your local Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service.

Many of the workers who facilitate groups for same-sex attracted and transgender young people in metropolitan Melbourne and some rural regions can also deliver professional development programs for school staff, as well as talking to students. Find out about groups in your area at www.rainbownetwork.net.au

What can a teacher do to make a difference to school climate?

- Establish tolerance and non-harassment as a group norm, including non-harassment of gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender people
- Be prepared to respond to homophobic slurs just as you would to racist or sexist slurs
- Focus on challenging the negative opinions rather than the person
- Don't expect to win an encounter. The aim is to get information across.
- Avoid debating religious arguments. If a person has strongly held views it may be more productive to discuss sexuality issues in terms of how the person is feeling rather than debating ideas
- You can still be supportive of lesbian, gay, bisexual people even if you feel uncomfortable discussing sexual issues. Familiarise yourself with a few reference books, pamphlets and groups or refer to colleagues/counsellors who do feel comfortable discussing sexuality.
- Include sexual orientation and gender identity issues in discussion of human rights and discrimination
- Always assume that at least 10% of the people you're working with are gay lesbian or bisexual and that others will have gay, lesbian or bisexual friends or family
- Openly express your support of gay, lesbian and bisexual people
- Have appropriate resources on display and available. Where possible, ensure that the environment in which you are working has a range of posters, pamphlets with positive images including people of diverse sexual orientations. If none of these posters are available then develop them, with your students
- Include different family forms in any discussion on family and community. It is very reassuring for young people to know that they are not abnormal because they do not conform to a notion of normalcy that is, in any case, inaccurate. When corresponding with caregivers don't address mail to Mr and Mrs X unless you know this to be accurate
- Ensure the development of library resources, both fiction and non fiction

From Liggins,S, Wille A., Hawthorne, S. & Rampton,L. 1994. Affirming Diversity, Auckland Education Unit, Family Planning New Zealand p23-4

Classroom resources

- **Video: In Other Words (27 mins)**

For students aged 13 and up this video was produced by the National Film Board of Canada but is still highly relevant to an Australian audience and context. 'In Other Words' speaks directly to teenagers and offers a valuable tool to teachers who want to explore homophobic language-the words themselves, their origins, how young people feel about them, and how to overcome the hurt and anger they cause.

The film features interviews with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender young people who provide first hand accounts. Weaving together slang, music media images and dictionary definitions, the film examines how language shapes attitudes.

This film can be used as a starting point for further discussion about stereotypes, sexuality issues, language, difference and discrimination. The video also comes with suggested post video activities.

Available from: Living Solutions Bookshop, (03) 59776366

- **Video: Sticks & Stones**

For grades 3-7, *Stick & Stones* is also produced by the National Film Board of Canada. In this film, young children ages 5-12 describe how they feel when they hear put-downs of themselves or their families for not following traditional gender roles. They talk about why bullies engage in name-calling and what they think should be done about it. By showing they know what's wrong the children challenge educators, parents and other kids to act positively to make schools and playgrounds safe and welcoming for everyone.

Available from: Living Solutions Bookshop, (03) 59776366

- **Video: Mates: HIV Related Discrimination**

This film was produced by Health Media for the New South Wales Department of Education in 1993. It tells the fictional story of Steve Jenkins who is a good-looking, athletic, champion swimmer who enters a new school. When a student from a previous school reveals Steve's sexuality, friendship and support quickly turn into fear and persecution. 'Mates' is a powerful story and HIV/AIDS and homophobic related discrimination in the school setting. It is the story of friendship lost and rediscovered when discrimination is seen for what it is.

Available to borrow from Family Planning Victoria Resource Centre, Box Hill, (03) 9257 0126 (not available to purchase)

- **Video: Just one Day**

A film about a young woman who is outed to her school friends: their reactions and her coming to terms with her sexuality. This video was produced by the

local Y-Glam Performing Arts Project, by young people for young people focusing on sexual diversity.

Available: Moreland Community Health Service Inc, Jemma Mead & Vicky Guglielmo (03) 9355 9900, Email: jemimam@mchs.org.au

- **Pride & Prejudice Program**

Pride & Prejudice is a formally evaluated school-based approach to sexual diversity and homophobia, which has been shown to have significantly changed student attitudes toward gay men and lesbians after six weeks (Health Promotion Journal of Australia Dec 2001).

The six-week program is interactive and challenging, providing students an avenue to discuss sensitive issues and topics. The package includes an outline of each session with the aims, the key skills required to undertake the session and optional homework. The program rests on the idea that these issues need to be explored and discussed in a broader context over a substantial amount of time in order for the process to be beneficial. The series of six session plans are complemented by a video that gradually introduces six same sex attracted young people throughout the course of the program.

Daniel Witthaus, Moonee Valley Youth Services & Deakin University, 2001
Available from the City of Moonee Valley Youth Services,
(03) 9243 8888

- **Text: Interactive Teaching Strategies: Adolescent Sexuality, Mary Mannison**

This text addresses adolescent sexuality for classroom lessons. Chapter five focuses specifically on gay, lesbian and bisexual relationships, containing sections covering common beliefs and questions, words related to sexual orientation, discrimination against same sex attracted people, the experience of being different from the majority and coming out. The text provides lesson guidelines, materials and information and activity sheets.

Available from Family Planning Victoria, Box Hill, Phone (03) 9257 0146.

- **Resource: Talking Sexual Health Materials: A Teaching and Learning Resource for Secondary Schools**

This is a resource included in a national framework for education about STI's, HIV/AIDS and Blood-Borne Viruses in Secondary Schools developed by the Australian Research Centre for Sex, Health & Society funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care. It provides classroom materials for teachers to use with students. Designed primarily to use with students in years 9 and 10, but is also suitable to use with students in years 11

and 12 and many of the activities can be modified to use with students in years 7 & 8.

The resource provides experienced health educators with teaching and learning activities to assist in achieving a number of learning outcomes appropriate for year 9 and year 10 students. This resource is inclusive of the sexual health and drug use issues of same sex attracted youth. It includes advice on setting up programs and creating supportive and safe learning environments for all students that are supported by a whole school approach. *Talking Sexual Health* has specific units including activities and workshops, around diversity-gender, power, sexuality and risk.

Training and hardcopy of resource available from:
Australian Research Centre for Sex Health & Society: 03 9285 5382
Family Planning Victoria, Box Hill: 03 9257 0100

- **Resource: Yes You Are: a guide to educating young people and adults about healthy relationships, sexual diversity and anti-homophobia.**

This booklet is designed for teachers and other professionals working in the education system. It was developed in response to the high number of requests for education support in the area of anti-homophobia. The resource provides clear rationales for and information around anti-homophobia education. It provides classroom activities and workshops for educators to engage young people with issues relating to homophobia, heterosexism and discrimination, communication and relationships.

Some of the sections are specific to NSW legislation and context, but is still relevant for Victorian contexts.

Available from Family Planning Victoria, Box Hill, Phone (03) 9257 0146

- **Website: The Hormone Factory: www.thehormonefactory.com**

Sex education resource for years 5 and 6, inclusive of same sex attracted issues. The site explains sexual and reproductive development and the physical, emotional and social changes associated with puberty. The sites content fits firmly into national curriculum frameworks in health education.

Novels and personal stories

A group of teachers in Victoria has developed a website that details a range of novels, movies and stories appropriate for the English classroom, along with lesson plans and other resources. Available at Shout – School's Out! - <http://home.vicnet.net.au/%7Eshout/welcome.html>

- Brock, Paula. 1998 ***Dare Truth or Promise***, Hyland House, South Melbourne.
Tells the story of Louie and Willa, young hopeful for the future and in love. Written with warmth, sensitivity and insight the book breaks down stereotypes and affirms young lesbian experience. Aimed at mid-late teens.
- Conigrave, T 1995, ***Holding the Man***, McPhee Gribble, Melbourne.
The true story of Tim and John who were lovers for 15 years after meeting at a Melbourne high school. The book covers this time as well as their struggle with HIV and eventually their deaths.
- Gleitzman, M 1993, ***Two Weeks with the Queen***, Puffin, Ringwood, Victoria.
A 12 year old Australian boy is sent to London because his brother is dying. While he is there he meets a gay man whose lover is dying and they become good friends
- Heron, A 1994 ***Two Teenagers in Twenty: Writings by Gay and Lesbian Youth***, Alyson Publications, Boston.
Biographical stories from gay and lesbian youth aim to break down isolation and despair. Aimed at teenagers, their educators and those who support them, these srtoires shed light on the difficulties and importance of coming out.
- Johns, Catherine 1994, ***Me Mum's a Queer***
Manny is 16 and decides to tell her friends that her mum is a lesbian. The consequences of this are told in a number of short stories that lok at Manny's life in Victoria and rural South Australia. Aimed at late teens and their parents.
- Macleod, M (ed) 1996, ***Ready or Not: Stories of Young Adult Sexuality***, Random House, Australia.
- Martino, Wayne & Maria Pallotta-Chiarolli, ***Boy's Stuff: Boys Talking about What Matters***
Boys tell their view of issues such as growing up, friends, sex, sport, drugs without censoring themselves.

- Pausaker, Jenny. 1994. ***Mr Enigmatic*** Mammoth, Port Melbourne.
- Pausacker, Jenny. 1995. ***What are Ya?*** Mammoth. Port Melbourne. Tells the story of the 16-year-old friends Leith and Barbara. Looks at friendship, same sex desire and urban adolescent life. Aimed at late teens.
- Pallotta-Chiaroli, Maria. 1989 ***Girl's Talk***. Collection of writings on young women by young women on relationships, sex, families, school, independence and prejudice.
- Shale, Erin (ed) 1999. ***Inside Out: Australian Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender People Write about Their Lives*** . Bookman Press, Melbourne. Anthology of coming out stories from both well known Australians and general members of the community. Includes comedian Sue-Ann Post, singer Monique Brumby, Senator Bob Brown and rugby league player Ian Roberts.
- Walker, Kate, 1991. ***Peter*** Norwood, South Australia. A 15 year old discovers he has feelings for his best brother's best friend who is openly gay
- Walker, Sarah. ***The Year of Freaking out***, Pan MacMillan, Australia.
- Wheat, Chris. ***Looselips***. Hyland House, South Melbourne. A book for those who blurt their secrets out at the most inappropriate times. Centring around a group of 16 year olds, it is a story about that includes gay young people and their adventures.

Recommended Reading for Teachers: General information around sexuality

- Baner, Marion Dane (ed). 1995. *Am I Blue? Coming Out From the Silence*. Harper Collins
- Deakin University Centre for Education and Change 1996, *Schooling and Sexualities: Teaching for a Positive Sexuality*, Deakin University, Vic.
- Gourlay, P 1996, *If You Think Sexuality Education Is Dangerous, Try Ignorance: Sexuality Education, Critical Factors for Success*
- Malln, Gerald, P. *Social Services for Transgender Youth*.
- Mareus, Eric. 1993. *Is it a Choice?* Harper, San Francisco.
- Moore, S & Rosenthal, D 1993, *Sexuality in Adolescence*, Routledge, London.
- Moore, S, Rosenthal, D & Mitchell A 1996, *Youth, AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, Routledge, London.
- Pallota-Chiarolli, Maria. 1991 *Someone You Know*. Wakefield Press, South Australia.
- Remafedi, Garry (ed). 1994. *Death by Denial: Studies of Suicide in Gay and Lesbian Teenagers*. Alyson Publications, Sydney.

Booklets/pamphlets

Having a range of appropriate resources readily available and accessible in your office/classroom/library/resource room is an effective way of creating safer and supportive environments for all students.

- **Over the Rainbow: A Guide to the Law for Lesbians and Gay Men in Victoria**

This is a booklet that explores legal issues in relation to gay, lesbian and transgender people and same sex relationships. It includes discussions from how the law works, anti discrimination laws, privacy and confidentiality, legal age of consent, property laws, legal recognition of relationships to homophobic violence and health issues.

Available: Victorian Legal Aid, 9269 0223 or www.liv.asn.au/research/bookshop

- **Alsorts: A Sexuality Awareness Resource**

This is a resource kit aimed at young people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or unsure. It includes definitions around sexuality and gender, a question and answer section, referral points for further support and discussion around such topics as coming out, family, rural environments, health, religion and self-esteem

Available: The Also Foundation (03) 9827 4999, or online:
www.also.org.au/alsorts

- **The ALSO Foundation Directory**

This is a resource for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community that lists supportive community groups and commercial organisations.

Available: The Also Foundation (03) 9827 4999

- **Your Right to a Fair Go: Sexual Orientation and Lawful Sexual Activity**

**:Same Sex Relationships
:Gender Identity**

These are pamphlets that detail the legislation relevant to each of these topics
Available from the Equal Opportunity Commission of Victoria, (03) 9281 7100

- **Talking Sexual Health: A Parents Guide**

This has been developed to provide schools with a resource to assist them in working with parents and making links between classroom and whole school issues and the partnership with parents around sexuality education. It provides

information about sex and sexual health to help parents feel well informed and confident to talk with their children about sex.

Available from: Contact ANCAHRD, 1800 020 103 or (02) 6289 8654, www.ancahrd.org

- **Parents of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & transgender children:**

A booklet for the parents and friends of same sex attracted and transgender children answering common questions and exploding some of the myths around glbt people

- **Creating safe schools: the role of partnerships between parents and schools in supporting sexual and gender diversity**

A booklet for all parents; explains why tackling homophobia and affirming sexual and gender diversity in schools is important. Explores myths and facts, identifies relevant legislation and policy.

Available at Family Planning Victoria (03) 9285 5382

- **PFLAG Flier**

Pamphlet containing information on Parents & Friends of Lesbians And Gays support service.

Available: (03) 9827 8408

- **Safety in Our Schools: Strategies for responding to homophobia**

Booklet for teachers and staff in schools addressing the safety issues for same sex attracted students. Includes relevant research, whole school approach and strategies for addressing homophobia, information around policy and legislation.

Available Australian Research Centre for Sex Health & Society (03) 9285 5382

- **Gender Questioning**

Booklet for young people who are questioning their gender identity or identify as transgender. Includes q&a, useful terms, resource and referral lists and “what to do ifs....”.

Available Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria, www.glhv.org.au

Reports & research

Below are some key reports and pieces of research. Many of these, as well as a comprehensive range of other reports and resources, are available at the Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria Clearinghouse website www.glhv.org.au

- ***Writing Themselves In Again: The 2nd National Report on the Sexuality, Health and Well-Being of Same Sex Attracted Young People***

Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, Latrobe University

Available: (03) 9285 5382

- **It's just easier: The Internet as a safety Net for same sex attracted young people**

Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, Latrobe University

Available: 9285 5382

- **Not Round Here: Affirming Diversity, Challenging Homophobia, Rural Service Providers Training Manual**

For copies contact The Human Rights Unit, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, GPO Box 5218, Sydney, ph: (02) 924 83555

- **VicHealth Our Town: Working with same sex attracted young people in rural communities.** A report on the experiences of twelve projects established in Victoria to promote the mental health of same sex attracted young people

Available: Website: www.vichealth.vic.gov.au

- **Beyond Perceptions: A Report on alcohol & other drug use among gay, lesbian bisexual and queer communities in Victoria;** The ALSO Foundation, VicHealth & the Australian Drug Foundation, 2000.

Available: www.adf.org.au

- **What's the Difference? Issues Papers on Major Health Issues Affecting GLBTI Victorians**

ALSO Foundation & Ministerial Advisory Commission of Gay & Lesbian Health, 2002

Available on line: www.dhs.vic.gov.au/phd/macglh

➤ **Creating New Choices: A Violence Prevention Project for Schools in Australia**

Evaluation report of a project utilising a whole school approach over seven years by Berry Street Child & Family Services, Victoria. 2001

Available on line: www.ibe.unesco.org

➤ **Enough is Enough**

A report on discrimination and abuse experienced by lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people in Victoria by the Victorian Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby, 2000

Available on line: www.liv.asn.au/research/bookshop

➤ **Tasmanian Department of Education**

The Tasmanian Department of Education has written a Statewide Anti-Discrimination. & Anti-Harassment Policy which includes discrimination on the basis of sexuality. It also highlights action for implementation & comes with a kit of support materials. Copies can be obtained by contacting the department or online: www.discover.tased.edu.au/sse

Adapted from Family Planning Victoria's ssafeschools website. "SSAFE (same-sex attracted friendly environments) in schools" was a project of FPV that ended in 2004. Material updated 2006.