



# INFORMATION ON LGBT REALITIES



From the evolution of LGBT rights, to the situation of sexual minorities worldwide, this section can serve to increase your own knowledge, or to serve as springboards for discussion with students in a variety of classroom settings. Resources listed here cover a wide variety of topics including homosexuality and religion, coming out in communities of colour, LGBT human rights, the impact of homophobia and transphobia, and current news in the LGBT community. There is a highlighted section about “Sexual Diversity around the World and in Different Cultures”.



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## ALTERHEROS

A reference for and about bisexual and homosexual youth, as well as for their friends, family and teachers. It is also an excellent research tool giving access to a wide array of English and French resources.

[www.alterheros.com](http://www.alterheros.com)

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## AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Since 1975, the American Psychological Association has called on psychologists to take the lead in removing the stigma of mental illness that has long been associated with lesbian, gay, and bisexual orientations. The discipline of psychology is concerned with the well-being of people and groups and therefore with threats to that well-being. The prejudice and discrimination that people who identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual regularly experience have been shown to have negative psychological effects. This information is designed to provide accurate information for those who want to better understand sexual orientation and the impact of prejudice and discrimination on those who identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual.

[www.apa.org/helpcenter/sexual-orientation.aspx](http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/sexual-orientation.aspx)

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## **DEAD BOYS CAN'T DANCE**

A provocative, groundbreaking study of the tragic consequences of homophobia. This book by Michel Dorais is an exploration of the double taboos of homosexuality and suicide and their effect on males from fourteen to twenty-five.

**McGill-Queens University Press, 2004 (Original French version: 2000)**

*Can be ordered from: [www.amazon.ca](http://www.amazon.ca)*

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## **EGALE CANADA**

An advocacy organization that works to advance equality and justice for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans-identified people, and their families, across Canada. This site is a good source of LGBT current events in Canada. Egale is also especially active on the education front and has recently completed a huge survey on homophobia and transphobia in Canadian schools.

[www.egale.ca](http://www.egale.ca)

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## **FROM CRIMINALITY TO EQUALITY**

A 4-disk-DVD-series on the history of the lesbian and gay rights movement in Canada. The series includes: **Stand Together** (124 minutes), **The Queer Nineties** (90 minutes), **Politics of the Heart** (68 minutes) and **The End of Second Class** (90 minutes). Included in the series are a study guide and interview with the director, Nancy Nicol. It brings to life a transformative social movement, from the first gay liberation groups, to the building up of a diverse social movement; from the first human rights cases in the 1970s, the impact of the enactment of the Charter of Rights in 1983, to the passage of same-sex marriage legislation in 2005. The films provide a powerful resource for educators, public libraries and non-profit community groups. Help build awareness of LGBT history.

<http://mygsa.ca/educators/movies/4578>

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## **SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCATES HANDBOOK: A GUIDE TO GENDER**

This book written by Sam Killermann is a guide to gender, from a social justice perspective. It's a couple hundred pages of gender exploration, and fun graphics & comics like the Genderbread Person. It's not just about the trans\* or transgender understanding of gender, though that is certainly a component. It's about gender itself, all-encompassingly, from a socially just and non-binary slant. The book is available for free on the web site "It's Pronounced Metrosexual".

[www.itspronouncedmetrosexual.com](http://www.itspronouncedmetrosexual.com)

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## THE TRANSGENDER CHILD: A HANDBOOK FOR FAMILIES AND PROFESSIONALS

This book is a manual for parents and caregivers of transgender children, written by a respected gender therapist and an experienced researcher and author of books related to the GLBT community and gender variance. Detailed, up-to-date, and easy to read, the handbook is an important resource for parents of transgender children and teens, and anyone who deals with them. The authors, Stephanie A. Brill and Rachel Pepper, provide information on how to deal with these children, their family and friends, their schools and school administrators and staff. Also included are excellent chapters on medical care and legal issues unique to these children.

**Cleis Press, 2008**

Can be ordered from: [www.genderspectrum.org/store](http://www.genderspectrum.org/store)

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## SEXUAL DIVERSITY AROUND THE WORLD AND IN DIFFERENT CULTURES

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### AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL LGBT NETWORK

As a grassroots international human rights organization, Amnesty International (AI) has an important role in situating LGBT rights in the consideration of human rights generally, not as special rights, but as fundamental rights ensured to each and every member of society. AI has also provided valuable support to lesbian and gay human rights defenders, who are among those under threat.

[www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/issues/lgbt-rights](http://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/issues/lgbt-rights)

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### HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN (HRC)

America's largest gay and lesbian organization, the HRC works to advance equality based on sexual orientation and gender expression and identity, to ensure that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community. The site has excellent sections on "coming out", LGBT people of colour, family issues, homosexuality in various religions, etc.

[www.hrc.org](http://www.hrc.org)

[www.hrc.org/resources/category/religion-faith](http://www.hrc.org/resources/category/religion-faith) (*religion and homosexuality*)

[www.hrc.org/resources/category/coming-out](http://www.hrc.org/resources/category/coming-out) (*coming out in communities of colour*)

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## INTERNATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IGLHRC)

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) is a leading international organization dedicated to human rights advocacy on behalf of people who experience discrimination or abuse on the basis of their actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. In their menu item, “Information by Country,” the organization provides an overview and documents about the LGBT human rights violations all over the world.

[www.iglhrc.org](http://www.iglhrc.org)

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## THE DICTIONARY OF HOMOPHOBIA: A GLOBAL HISTORY OF GAY AND LESBIAN EXPERIENCE

Based on the work of seventy researchers in fifteen countries, *The Dictionary of Homophobia* is a mammoth, encyclopedic book compiled by Louis-Georges Tin, that documents the history of homosexuality, and various cultural responses to it, in all regions of the world. The Dictionary includes over 175 essays on various aspects of gay rights and homophobia as experienced in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and the South Pacific, from the earliest epochs to present day. Subjects include religious and ideological forces such as the Bible, Communism, Judaism, Hinduism, and Islam; historical events such as AIDS and Stonewall, personalities such as J. Edgar Hoover, Matthew Shepard, Oscar Wilde, Pat Buchanan, Joseph McCarthy, Pope John Paul II, and Anita Bryant; and other topics such as coming out, adoption, deportation, ex-gays, lesbiphobia, and biphobia.

**Arsenal Pulp Press, 2008 (Original French version 2003)**

*Can be ordered from:* [www.amazon.ca](http://www.amazon.ca)

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## PINK NEWS

Breaking current event stories, entertainment, interviews, sports, travel, health and editorials for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities worldwide

[www.pinknews.co.uk](http://www.pinknews.co.uk)

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## SHARED DIFFERENCES: THE EXPERIENCES OF LGBT STUDENTS OF COLOR IN OUR NATION'S SCHOOLS (GLSEN)

This report documents the experiences of over 2,000 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) middle and high school students of color who were African American or Black, Latino/a, Asian or Pacific Islander, Native American, and multiracial, using data from the 2007 installment of GLSEN's biennial survey of LGBT students, the National School Climate Survey, along with results from in-depth individual and group interviews.

<http://glsen.customer.def6.com/sites/default/files/Shared%20Differences.pdf>



Coalition des familles  
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Éducation,  
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UQÀM Service aux collectivités  
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CHAIRE  
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sur l'homophobie  
UQÀM

[www.familleshomoparentales.org](http://www.familleshomoparentales.org)

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