

HOW TO MAKE YOUR GSA INTERSEX FRIENDLY

www.gsanetwork.org



1. Remember the "I"

The "I" doesn't stand for invisible.

LGBTQI+ is the acronym for the expansive community we call Trans and Queer, but the "I" is rarely talked about.

I stands for Intersex, and GSA Network believes that GSA clubs need to be aware and supportive of ALL issues that impact our community.

Action: Make sure your GSA is using inclusive language and acronyms like LGBTQI+

"I'm scared people will think I'm different or abnormal. Please treat me with dignity and respect."

- What we wish our friends knew brochure

2. Educate Your GSA About Intersex Identities

Your GSA can use resources from groups like interACT Youth to learn and understand more about intersex identities.

Buzzfeed produced a video called "What It's Like to be Intersex" and interACT has a viewing guide your GSA can use for discussion which is on the back of this resource.

Action:

Have your GSA read these resources and watch the BuzzFeed video

bit.ly/IntersexFAQ

bit.ly/BrochureInterAct

bit.ly/BF-IntersexVideo

3. Look at your GSA's Vision

- Does your club vision statement include everyone?
- What will it look like for your club when it's successful in supporting and incorporating intersex issues?
- What resources does your GSA need to create change?

Action: Contact your local GSA Network for resources on creating an inclusive vision statement: gsanetwork.org

4. Stay Informed

Remember the "I" when keeping your GSA up to date throughout the year.

Action: Follow interACT Youth on social media

facebook.com/interactadvocates

twitter.com/interact_adv

instagram.com/interact_adv

interactyouth.tumblr.com

5. Participate in Intersex Awareness Day

On October 26, have your GSA participate in Intersex Awareness Day to be in solidarity with your intersex peers and help to create safe, supportive, and inclusive environments.

Action: Have your GSA plan programming to promote and celebrate Intersex Awareness Day at your school.



This resource was created in collaboration with interACT. Find out more at: interactyouth.org

Buzzfeed "What it's like to be Intersex" Viewing Guide

Take a moment after watching the BuzzFeed video (bit.ly/BF-IntersexVideo) to talk about some of these questions. If you have more questions, ask the group what they might think. If you need to, go back and rewatch the video a second time after discussion to help understand a little more about what you're watching!

- Did you see anything in this video that surprised you?
- How did your opinion of intersex people change after seeing this video?
- Did this video change your knowledge of sex vs. gender? How so?
- Can you tell if someone's intersex just by looking at them? How would you know?
- Do you think intersex people could also be part of the queer community? What would you say if an intersex person didn't identify with the queer community?
- With those statistics, how many people might you know who are intersex?
- What other things might the trans* community face that are similar and different to intersex people?
- Why do you think some doctors are not telling intersex youth the truth about their bodies?
- How would you feel if doctors operating on you without a good reason and without you knowing about it?
- Do you think other people besides doctors contribute to the shame and stigma that intersex people face?
- Do you think a lot of intersex people in society have conformed to traditional gender roles? Why?
- Do you relate to those final messages for intersex people? Have you had some of those same worries, thoughts, or fears?
- Has finding similar people to you helped you to accept something about yourself?
- What would you say to an intersex person you just met?

For more YouTube videos to watch, please check out:

- MTV's Faking It 9 Things Video: <https://youtu.be/CTYljXSdZxA>
- Intersexion Documentary: <https://youtu.be/xnt-8cTtdJA>
- Sexplanations Interview Part 1: <https://youtu.be/MJ-GNZ5QA4Q>
- Sexplanations Interview Part 2: <https://youtu.be/GnO7ezXMrF8>
- 20/20 Intersex Part 1: <https://youtu.be/xv1yk2Va9qc>
- 20/20 Intersex Part 2: <https://youtu.be/oHbBTEeayEU>
- The Interface Project: <https://www.youtube.com/user/theinterfaceproject/featured>

