



LGBTQ OutLoud

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Waterloo Region District School Board and OK2BME



The WRDSB Journey

PSCC

- Grassroots group working to end homophobia

Equity Audit

- Equity Officers
- EIAG
- Focus on LGBTQ issues

Training

- Workshops for staff/teachers and administrators

DVD

- Modular training tool
- Resource Guide
- System wide resource



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Partnership between WRDSB and OK2BME

- Allocation of resources
- Determining target audiences
- Budget



Planning and Pre-Production (1 month)

- Topics
- Participants
- Locations



Filming (5 months)

- Filmed over 40 participants
- Various locations
- Primarily an interview format



Community Launch Event

- April 14, 2010 with approximately 100 attendees



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LGBTQ OUTLOUD

- 1 LGBTQ OutLoud (4:50)
- 2 Common Terms (6:35)
- 3 Homophobia (8:40)
- 4 Myths (8:30)
- 5 LGBTQ Experiences (10:20)
- 6 Trans Experiences (11:15)
- 7 Two-Spirited (10:35)
- 8 LGBTQ Families (8:15)
- 9 Coming Out (10:05)
- 10 That's So Gay (10:30)
- 11 Allies (8:00)
- 12 Safe Spaces (11:15)
- 13 Be the Change (3:10)
- 14 Credits (1:20)

The **Waterloo Region District School Board** and **OK2BME** have partnered to produce a training DVD around LGBTQ issues. The purpose of the training DVD is to raise awareness around homophobia/biphobia/transphobia and build viewers' capacity on how to address homophobia, how to provide a safe environment and how to support students/staff/parents/community members who identify as being a member of the LGBTQ community.



Clips

Introduction

- 4:50

Coming Out

- 10:05

More clips available online

- www.ok2bme.ca

DVD available for Purchase

- September 2010



Feedback about the DVD

Adult Participants

- "It was a great experience for me."
- "It was great to have the opportunity to talk about my perceptions of the church and some of the issues that face the LGBTQ community."
- "Being a part of this dvd has raised my awareness of my need to speak out more about the church, faith and homophobia."
- "I think it would be great for any organization or business to have access to something similar."
- "I was honoured and thrilled to be part of something that I felt was not only ground-breaking, but had the potential to support and educate so many people."



Feedback about the DVD

Youth Participants

- "It was fun!"
- "I enjoyed it and would like to have the opportunity to do it again."
- "It felt good to not have to hide who I am."
- "It was the first time I felt safe at school."
- "My friends have all congratulated me and are proud of me for standing up for what I believe and being proud of who I am."
- "The younger the youth who participate, the younger kids learn and become educated and aware of LGBTQ subjects."



Feedback about the DVD

Teachers/Staff

- "I use the video to talk about creating safe classroom environments and what role they have as peer helpers and students in creating a safe space."
- "I use the dvd to talk about the climate of our school with regards to the LGBTQ community and what, if anything, we could change about that."
- From a teacher candidate: "The reaction from my teacher candidate peers was incredibly positive and they were very excited that there is such a helpful and authentic resource available to them."
- "I find this resource to be incredibly powerful and essential."



Resource Guide

2 Sections

- Elementary
- Secondary

Discussion questions

- Options for each topic on the dvd
- Questions include:
 - Easy-testing recall and comprehension
 - Moderate-requires analysis
 - More Difficult-requires higher order critical thinking



Resource Guide

Secondary Example:

- 1. Coming Out
 - a) What does the term “coming out” mean?
 - b) Describe a time when a friend or family member disclosed something personal.
 - c) Describe a time when a friend or family member came out to you about being LGBTQ.
- 2. How would you support a friend or family member who has come out to you?
- 3. Coming out can be a life long process for people who identify as LGBTQ.
 - a) What are some assumptions we make about people? (eg. that a husband has a wife and a child has a mother and a father).
 - b) What could you do differently to be more inclusive of people? (eg. Language – use words that are inclusive, like the term “partner” instead of husband/wife, or “guardian” and “parent” instead of mom or dad.)



Resource Guide

Activities

- Activities for elementary and secondary students.
- Can be adapted to work with any audience
- Experiential learning emphasized

Available online (coming soon!)

- www.ok2bme.ca and www.wrdsb.ca
- Included with DVD purchase
- Available for free



How the DVD Is Being Used

Schools

- Staff Training
- Classroom learning in related subjects (civics, peer helping, parenting, health, etc.)
- Building support for GSAs
- Addressing particular issues (language, discrimination, bullying)

School Boards

- System wide training
- Promoting equity and inclusion
- Sharing the DVD with other boards to support their work

Community

- Used in a variety of social service agencies to provide training to their staff
- Shown to youth in several different settings to promote equity and inclusion.
- Youth are linking to videos via social media to promote further education and acceptance



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What's Next?

OK2BME Out In Schools

- Partnership with WRDSB
- New program to support grade 7-8 schools in creating GSAs.
- GSA Network Website
- 2 year initiative

GSA Conference -Secondary

- 1 day conference for high school GSA members and Staff leaders
- Held November, 2010
- 70 youth and staff attended
- Will be an annual event



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What's Next?

GSA conference -Senior Elementary

- Half Day conference for grade 7-8 GSA members and staff

Annual GSA Dance

- An all inclusive dance for GSA members and allies.
- This year marks our third dance

Annual GSA Coffee House

- Showcasing LGBTQ youth's talents



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Questions?

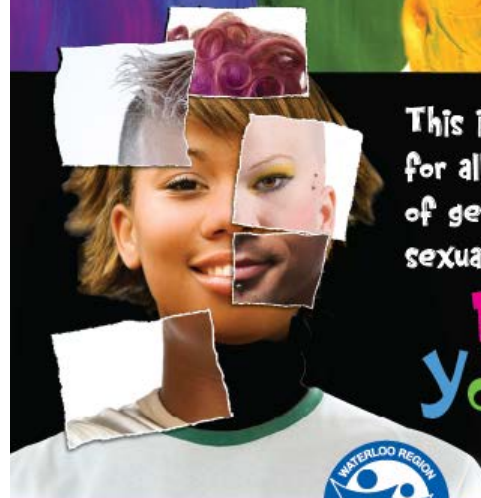


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Be The Change

For LGBTQ Youth, Families and Allies

safe space



This is a safe space for all people, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.

BE YOURSELF!



OK2BME



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