

Follow
the
Yellow
Brick
Road:



Re-Learning Consent from Our
ForeQueers

Disclosure: because we are in the consent business...



This workshop is about consent, and as we discuss different ways in which communities have explored consent, please note:

This workshop will include a lot of discussion about sex. There will be sexual words used. The resources we will offer may contain information that is sexual in nature. Some of the links we will share, and many of the links within those links *may very likely not be work-safe and may contain adult content to be viewed only by people over the age of 18.*

Please feel free to step away from this workshop if that is not the information you are seeking.

You are, of course, welcome to leave at anytime 😊

Who are we?

- Jessica Gilbertson, Anti-Violence Activist
- Dustina Haase-Lanier, Program Coordinator for Technical Assistance at the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence



Who are you?

- Advocates?
- Prevention Educators?
- LGBPTQ-Specific Service Providers?
- Military/Law Enforcement?
- Youth/Teen Specialists?
- Health Care Workers?
- Who else?



Where are you on the
LGBPTQ knowledge
continuum?



Some terms

- LGBTQ/Queer
- Cisgender
- BDSM
- Play
- Bottom/Submissive
- Top/Dominant
- True Consent
- Vanilla
- Negotiation



5 Social Norms that contribute to a culture of Sexual Violence

- Women: Limited roles for and objectification and oppression of women
- Power: Value placed on claiming and maintaining power (manifested as power over)
- Violence: Tolerance of aggression and attribution of blame to victims
- Masculinity: traditional constructs of manhood, including domination, control and risk-taking
- Privacy: notions of individual and family privacy that foster secrecy and silence.

Getting at True Consent: Healthier Social Norms

- **Openness**, willingness to talk about sex and sexuality without judgment – Sex Positivity
- **Negotiation**, knowing how to communicate about what we are and are not interested in
 - **Safe Communication**, learning to discuss boundaries and safety

A History of Consent, from a Queer Eye



- Don't recreate the wheel: Learning from and crediting communities and people who have done and are already doing this work.
- Talking about sex: Where do we learn what it means to be Queer? What Queer sex looks like?
- Oppression/Homophobia/Transphobia: Deviant labels and danger lead to the need to build safety within our communities.

Responding to Violence: Oppressed Communities building safety



- Examining who benefits from existing power imbalances and working to create an even distribution of power
 - Rape Culture
 - Culture of Violence
 - How does this “culture” affect marginalized communities?

Gay Men and Safer Sex

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence (b. 1979)

- Sex Positive
- Shame Reduction
- Safer Sex
- Negotiation

“The promulgation of omniversal joy and expiation of stigmatic guilt”



Queer Women and BDSM

Society of Janus (b. 1975)

- Playing with Power
- S/M: “...an eroticized exchange of power negotiated between two or more sexual partners”
- Consent Contracts
- “Lesbian Sex Wars”



Wanted: Women into SM from a lesbian-feminist perspective, looking to cruise, create community and challenge the political-sexual status quo. Tops, bottoms and versatiles, submissives, dominants and everyone in between welcome; wide variety of fetishes and sexual interests available; monogamy not required. Desire to serve on organizational Board or subcommittee preferred; privacy and discretion a must. For more information, contact Samois, PO Box 1269, Bay Area CA.

Trans Folks and Safety

STAR (b. 1970)

- Communities building safety
- Workshops
- Partner Groups
- Zines



QUESTIONS WE'VE BEEN ASKED (That you might wanna think twice about asking)

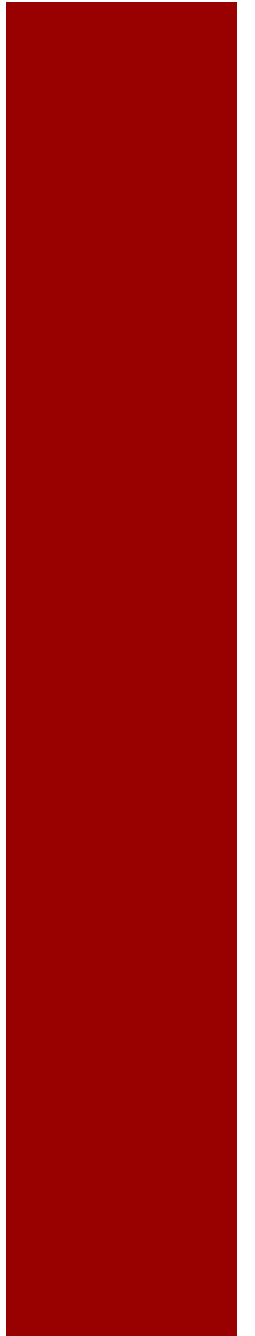


QUESTIONS THAT ARE OK BY ME!

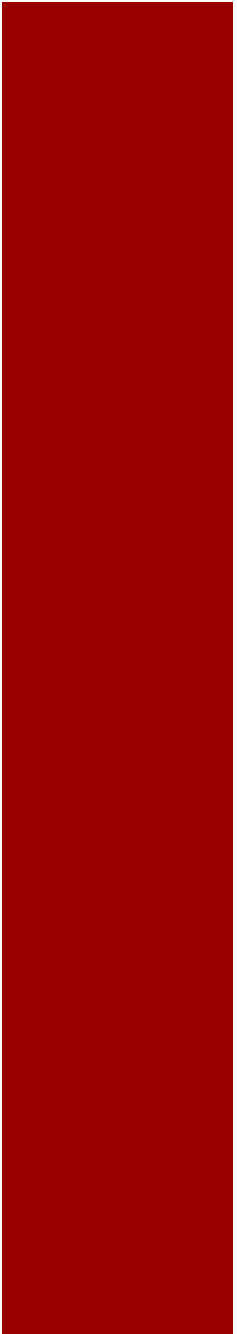




Sassafra Lowrey "Made Real"

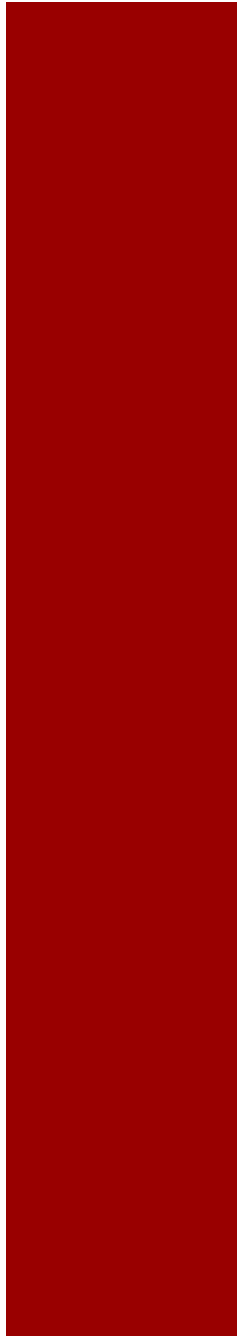


Community Response to Violating Social Norms



Building True Consent

- Shame Reduction
- Workshops and Groups
- Munches
- Contracts
- What about Antioch?



Where do we go from here?

Connect, Collaborate & Credit

Connect: Meet the Queer and Trans folk in your community. Develop relationships. Attend events. Be seen in the community. Share the work.

Collaborate: Incorporate LGBTQ communities' sex positivity, negotiation, safety and consent work into social norms change efforts in current primary prevention work. Engage with Queer and Trans communities as you create new prevention strategies.

Credit: Credit experts from “outside” of the anti-sexual violence movement for their leadership and contributions. Remember the ways that marginalized communities' work is often co-opted by mainstream movements. Avoid doing this.

So many people and groups have paved the road for this discussion and we would be remiss if we did not mention them by name. Thank you to our Queer Peers and to all those ForeQueers who paved the way ahead of us to make our journey down The Yellow Brick Road that much easier.

- The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
Specifically The Portland OR Order:
Sister Dixie Rupt
Sister Krissy Fiction
Sister Maya Poonani
- Society of Janus
- Cardea
- Samois
- The Outcasts
- The Exiles
- Street Transvestite/Transgender Action Revolutionaries
- Radical Faeries
- David Stein
- Harry Hay
- Sylvia Rivera
- Marsha P. Johnson
- John Burnside
- Kate Bornstein
- Dan Savage
- Gayle Rubin
- Leslie Feinburg
- Ignacio Rivera
- Diane Anderson-Minshal
- Jacob Anderson-Minshal
- Jennifer Lanier
- Maria Paladino
- Patrick Califia
- Theresa "DarkLady" Reed
- Sassafrass Lowrey



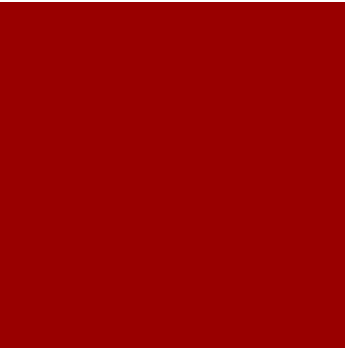
For more historical and current information on LGBTQ communities and individuals:

- [Consent Culture](#)
- [OutHistory Wiki](#)
- ["Rules for flagging" flagging opinicus rampant blog](#)
- ["How to have sex in an epidemic" Richard Berkowitz](#)
- ["Safe/Ward: A What you can do guide for community leaders"](#)
- ["Sexual Healing" This is what a man sounds like blog](#)
- [Feminist Porn: Sex, Consent and Getting Off – Feministe blog](#)
- [BDSM terms](#)
- [Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence](#)
- [STAR History](#)
- [The Exiles](#)
- ["Safe Sane and Consensual"](#)
- [How I learned to talk \(in bed\): Why this queer women cares about consent"](#)
- [Western States Center: LGBTQ and Immigration Timeline](#)
- [The Network/La Red](#)
- [Northwest Network](#)
- [Scarleteen](#)



Questions?





“Out of the mists of our long oppression,
we bring love for ourselves and each
other, and love for the gifts we bear, so
heavy and so painful the fashioning of
them so long the road given us to travel
them. A separate people, we bring a gift
to celebrate each other. 'Tis a gift to be
gay! Feel the pride of it!”

-Harry Hay

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