



LGBTQ+ Librarianship in the 21st Century: Emerging Directions of Advocacy and Community Engagement in Diverse Information Environments

LGBTQ+ Terminology, Scenarios and Strategies, and Relevant Web-Based Resources in the 21st Century: A Glimpse

Donna Braquet,

Article information:

To cite this document: Donna Braquet, "LGBTQ+ Terminology, Scenarios and Strategies, and Relevant Web-Based Resources in the 21st Century: A Glimpse" *In* LGBTQ+ Librarianship in the 21st Century: Emerging Directions of Advocacy and Community Engagement in Diverse Information Environments. Published online: 16 Apr 2019; 49-61.

Permanent link to this document:

<https://doi.org/10.1108/S0065-283020190000045009>

Downloaded on: 01 May 2019, At: 21:44 (PT)

References: this document contains references to 0 other documents.

To copy this document: permissions@emeraldinsight.com

The fulltext of this document has been downloaded 5 times since 2019*

Users who downloaded this article also downloaded:

(2019), "What is "LGBTQ+" Information? Interdisciplinary Connections", *Advances in Librarianship*, Vol. 45 pp. 15-47 https://doi.org/10.1108/S0065-283020190000045002

(2019), "Moving into the Mainstream: Is that Somewhere We Want to Go in the United Kingdom?", *Advances in Librarianship*, Vol. 45 pp. 273-291 https://doi.org/10.1108/S0065-283020190000045014



Stockholms
universitetsbibliotek

Access to this document was granted through an Emerald subscription provided by emerald-srm:428790 []

For Authors

If you would like to write for this, or any other Emerald publication, then please use our Emerald for Authors service information about how to choose which

publication to write for and submission guidelines are available for all. Please visit www.emeraldinsight.com/authors for more information.

About Emerald www.emeraldinsight.com

Emerald is a global publisher linking research and practice to the benefit of society. The company manages a portfolio of more than 290 journals and over 2,350 books and book series volumes, as well as providing an extensive range of online products and additional customer resources and services.

Emerald is both COUNTER 4 and TRANSFER compliant. The organization is a partner of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) and also works with Portico and the LOCKSS initiative for digital archive preservation.

*Related content and download information correct at time of download.

CHAPTER 2

LGBTQ+ TERMINOLOGY, SCENARIOS AND STRATEGIES, AND RELEVANT WEB-BASED RESOURCES IN THE 21ST CENTURY: A GLIMPSE

Donna Braquet

ABSTRACT

The chapter compiles a glossary of key lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) terms and concepts relevant in the twenty-first century that a progressive librarian and information professional should be aware of. These are categorized based on gender, sex, and gender identity; sexual and romantic orientation; LGBTQ+ rights and social justice; and outdated and offensive terms. It also briefly explores support for LGBTQ+ patrons through library-based scenarios and provides the contemporary professional important questions to consider in response to the difficult situations represented. Finally, the chapter provides a listing of 25 American LGBTQ+ web-based resources with annotations for librarians to become LGBTQ+ allies. These are categorized according to LGBTQ+ advocacy, youth, legal issues, policy and research, and libraries and archives.

Keywords: LGBTQ+ terminology; scenarios; web-based resources; marginalized identities

LGBTQ+ Librarianship in the 21st Century: Emerging Directions of Advocacy and
Community Engagement in Diverse Information Environments

Advances in Librarianship, Volume 45, 49–61

Copyright © 2019 by Emerald Publishing Limited

All rights of reproduction in any form reserved

ISSN: 0065-2830/doi:10.1108/S0065-283020190000045009

A SELECTIVE GLOSSARY OF LGBTQ+ TERMS

While the following glossary will be useful for librarians becoming familiar and conversant in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) terminology, there are several limitations that should be considered. Firstly, the words in the glossary were developed to describe ideas that came about due to an imposed Western-view that gender and sexuality are binary – male/female or man/woman. In other societies, multiple genders and sexualities were understood as the norm. Secondly, language is dynamic; it changes over time and space. For instance, some words that were once used by the LGBTQ+ community are now considered outdated. One such example is the word “homosexual,” which is now seen as too “clinical” and is mostly used as a pejorative term by anti-LGBTQ+ bigots.

Language varies regionally and generationally. While many younger people in metropolitan areas and progressive states have reclaimed the word “queer” and use it as a term of empowerment and activism, many LGBTQ+ people in southern, rural, or more conservative areas, or those who are older, still feel the sting of the word and consider it a slur. Some Latinx, Black, and Native communities have developed their own terminology relating to sexuality and gender that rejects Eurocentric language. For example, in Black communities, some prefer to use the term “Same Gender Loving,” as opposed to gay, lesbian, or bisexual and in Native American culture the word “Two Spirit” is used to describe people who embody both masculine and feminine aspects.

It is human nature to try to make sense of infinite complexity by creating categories. Librarians know this well. While language and terminology allow us to exchange thoughts and understand ideas among each other, there are limits to language as it relates to concepts as personal and intimate as sexuality and gender. For instance, some people reject labels all together. Another limit to language is that since sexuality and gender are fluid, the labels one uses and how one might categorize oneself will change over time. A person may identify as gay when first coming out, but then realize that the word “bisexual” is a better term for their identity. Later, when the concept of pansexuality becomes more ubiquitous, they may feel that term is more accurate.

The ability for those within the LGBTQ+ community and outside of the community to find seemingly endless amounts of information about language, terminology, categories, and definitions is both a blessing and a curse. Young people struggling with their identity are able to find community, belonging, and answers from people around the world with the click of a mouse. The ease of sharing information provides opportunities for communities to create their own terms and democratically develop definitions. This shared authority allows people to define themselves instead of being defined by others. The ability for this type of communication also allows for people to create niche communities using terminology and definitions with ever-narrowing specificity. For instance, whereas asexual people have always existed, there was not a common language or ways for individuals to find others like themselves until recently. With online forums, groups, and social media, the asexual community has been able to discover, define,

and debate about their identities and feelings. In doing so, Asexual communities have coined the terms, gray-ace, ace, demisexual, and queerplatonic relationship, all of which fall under the asexual umbrella.

Language is now introduced with great speed and specificity, which is wonderful for people seeking to understand themselves. It does, however, mean that terminology changes quickly. What someone knew to be up-to-date a year ago may be seen as outdated today. This can be a source of frustration for some people – allies and members of the community, alike. The vastness of terminology is why this glossary is selective and does not attempt to be comprehensive. However, the terms selected are ones that are important for librarians to know and use. In order to become an ally, using affirming language, correctly and consistently, is the first step.

However, knowing and using the right words are not enough. Allies must focus on rectifying issues that negatively impact LGBTQ+ people's lives every single day – the policies, laws, discrimination, bias, harassment, and violence. Librarians and libraries should concentrate their efforts and actively work to make the world a better place for the marginalized people and communities they so often claim to support.

Terms Related to Gender, Sex, and Gender Identity

Agender: A person who does not identify with any gender.

Gender: A set of social, psychological, or emotional traits, often influenced by societal expectations, that classify an individual as male, female, a mixture of both, or neither.

Gender-affirming Surgery: Surgical procedures that allow transgender people to adjust their bodies to more closely match their gender identity. Not every transgender person will desire or have resources for surgery. This should be used in place of the older and often offensive term “sex change.”

Gender Binary: The concept that there are only two genders, male and female, and that everyone must be one or the other. It also implies the assumption that gender is biologically determined.

Gender Expression: The manner in which a person acts, dresses, behaves, and/or speaks. Gender expression does not always match sex assigned at birth or gender identity. Gender expression can also change over time or depending on situations.

Gender Expansive: Also, “gender creative,” (or medically, “gender variant”); it's an umbrella term sometimes used to describe children and youth that expand notions of gender expression and identity beyond what is perceived as the expected gender norms for their society or context. It may also be called non-binary or gender non-conforming.

Gender Identity: A person's internal sense of being male, female, some of both, or neither (i.e., cisgender, transgender, agender). One's gender identity does not always correspond to sex assigned at birth.

Gender Neutral: A concept of not attributing a gender (i.e., gender neutral pronouns, gender neutral restrooms, and all gender sports team).

Gender Roles: A set of norms set by the majorities in a society that dictate what is deemed acceptable or appropriate for each gender.

Gender Spectrum: The idea that gender in actuality exists beyond a simple “male/female” binary model, but instead exists on an infinite continuum.

Intersex: An umbrella term describing people born with reproductive or sexual anatomy, hormone levels, and/or chromosomes that do not fall into the typical male or female. Those variations are also sometimes referred to as Differences of Sex Development. Avoid the outdated and derogatory term “hermaphrodite.” It’s not to be confused with transgender. Intersex people are approximately 1.5% of the population, or about the same number as natural red-heads.

LGBTQ/LGBTQ+: An acronym that stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer. The “+” indicates that other identities are recognized, but for ease of use and brevity, the acronym is abbreviated to LGBTQ+. Although there is no agreed upon full acronym, one of the more frequently used is LGBTQIAP2S (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, pansexual, two spirit).

Misgender: Use of a word, pronoun, or form of address, which misidentifies a person’s gender identity.

Pronouns: A gender pronoun is the pronoun or set of pronouns that an individual would like others to use when talking to or about that individual. In English, the singular pronouns have traditionally been “she” and “he,” which can feel uncomfortable to some gender non-conforming, non-binary, or transgender people. Instead, some people prefer gender-neutral pronouns such as singular they/their/theirs, although dozens of gender neutral pronouns exist.

Sex Assigned at Birth: Refers to anatomical, physiological, genetic, or physical attributes that define if a person is male, female, or intersex. These include genitalia, gonads, hormone levels, hormone receptors, chromosomes, genes, and secondary sex characteristics. Also referred to as birth sex, natal sex, biological sex, or sex. Oregon, Washington, California, and New York City now allow people to change their birth certificate to “X,” to indicate non-binary or no gender. This new designation will also likely be used for newborn intersex babies.

Transgender: A person whose gender identity does not align the sex they were assigned at birth. This word is also used as a broad umbrella term for various communities of gender non-conforming people. Sometimes shortened to, trans or trans. The prefix “trans” comes from the Latin for “across.” Do not use “transgendered.”

Transsexual: An older, outdated term that was used to denote people who transitioned through medical interventions. To most, the word “transgender” is preferred. Use the term “transsexual” only when a person requests the term be used. The word “trans/trans” is not an abbreviation of transsexual, but transgender. The word transvestite is always pejorative and should not be used.

Transition: A process that can be social, legal, or medical, which one goes through to discover and/or affirm their gender identity. This may, but does not always, include taking hormones, having surgeries, changing how one dresses, and changing names, pronouns, identification documents, and more. Many individuals choose not to or are unable to transition.

Two-Spirit: A term coined by Beverly Little Thunder in the early 1990s to describe Native Americans who are on a spectrum of genders and sexualities, thus inhabiting both masculine and feminine traits. In native tribes, Two-Spirits held revered places in their culture; however, assimilation and enforced Western gender roles by the US government affected Two-Spirit people and their standing in Native cultures. Sometimes abbreviated as “2S.”

Terms Related to Sexual and Romantic Orientation

Aromantic: A person and orientation in which one experiences little or no romantic attraction to others and/or a lack of interest in forming romantic relationships. Sometimes shortened to “aro.”

Asexual: A person who does not experience sexual attraction; should not be confused with celibacy or sexual abstinence, which are chosen behaviors, while asexuality is a sexual orientation. Sometimes stated as “ace,” which can be an umbrella term for various identities on the asexual spectrum.

Bisexual: A person who is emotionally, romantically, and/or physically attracted to the same gender and different genders. Sometimes stated as “bi.”

Closeted: A person who is not open about their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Fluidity: The idea that sexuality and gender identity can change over the lifespan or under different circumstances (i.e., gender fluid, sexual fluidity). This does not mean that one can be converted or change at will.

Lesbian: A woman who is emotionally, romantically, and/or physically attracted to other women.

Gay: An adjective to describe people who are emotionally, romantically, and/or physically attracted to people of the same gender (e.g., gay man, gay people, gay woman).

Out: A term that describes a person who openly self-identifies as LGBTQ+ in their private, public, and/or professional lives.

Pansexual: A person whose emotional, romantic, and/or physical attraction is to people of all gender identities and sexes. Sometimes stated as “pan.”

Queer: Someone whose sexual orientation is not exclusively heterosexual (e.g., queer person, queer woman). Sometimes, the word queer is used as an umbrella term for people who do not identify with the labels of lesbian, gay, bisexual, etc. Once used as a slur by bigots, the word has been “reclaimed” by some LGBT people to describe themselves. Queer is not a universally accepted term even within the LGBT community. Queer can also be used to denote an activist identity label, much like the use of Chicano/a by Mexican-Americans.

Questioning: Someone who is in the process of discovery and exploration about their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or a combination thereof.

Same-gender Loving: A term sometimes used by members of the African-American/Black community to express a sexual orientation (gay/bisexual/lesbian) without relying on terms and symbols of European descent.

Sexual Orientation: Emotional, romantic, or physical feelings toward other people. Avoid the offensive term “sexual preference.”

Concepts Related to LGBTQ+ Rights and Social Justice

Ally: Someone who does not identify as a member of a marginalized group but who is supportive of individuals and communities in that marginalized group. Allies *actively work* to change laws, policies, systems, etc., that will improve the lives of those who are marginalized.

Homophobia: Intolerance, bias, or prejudice of lesbian and gay people that often manifests itself in the form hate, discrimination, or violence. Similarly, there can be biphobia, transphobia, acephobia, intersexphobia. Collectively, these attitudes are referred to as “anti-LGBTQ+ bias.”

Internalized HomolTrans/Bil/Ace-phobia: Self-hate of one’s own LGBTQ+ identity, due to learned negative ideas about LGBTQ+ people. One form of internalized oppression is the acceptance of myths and stereotypes learned about LGBTQ+ people.

Heterosexism/Cissexism: An assumption that all people are or should be heterosexual and cisgender. Heterosexism and cissexism exclude the needs, concerns, and life experiences of LGBTQ+ people and gives advantages to heterosexual and cisgender people. It can be subtle or can be institutionalized in policies, practices, and laws.

Privilege: Unearned access to resources or opportunities only available to some people as a result of their identities.

Heteronormativity: An assumption, by individuals or in institutions, that everyone is heterosexual, and that heterosexuality is a superior orientation.

Intersectionality: A sociological model coined by Black feminist, Kimberlé Crenshaw, which describes how multiple marginalized identities have a compounding impact due to overlapping oppressions. These can be, but are not limited to, race, gender, ethnicity, religion, ability, education, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, class, first language, nationality, and age.

Coming Out: A process by which one acknowledges and shares their sexual orientation and/or gender identity with others. Coming out is an ongoing process that happens each time a person moves, gets a new job, meets new friends, etc.

Social Justice: The concept that the world should be just for all people and the actions people take to make that world closer to that reality.

Outdated and Offensive Terms

Homosexual: An outdated clinical term often considered derogatory and offensive.

Lifestyle: A negative term used by anti-LGBTQ+ people to describe the lives of people who are LGBTQ (i.e., the “gay lifestyle”). The term is disliked because it implies that being LGBTQ+ is a choice.

Sexual Preference: A phrase that is used to negatively refer to a person’s orientation. Again, this phrase is disliked because it suggests a choice.

Hermaphrodite: An outdated medical term used for people who were intersex; now considered offensive and also medically inaccurate.

Transvestite: An outdated and problematic term due to its historical use as a diagnosis for medical/mental health disorders.

Transgendered/Tranny/A transgender: These words are considered slurs and should never be used. Instead, use, for example, “They are transgender.” Or, “She is a transgender woman.”

Definitions Adapted from

GLAAD. (2016). *GLAAD media reference guide* (10th ed.). Retrieved from <http://www.glaad.org/sites/default/files/GLAAD-Media-Reference-Guide-Tenth-Edition.pdf>

National LGBT Health Education Center. (2016). *Glossary of LGBT terms for health care teams*. Retrieved from https://www.lgbthealtheducation.org/wp-content/uploads/LGBT-Glossary_March2016.pdf

PFLAG. (2018). PFLAG national glossary of terms. Retrieved from <https://www.pflag.org/glossary>

EXPLORING SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ+ PATRONS THROUGH LIBRARY-BASED SCENARIOS

Librarians should strive to create organizations, programs, and collections that not only serve LGBTQ+ patrons, but also celebrate and embrace them. To do so requires a shift in mindset from the idea that libraries and librarianship are neutral places for all people. It is simply not true, nor has it ever been. Instead, libraries need to make deliberate, informed actions that demonstrate the organization’s values to its marginalized patrons and communities. In today’s highly polarized political society, there will be repercussions for every decision. Even indecision will have consequences. Due to this, it is important for librarians to consider the following real-world scenarios prior to an incident. Librarians must be proactive in their support of marginalized communities, including LGBTQ+ individuals by making their facilities usable, training their staff to be welcoming, promoting services that are inclusive, and creating collections that are encompassing.

Scenario exercise instructions:

- (1) Read the following scenarios.
- (2) Answer the questions using the information in the scenario or that of your own library.
- (3) Write three action items for each scenario that you could take and three that your library could take.
- (4) Read the Top 5 Steps to Personal Allyship and Top 5 Steps to Organizational Allyship.
- (5) Re-read each scenario.
- (6) Repeat steps 2 and 3 above.
- (7) Reflect on how your answers and action items may have changed or remained the same.

Scenario 1: A woman with make-up, heels, and a purse visits your circulation desk and asks for a library card. When asked for her ID, her driver’s license has a

male name and a male gender marker. Your library assistant accuses the woman of using a stolen ID to try to get a library account. The patron bursts into tears and hurriedly leaves the library.

Questions to consider:

- Are your staff trained to appropriately and empathetically work with transgender patrons?
- Do your systems allow for differing name/gender than official documents?
- Do your staff know the difference between sex, gender, gender identity, and gender roles?
- Do your forms ask for pronouns? Do staff ask patrons how they would like to be addressed?

Scenario 2: A woman rushes to the circulation desk, screaming, “There’s a man in the Ladies’ restroom!” Your staff calls the security officer and they both wait outside of the restroom until the accused person exists. As the patron exists, the woman shouts, “That’s him! There he is! Pervert!” The security officer takes the patron’s arm and begins an interrogation.

Questions to consider:

- What assumptions have the patron, staff, and officer made about the accused based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation?
- What heterosexist and cissexist laws and policies are in place surrounding binary gender restroom use?
- Does your library offer gender neutral or all-gender restrooms?
- Is the accused person likely to visit the library again?

Scenario 3: You are on the executive board of a national library association. Your board is responsible for deciding the upcoming conference location. The conference is currently slated to be held in a state on California’s travel ban list (states that have anti-LGBTQ+ legislation such as Oklahoma, North Carolina, Mississippi, Kansas, Texas, Alabama, South Dakota, Kentucky, and Tennessee).

Questions to consider:

- What statement will your executive board be making by keeping the conference in a banned state?
- What implications will keeping the conference in the banned state have on LGBTQ+ association members?
- Will other members understand if the conference has to be canceled? What if it means the association loses all of its deposits on the conference center and hotels?
- How will LGBTQ+ and ally members living in the banned state feel if the conference is canceled and they are not able to attend the conference (which they were looking forward to because it would be within driving distance for them)?

Scenario 4: You are part of your library's diversity committee at a southern university. In partnership with your campus's LGBTQ Center, the library has agreed to put pronouns on all librarian and staff name badges. The state legislature gets notice that the library is "promoting" gender neutral pronouns. The state holds a hearing and threatens to remove all state funding from the library. The proposed bill also bans the use of pronouns on name badges and email signatures at the university.

Questions to consider:

- How will the library purchase resources if state funds are taken away?
- How will LGBTQ+ and ally students, faculty, and staff feel if the university library removes pronouns after promoting their diversity efforts?
- How are academic freedom and freedom of speech involved?
- Will legislators soon question the LGBTQ+ books, DVDs, databases, and archival materials the library collects?

Scenario 5: You are a school librarian at a small, rural elementary school. A fifth-grade student comes to you and says,

When I go to church, I keep hearing how people who live the 'homosexual lifestyle' are bad. I think I might like boys and girls, but I don't think I'm bad. Do you have any books where the gay people are good?

You remember there being the "Don't Say Gay Bill" a few years ago in the state legislature, which would prohibit teachers and librarians from discussing anything about sexuality except heterosexuality in grades K-8 and would require the teacher inform the student's parents if the student comes out as LGBTQ+.

Questions to consider:

- Does your library have books with positive representations of non-heterosexual and gender nonbinary/expansive characters?
- Could you lose your job by offering the student a book?
- Would you feel obligated to tell her parents? The school counselor? The principal?
- Does your library ever make book displays or reading lists that include LGBTQ+ books?

Top 5 Steps to Personal Allyship to LGBTQ+ Individuals

- (1) Do not assume a person's orientation or gender identity.
- (2) Use the labels and pronouns people use for themselves.
- (3) Commit to continual learning, understanding, and self-reflection.
- (4) Resist becoming defensive if you make a mistake. Apologize and promise to do better.
- (5) Fight for equitable laws, policies, and the treatment of LGBTQ+ people.

Top 5 Steps to Organizational Allyship to LGBTQ+ Patrons and Communities

- (1) Create spaces that are functional for, and welcoming and representative of LGBTQ+ people.
- (2) Develop collections that portray the diversity and lived experiences of the LGBTQ+ community.
- (3) Develop services and programming that center the marginalized within LGBTQ+ communities – Black, Latinx, People of Color, Transgender, those with disabilities, etc.
- (4) Train your staff to effectively and respectfully serve LGBTQ+ patrons.
- (5) Remember that it is the impact that your library has, not your library's intent (i.e., good intentions do not lessen negative impacts on individuals or the community).

TOP 25 US LGBTQ+ WEB RESOURCES FOR LIBRARIANS TO BECOME LGBTQ+ ALLIES

The following web resources were chosen to assist librarians who want to become better allies for LGBTQ+ patrons and communities. While thousands of LGBTQ+ organizations and resource websites now exist, these provide the most comprehensive information and should be go-to resources for learning about and keeping abreast of LGBTQ+ issues. Like with all selected lists, this compilation has limitations. In addition to being limited to the “Top 25,” another limitation is that it is US-based. LGBTQ+ people and communities are located within their own national and local domains, so resources pertaining to them are specific to those settings. The author of this list is located within the United States and, thus, has selected resources based on her localized knowledge.

Another limitation of this list is that the largest and most far-reaching organizations often repeat issues of larger society, such as being mainly male-dominated, white, and cisgender. These organizations do not always reflect or represent the more marginalized parts of the LGBTQ+ community (i.e., people of color, transgender people, undocumented, people with disabilities, poor, homeless, rural, indigenous, etc.). After learning the basics by using these resources, librarians should continue their education by finding LGBTQ+ resources specific to the populations and communities that they are serving.

The resources selected represent five main categories: advocacy, youth, legal, policy, and libraries and archives. In addition to a one sentence description of the resource, the author has provided a description of the most useful and/or unique aspects of each site.

Advocacy

National Center for Transgender Rights, <https://transequality.org/>

Description: The leading social justice advocacy for transgender people in the United States.

Noteworthy: Laws for all states regarding changing ID documents such as licenses, passports, names, birth certificates.

National LGBT Taskforce, <http://www.thetaskforce.org/>

Description: America's oldest advocacy organization.

Noteworthy: Take Action section has updates on pending legislation and allows users to quickly send letters and petitions to lawmakers.

Human Rights Campaign (HRC), <https://hrc.org>

Description: HRC is probably the well-recognized US LGBTQ+ advocacy organizations.

Noteworthy: Metropolitan Equality Index and Corporate Equality Index are quick reference scorecards for LGBTQ+ policies and laws within cities and companies.

Asexual Visibility and Education Network (AVEN), <https://www.asexuality.org/>

Description: The largest online group for asexuals, AVEN's goals are to create public acceptance and facilitate the growth of an asexual community.

Noteworthy: Discussion forums allow for individuals to ask questions and discuss asexuality.

PFLAG, <https://www.pflag.org/>

Description: Initially Parents, Friends, Family of Lesbians and Gays, PFLAG is the largest organization for LGBTQ+ allies in the United States.

Noteworthy: Find a chapter page allows you to find or start a PFLAG group in your locale.

Sage, <https://www.sageusa.org/>

Description: An advocacy organization for LGBTQ+ seniors.

Noteworthy: National Resource Center on LGBT Aging is the country's first and only technical assistance resource center for LGBTQ+ older adults.

Youth

GLSEN, <https://www.glsen.org/>

Description: A policy, research, and advocacy organization focused on K-12 LGBTQ+ students.

Noteworthy: Biennial National School Climate Survey provides statistics for LGBTQ+ learning environments in the United States.

Trevor Project, <https://www.thetrevorproject.org>

Description: An organization focused on crisis intervention and suicide prevention for LGBTQ+ youth under 25.

Noteworthy: A 24/7 crisis hotline for LGBTQ+ youth called Trevor Lifeline 866-488-7386.

InterACT, Advocates for Intersex Youth, <https://interactadvocates.org/>

Description: An organization focused on legal and medical rights for children born with intersex traits.

Noteworthy: A set of brochures for teachers, doctors, parents, friends, and media, along with an Intersex 101 guide.

TSER, Trans Student Educational Resources, <http://www.transstudent.org/>

Description: A national organization led by transgender youth focused on education and advocacy.

Noteworthy: Infographics that easily explain gender topics, including the famed Gender Unicorn that teaches about romantic and sexual orientation, gender expression, and gender identity.

Campus Pride, <https://www.campuspride.org/>

Description: A national organization for students and their allies on college campuses.

Noteworthy: The Campus Pride Index is an overall rating of institutional commitment to LGBTQ-inclusive policy, program, and practice.

COLAGE, <https://www.colage.org/>

Description: A national organization for children of LGBTQ+ parents and caregivers.

Noteworthy: An online resources center with documentaries, books, articles, and more for and about children with LGBTQ+ parents.

LGBT History Month, <https://lgbthistorymonth.com>

Description: Sponsored by the organization, Equality Forum, the site creates resources to educate youth about LGBTQ+ history.

Noteworthy: An annual collection of 31 LGBTQ+ icons posted in October, which is LGBTQ History Month in the United States.

Legal

Lambda Legal, <https://www.lambdalegal.org/>

Description: The first legal organization in the United States working to secure rights for LGBTQ+ people.

Noteworthy: A state-by-state guide of laws that affect LGBTQ+ people with links to state codes; Legal Help Desk to submit legal questions.

Transgender Law Center, <https://transgenderlawcenter.org/>

Description: A trans-led organization dealing with legal rights for transgender people.

Noteworthy: A series of brochures about workplace rights for transgender people.

National Center for Lesbian Rights, <http://www.nclrights.org/>

Description: A national organization focused on LGBTQ+ rights through litigation, policy, and legislation.

Noteworthy: A state legislation and policy archives that allows one to search or browse by topic.

Policy and Research

Movement Advancement Project (MAP), <http://www.lgbtmap.org/>

Description: An independent think tank that provides research and analysis on LGBTQ+ policies.

Noteworthy: Equality Maps provide a visual map of the United States with policies and laws for topics such as antidiscrimination laws, adoption laws, bullying, hate crime laws, etc.

National LGBT Health Education Center, <https://www.lgbthealtheducation.org/>

Description: A program of the Fenway Institute that publishes research and offers training opportunities for healthcare professionals.

Noteworthy: A resource page with reports, training videos, and learning modules for physicians and health care staff to treat LGBTQ+ patients.

The Williams Institute, <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/>

Description: A think tank at UCLA Law that focuses on research on LGBTQ+ laws and policy.

Noteworthy: One of the only sites that offers research and statistics on LGBTQ+ demographics and census level data.

Libraries and Archives

Stonewall Book Awards, <http://www.ala.org/rt/glbtrt/award/stonewall>

Description: Awards for LGBTQ+ books, sponsored by the American Library Association's (ALA) GLBT Round Table.

The Rainbow Books List, <https://www.glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow/>

Description: Annual bibliography of quality books with significant and authentic LGBTQ+ content, which are recommended for people from birth to 18 years old, compiled by ALA's GLBT Round Table.

Over the Rainbow Books, <https://www.glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow/>

Description: A list of books for adult readers compiled by ALA's GLBT Round Table.

LGBTQ+ Libraries and Archives, <http://www.ala.org/rt/glbtrt/tools>

Description: A visual Google map of more than 80 LGBTQ+ libraries and archives in the United States.

Williams Institute Reading Room, <http://libguides.law.ucla.edu/williamsreadingroom>

Description: A listing of more than 100 LGBTQ+ documentaries.

LGBT History | Digital Collaboratory, <http://lgbtqdigitalcollaboratory.org/>

Description: A listing of LGBTQ+ oral histories in Canada and the United States.