

TeachME Professional Development

Supporting LGBT Children and Their Families

Introduction

1. A new family-oriented approach to services and care requires practitioners to proactively engage and work with families with LGBT children and adolescents, and includes each of the following characteristics EXCEPT:

- A. Providing accurate information on sexual orientation and gender identity for parents and caregivers early in their child's development
 - B. Engaging, educating, counseling, and making appropriate referrals for families with LGBT children
 - C. Giving families the tools they need to learn to support their LGBT children by seeing the importance of changing the values or deeply-held beliefs that are hurting their children
 - D. Helping parents and caregivers who react to their LGBT children with ambivalence and rejection understand how their reactions contribute to health risks for their LGBT children
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Definitions

2. The terms gender non-conforming and gender variant refer to a person whose gender expression differs from how their family, culture, or society expects them to behave, dress, and act.

- A. True
 - B. False
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Earlier Ages of Awareness & Coming Out

3. Practitioners who work with transgender and gender nonconforming children and youth note that gender identity is expressed at an early age, most often by:

- A. Age 3
 - B. Age 5
 - C. Age 7
 - D. Age 9
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Critical Role of Families in Reducing Risk & Promoting Well-Being

4. A recent in-depth study of LGBT adolescents and families found that parents and caregivers who are perceived as rejecting their LGBT children and who engage in rejecting behaviors are motivated by fear as well as negative outside influences.

- A. True
 - B. False
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Figure 1: Family Acceptance Project-Core Assumptions

5. Recent awareness had led experts to promote _____ framework to align research findings, education, and prevention messages with the parents' and caregivers' values about family, and the role of family in their culture and religious practice.

- A. A complementary
 - B. A strengths
 - C. An advocacy
 - D. A goal-oriented
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Helping Families Decrease Risk & Increase Well-Being for Their LGBT Children

6. One of the primary mechanisms for change is helping families understand that there is a powerful relationship between their words, actions, and behaviors and their LGBT child's risk and well-being.

- A. True
 - B. False
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Educate Families on Supportive and Accepting Behaviors

7. A critical message that needs to be promoted among LGBT parents is that simply loving their children will build their child's self-esteem and protect them from harm.

- A. True
 - B. False
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Framing for Families That Are Struggling or Uncertain About Having an LGBT Child

8. Which of the following is an accurate statement about how rejection relates to risk for LGBT children?

- A. LGBT youth from highly rejecting families were approximately 6 times more likely than other youth to report having attempted suicide at least once by young adulthood
 - B. Nearly all young adults who reported high levels of family acceptance believed they could have a good life as an LGBT young adult, compared with only about 1 in 4 of their peers who reported no acceptance from their caregivers during adolescence
 - C. Those from families that were moderately rejecting were twice as likely to attempt suicide compared with peers who reported no or low levels of specific family rejecting behaviors
 - D. All of the above
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Increasing Family Support: How to Help Right Now

9. One way to make immediate impact is to provide education, support, and counseling to parents, families, foster parents, and caregivers who are engaging in rejecting behaviors so that they may begin to understand the impact of their behaviors on their LGBT child.

- A. True
 - B. False
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Supporting Your LGBTQ Youth: A Guide for Foster Parents

10. Of the approximately 175,000 youth ages 10-18 in foster care in the United States, an estimated _____, and likely more, are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (LGBTQ).

- A. 3 to 5 percent
 - B. 5 to 10 percent
 - C. 10 to 15 percent
 - D. 15 to 20 percent
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11. One of the common misconceptions about LGBTQ youth in foster care is that their experiences are similar to those of other foster care youth, when in fact they've likely been exposed to very different trauma and life experiences.

- A. True
 - B. False
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LGBTQ Youth and the Child Welfare System

12. Although some LGBTQ youth enter the child welfare system for the same reasons that other children and youth enter care, others enter because they are rejected, neglected, or abused by their families of origin when it is discovered that they identify as LGBTQ.

- A. True
 - B. False
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13. Which of the following is NOT one of the recommendations for creating a welcoming home environment for LGBTQ youth?

- A. Use gender-neutral language when asking about relationships
 - B. Celebrate diversity in all forms, and point out those who stand up for the LGBTQ community and who demonstrate bravery in the face of social stigma
 - C. Support the youth's self-expression through choices of clothing, jewelry, hairstyle, friends, and room decoration
 - D. Although children should be able to display LGBTQ-friendly symbols in their own space, it is not recommended that family members do this, as the young person may view the display as exploitative or an invasion of privacy
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14. An important recommendation for foster parents is to respect the youth's confidentiality and allow him or her to decide when to come out and to whom.

- A. True
 - B. False
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Health Care and Mental Health Providers

15. When the LGBTQ youth seeks mental health counseling, the caretaker should ensure that the clinician prioritizes issues related to sexual orientation or gender identity.

- A. True
 - B. False
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