

Geisinger

YOU CAN HELP END HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA

Homophobia is an umbrella term for a range of negative attitudes (fear, anger, hatred, intolerance, resentment, erasure, discomfort, etc.) that one may have towards members of the LGBTQ community. The term can also connote a fear, disgust or dislike of being perceived as LGBTQ.

Transphobia is the fear of, discrimination against, or hatred of trans* people, the trans* community, or gender ambiguity.

You can help end homophobia and transphobia. Here are some helpful tips:

- Acknowledge LGBTQ experiences and points of view as valid
- Reflect and be honest about your own fears
- Rely on personal experience, not stereotypes
- Be aware of derogatory comments and ask that they stop
- Ask questions if you want to know something, but be aware that LGBTQ people have the right to not answer extremely personal questions
- Know that everyone has a sexual identity and gender orientation
- Respect LGBTQ people's privacy – "outing" someone is not acceptable
- Acknowledge partners in the same way you would if they were a heterosexual couple

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