

## Some Common Terms

**Sexual Orientation** - The desire for intimate emotional and sexual relationships with people of the same sex (homosexual), the other sex (heterosexual), or both sexes (bisexual).

**Gender Identity** - A person's sense of being male or female.

**Gay** - The adjective used to describe people who are physically romantically, and/or emotionally attracted to people of the same sex.

**Lesbian** - A woman whose enduring physical, romantic, emotional and/or spiritual attraction is to other women.

**Bisexual** - An individual who is physically, romantically, emotionally and/or spiritually attracted to men and women.

**Transgender** - An umbrella term for people whose gender identity and/or gender expression differs from the sex they were assigned at birth.

**Transsexual** - A person who has changed, or is in the process of changing, his or her physical sex to conform to his or her internal sense of gender identity.

**Heterosexism** - The assumption that everyone is heterosexual, and that heterosexuality is superior to homosexuality or bisexuality.

**Questioning** - A term or period where an individual re-assesses (however privately or openly) the orientation/identity that they have either asserted for themselves, or been brought up as.

**Intersex** - Describing a person whose biological sex is ambiguous.

## Imagine this...

Imagine that you have met the perfect person - a soul mate. You love spending time with them because they make you laugh and they complete you. There is only one catch - you can't tell ANYONE!! You can't bring this person home to meet your parents and family and you can't tell any of your other friends about this person.

This is what many GLBTQ individuals experience throughout their entire lives.

Think about how this would make you feel. What do you do? Where do you go? Who do you talk to?



## References/Contacts

- [www.padiversity.org](http://www.padiversity.org)
- QuEST - Downstairs Farinon QuEST Room
  - [spaces.lafayette.edu](http://spaces.lafayette.edu)
  - enroll in "QuEST" using your Laf ID
- Counseling Center - x5005
- Human Rights Campaign
  - [www.hrc.org](http://www.hrc.org)
- [www.campuspride.org](http://www.campuspride.org)

**WELCOME  
TO A....**

**SAFE  
ZONE**

