



spotlight on...PRIDE month!

Gay pride, or LGBT pride, is the positive stance against discrimination and violence toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQQ) people. It promotes their self-affirmation, dignity and equal rights, while increasing visibility as a social group to celebrate sexual and gender diversity. Pride, as opposed to shame and social stigma, is the predominant outlook that bolsters most LGBTQQ rights movements throughout the world. From the first pride event in 1970, events have ranged from solemn to "carnavalesque," and are typically held during LGBTQQ Pride Month or some other period that commemorates a turning point in a country's LGBTQQ history.

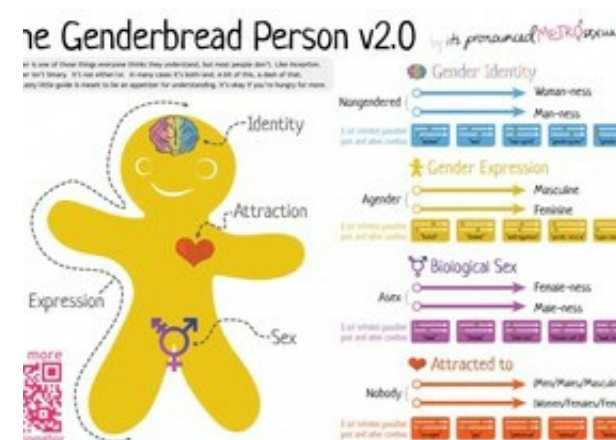
The value of Pride is illustrated by this recollection from one of ACS/Outlet's supporters, who recalls participating in his first NYC Pride March 35 years ago in 1980. "I was overwhelmed with a sense of empowerment and self-assertion, yet also fear, knowing that if any of my bosses saw me marching, I could be fired. As we came within a block of the office building where I worked - a major international accounting firm - I was acutely aware of the performance evaluation I had recently been given, when they told me I was a splendid employee, and that they had no problem with my being gay, but they were concerned that clients might be troubled; so they asked me to 'tone things down'. Participating in the march was my response -- "You don't get to tell me who to be - I am PROUD of who and how I am."

blog feature:

Understanding the New Norms of Gender Identity
Written By: [Dafne Luna](#), [Outlet Program Coordinator](#)

While our society continues to move forward towards a more inclusive, safe and equal society, we are constantly re-evaluating and interpreting how we exist in the world. As a queer woman, and a service provider for LGBTQQ youth, I need to be up to date on how the youth in our community define their existence. The way in which younger generations define gender, sex, and sexuality is shifting, as is public discourse surrounding these topics. These changes have impacted our world in such a powerful manner that policies on a local, state, and national level are changing to adopt new definitions in the LGBTQQ realm. My hope is that these new concepts will help establish a common foundation for the discussion that will continue to expand our ideas of gender, sex, and sexuality.

[Read the full blog post here!](#)



June 13th, 2015 | San Mateo Pride!

11 am to 6 pm, San Mateo Central Park

Outlet youth will be participating in this Pride festival by setting up an information booth that teaches the community about sexuality and gender identity. The Outlet booth will also include a Gender Clothing Swap!

FRAMELINE Film Festival

Outlet's youth and De Ambiente groups are able to attend the annual San Francisco LGBT FRAMELINE film festival for the third year in a row thanks to generously donated tickets! Known for its landmark showcase of LGBT cinema, the festival takes place June 18th-28th at varying locations in the city.

Save the Date!

Out to Eat
Friday, October 30, 2015 | 6-10 pm
Oshman Family JCC
3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto, CA

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