



The Acadami

Ignite. Elevate. Empower.

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Unique Considerations for LGBTQ folks within CSEC services



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Objectives

- Brief Review of LGBTQ appropriate language and concepts; engaging with LGBTQ folks
 - Introduction to Intersectionality
- Identify the intersection of CSEC and LGBTQ identities
- Identify and address, solutions for unique hardships for lgbtq folks; solutions for barriers to:
 - High risk factors
 - Accessing services
 - Increasing engagement
 - Unique trafficker/exploiter tactics
- Identify and address regional, cultural, and other impacts on risk
 - Learn LGBTQ affirming/specific resources



Housekeeping

- This is NOT a LGBTQ 101
- We will bio break around 10/10:30
- We will end at 12 but I will be available for open conversation until 1230
- For information and resources, please visit www.theacadami.com/csec-series
 - To request a certificate of completion, there is button on that same site and/or e-mail betty@childrensfund.org with the confirmation or a screenshot of your completed post-training survey
 - **You MUST complete the survey to receive the certificate for hours – this serves as “proof of attendance”**
 - If there are any issues with the site, please contact info@theacadami.com asap

Ami, post this in the chat!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AcadamiCSECSeries>

Already attended a learning co...

If you were unable to complete your evaluation previously, please

Need certifi... atten... hour...

Click Here

Power Points PDFs:

Let's Chat!
⚡ We'll reply as soon as we can

Source: <https://www.theacadami.com/csec-series>

Web Viewer [Terms](#) | [Privacy & Cookies](#)



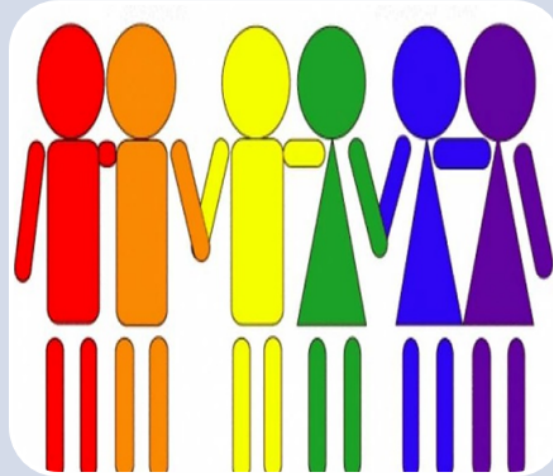
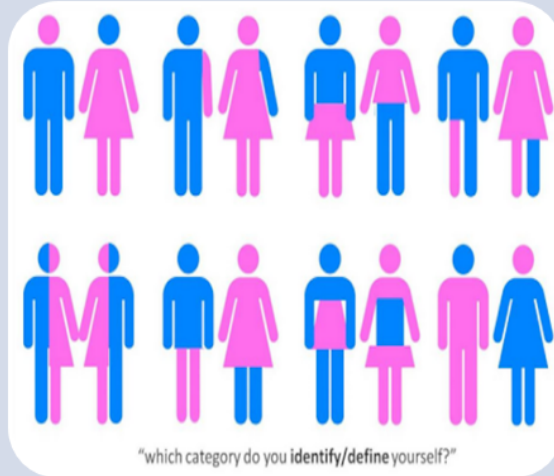
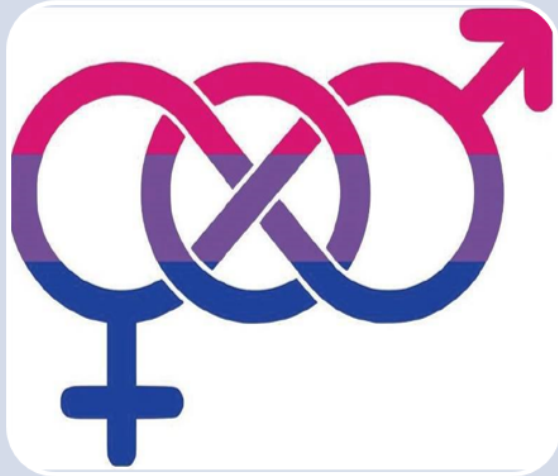
*Trigger warning
&
Safe Space for all*



CONCEPTS

Sex Vs. Gender Vs. Orientation Vs. Expression





Sex

Biological
Assigned at Birth

- Male
- Female
- Intersex



Gender

How one relates to themselves

Regardless of bio. sex

Vast & Cultural

- Neutral/Fluid/Queer
- Cis/Trans
- Third/Cultural



Orientation

• The “direction of one’s affection”

- Heterosexual
- Homosexual
 - Lesbian/Gay
- Bisexual
- Pansexual
- Asexual



Expression

The way the someone is comfortable presenting themselves

- Hair style
- Clothing
- The way we walk, the way we talk, the way we engage with other people



Language



"We need common language to help us create awareness and understanding..."

-Dr. Brene' Brown

"Our language shapes what we see..."

– Vishen Lakhiani

The Code of the Extraordinary Mind





natgeotv.com

Gender in other cultures
Gender Revolution: A Journey with Katie Couric, National Geographic(1:18:30)

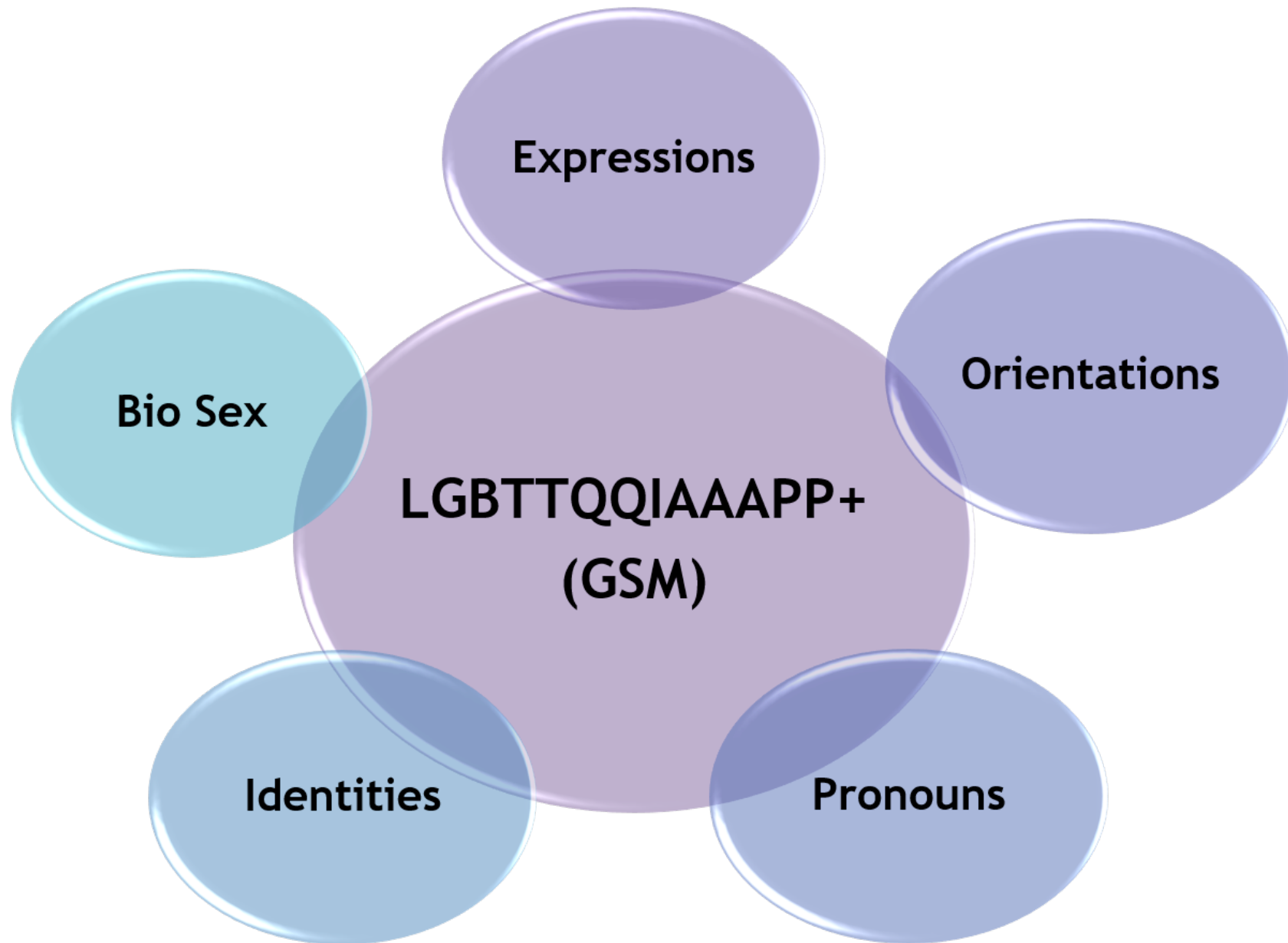
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Third
Gender





Stereotypes, Gender Roles

- **Interrupting what is all around us:**
 - Gender is all around us “fishbowl”
 - Expectations, roles are taught from very young
- **Trans Children Vs. Gender Variant Examples:**
 - 3-year old: “I can’t wait to be a boy”
 - 1st Grader starts wearing dresses
- VS
 - Body Dysmorphia
 - Gender Identity Dysphoria (GID)
- **Talking to Children about this...**
 - “Are you a boy or girl?”
 - Professional or Preschooler?



LatinX
Afro-Latinx
Mx.



Dictionary

Search for a word



in·ter·sec·tion·al·i·ty

/ˌɪn(t)ərsekSHəˈnalədē/


noun

noun: **intersectionality**; plural noun: **intersectionalities**

the interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class, and gender as they apply to a given individual or group, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage.

"through an awareness of intersectionality, we can better acknowledge and ground the differences among us"





**It wasn't easy, not at all,
because of the fact that.**

Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)



CSEC – Who is at risk & why?

- Foster Youth
- **LGBTQ Folks**
 - **Especially Transgender women**
 - **“Gay for pay”**
- Victims of sexual abuse
 - Unstable home life
 - Experience with abusive relationship(s)
- Undocumented/Immigrants
- **“Throwaways”**
 - **Kicked out**
- **Homeless/runaway youth**
- Unstable Homelife
- Poverty
- Anyone!!!

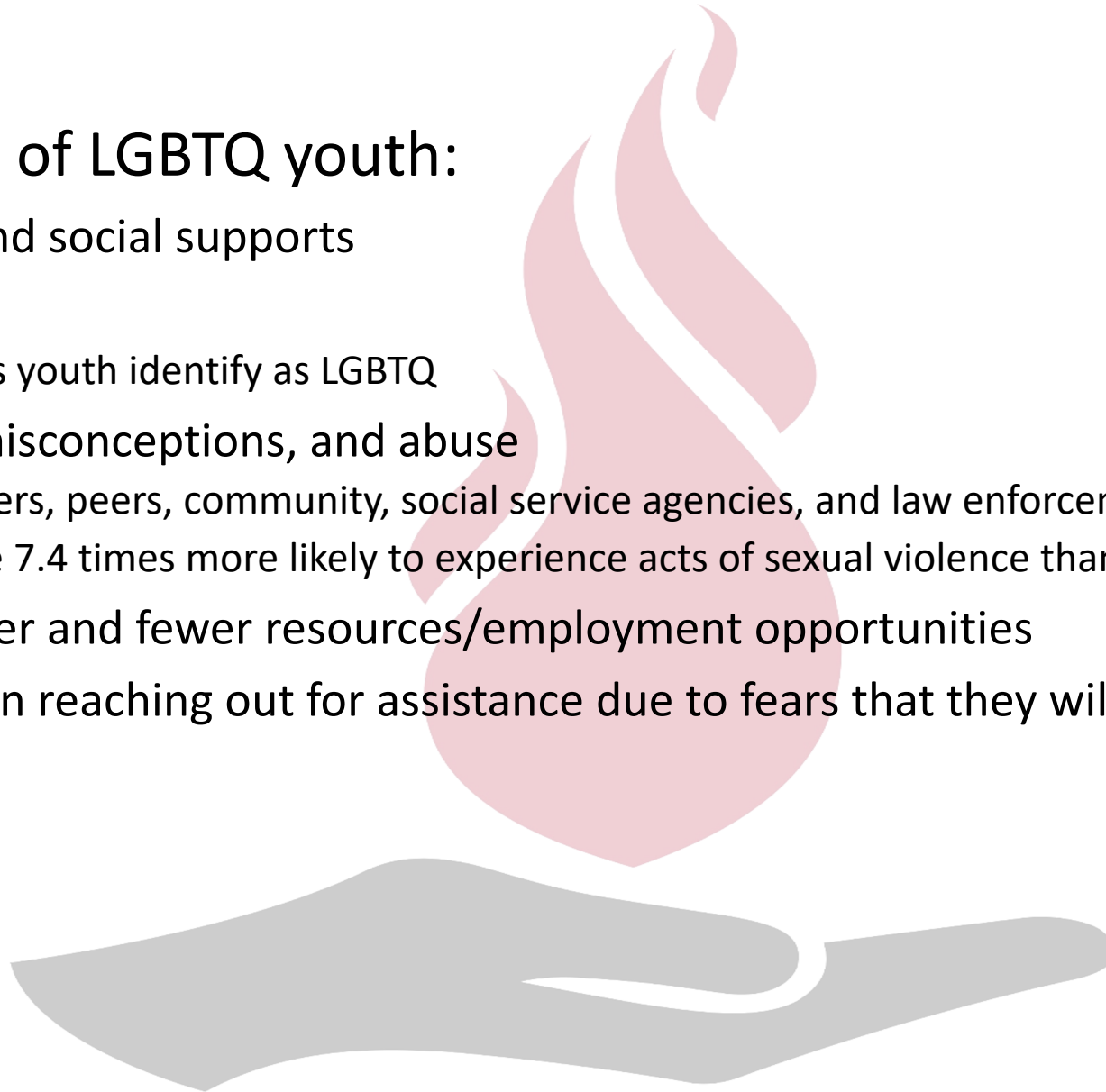


Individual	Relationship	Community	Societal
<p>History of child abuse, neglect, and maltreatment</p> <p>Homeless, runaway, or “throwaway youth”</p> <p>LGBT youth</p> <p>History of systems involvement (e.g., juvenile justice, child welfare)</p> <p>Stigma and discrimination</p>	<p>Family conflict, disruption, dysfunction</p>	<p>Peer pressure</p> <p>Social norms</p> <p>Social isolation</p> <p>Gang involvement</p> <p>Under-resourced schools, neighborhoods, communities</p>	<p>Lack of awareness of commercial exploitation and sex trafficking</p> <p>Sexualization of children</p> <p>Lack of resources</p>



Vulnerabilities of LGBTQ youth:

- Lack of familial and social supports
- Homelessness
 - 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ
- Discrimination, misconceptions, and abuse
 - By family members, peers, community, social service agencies, and law enforcement.
 - LGBTQ youth are 7.4 times more likely to experience acts of sexual violence than their straight peers.
- Lack of safe shelter and fewer resources/employment opportunities
- Difficulty or fear in reaching out for assistance due to fears that they will be mistreated or not believed.



Unique Trafficker Tactics

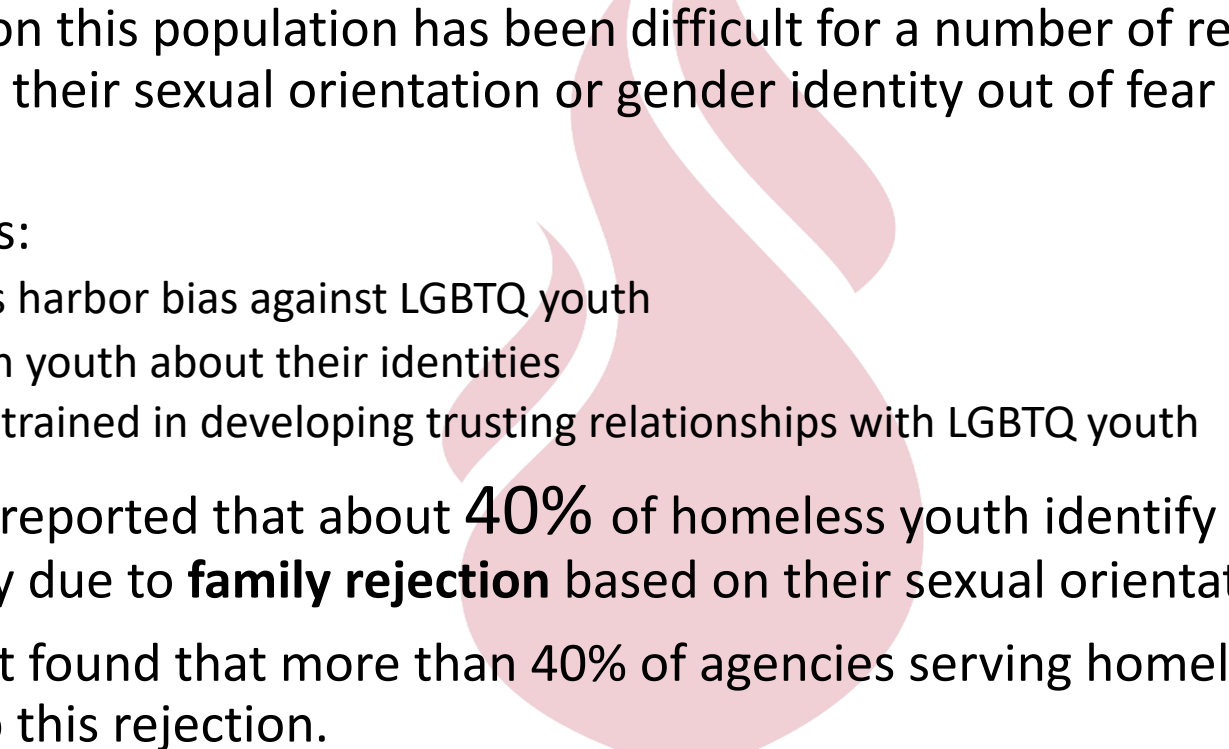
- “Survival Sex” (3-7x more likely)
 - One Canadian study found homeless LGBT youth were three times more likely to engage in survival sex as compared to their homeless heterosexual counterparts.
- Outing
- Lack of visibility
 - Lack of systematic approach to screen for lgbtq youth and boys
- System involvement
 - In foster system = further exclusion, ridicule = homelessness = target for exploiter
 - Over-representation in justice system
- More than 1 in 4 homeless lgbtq children have been trafficked (close to half of gay or bisexual **boys**)



Research conducted in 2008 by [Dr. Angela Irvine](#), NCCD's director of research:

- a disproportionate number (**15%**) of youth in detention identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, questioning, and/or gender non-conforming.
- Lesbian, bisexual, and questioning girls are twice as likely as their heterosexual peers to be held for prostitution (**11%**) compared with 5%.
- Only 1% of heterosexual boys are detained for prostitution compared with **10%** of their gay, bisexual, or questioning peers.



- 
- Data collection on this population has been difficult for a number of reasons (e.g., many youth do not self-disclose their sexual orientation or gender identity out of fear of harassment and/or discrimination;
 - Provider Barriers:
 - many providers harbor bias against LGBTQ youth
 - do not question youth about their identities
 - and/or are not trained in developing trusting relationships with LGBTQ youth
 - A recent survey reported that about **40%** of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ, and they are homeless mostly due to **family rejection** based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.
 - This same report found that more than 40% of agencies serving homeless youth do not address issues related to this rejection.



WARNING

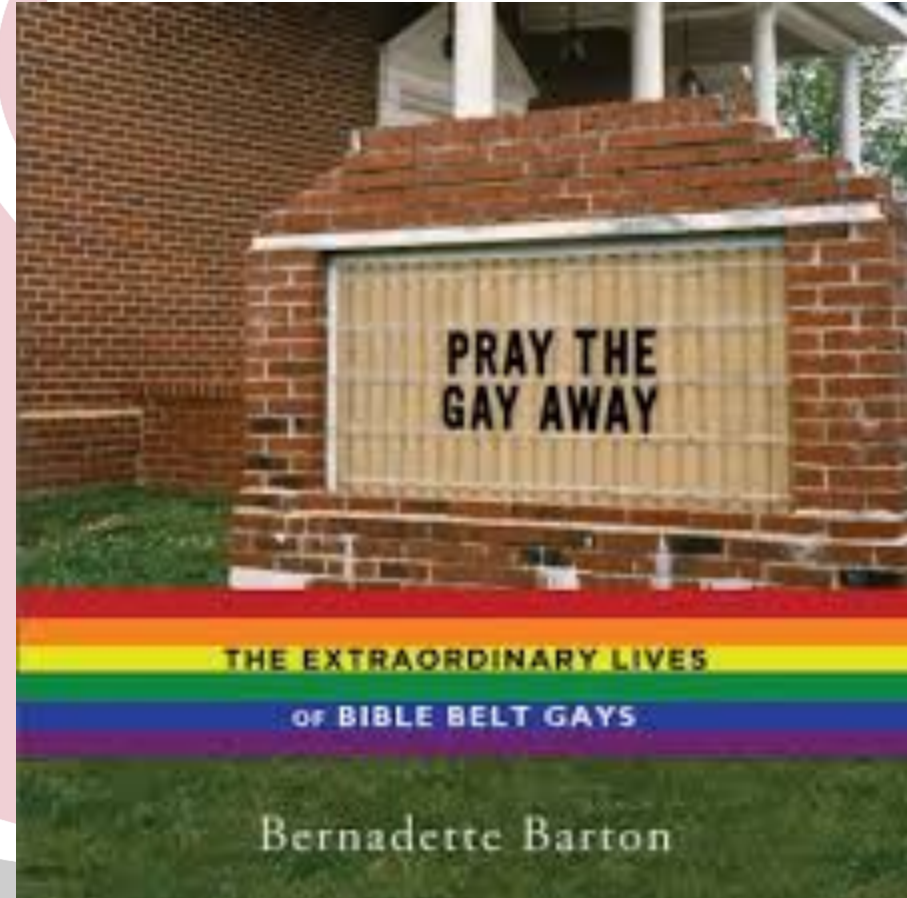
Disturbing images



Relationship(s) –
History with service providers



“Pray the gay away”



Conversion “Therapy”



Overcoming Barriers to Service



3. Do you consider yourself to be:

- ☐ Heterosexual or straight
- ☐ Homosexual
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

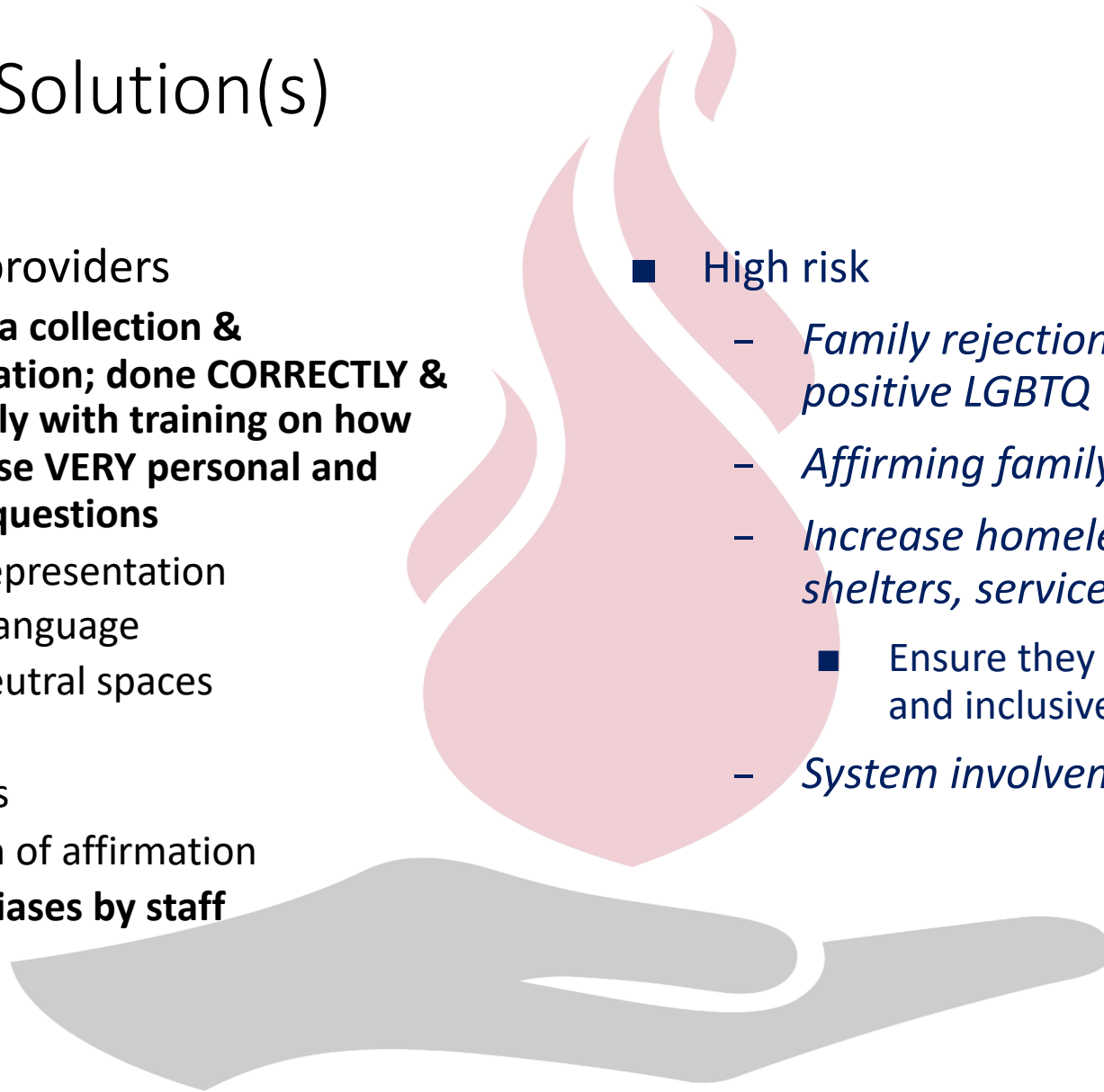
4. Do you consider yourself to be transgender?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No



Barrier(s) – Solution(s)

- Distrust of providers
 - **SOGIE data collection & representation; done CORRECTLY & respectfully with training on how to ask these VERY personal and sensitive questions**
 - Physical representation
 - Inclusive language
 - Gender neutral spaces
 - **Training**
 - Awareness
 - Promotion of affirmation
 - **Address biases by staff**
- High risk
 - *Family rejection: increase positive LGBTQ visibility*
 - *Affirming family counseling*
 - *Increase homeless youth shelters, services*
 - Ensure they are affirming and inclusive
 - *System involvement*



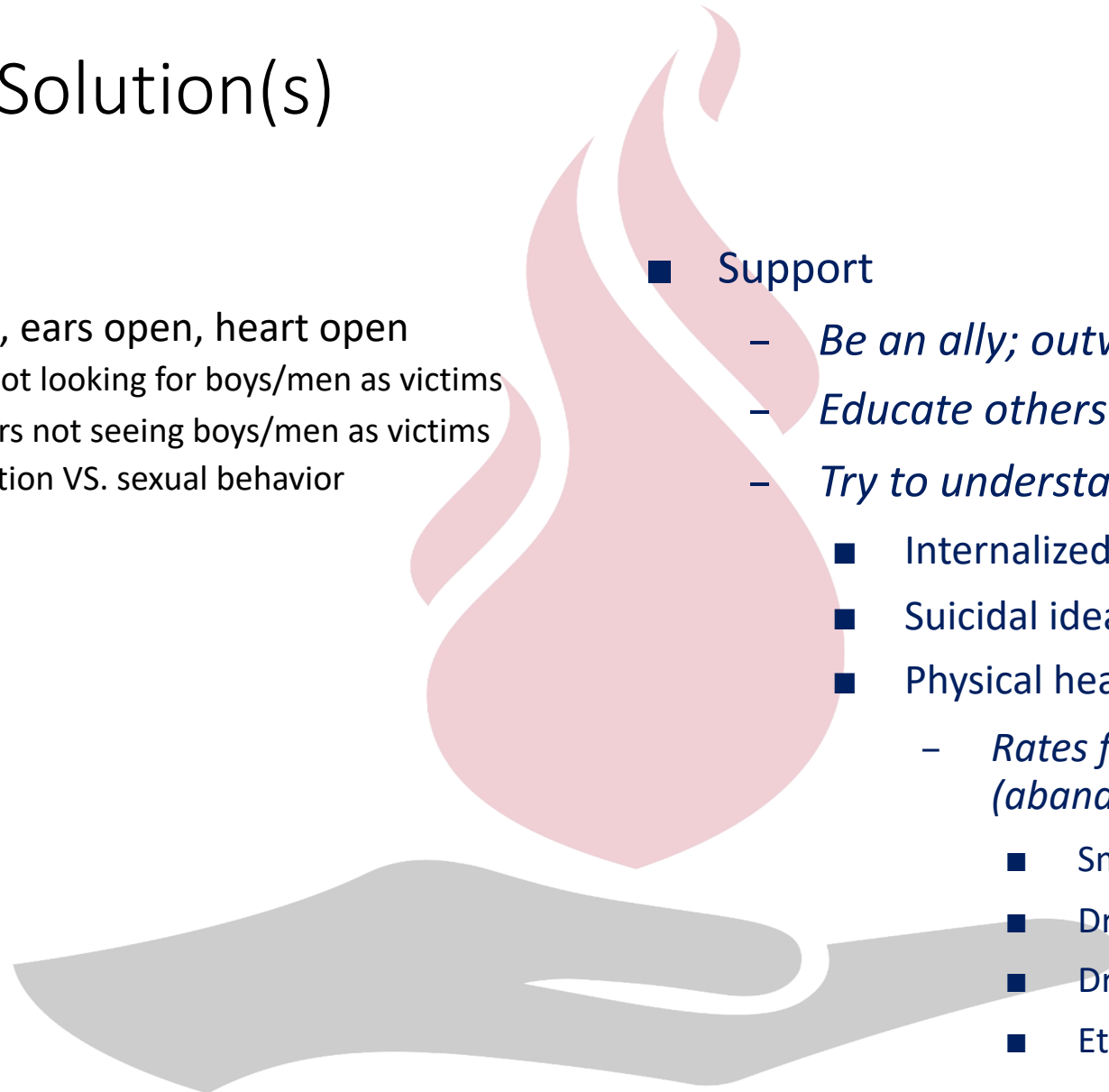
Barrier(s) – Solution(s)

- Visibility

- Eyes open, ears open, heart open
 - Police not looking for boys/men as victims
 - Providers not seeing boys/men as victims
 - Orientation VS. sexual behavior

- Support

- *Be an ally; outwardly*
- *Educate others*
- *Try to understand unique hardships*
 - Internalized homophobia
 - Suicidal ideation, mental health struggles
 - Physical health hardships and trends
 - *Rates for high risk lifestyles& why (abandonment, abuse)*
 - Smoking
 - Drinking
 - Drug use as coping
 - Etc...



What to do for LGBTQ youth who are/were trafficked:

- Do not assume that all youth are heterosexual and/or gender-conforming
 - Avoid heteronormative, cis-normative language/behaviors
- Do not assume that LGBTQ youth are identifiable by stereotypical “looks”, habits, mannerisms, or behaviors;
- Use gender-neutral language with all youth and ask what pronouns they prefer
- Respect the privacy pertaining to their gender identity or sexual orientation as this may have not been disclosed to a parent or primary caretakers;
- Offer the victim support or referrals to vetted LGBTQ resources in the area.
- Remember that people are more than their experiences and their Queer identity may be a big piece of their story, it may not

LET THEM LEAD



Listen.



FIRST, DO NO
HARM.



Questions?





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Please visit:

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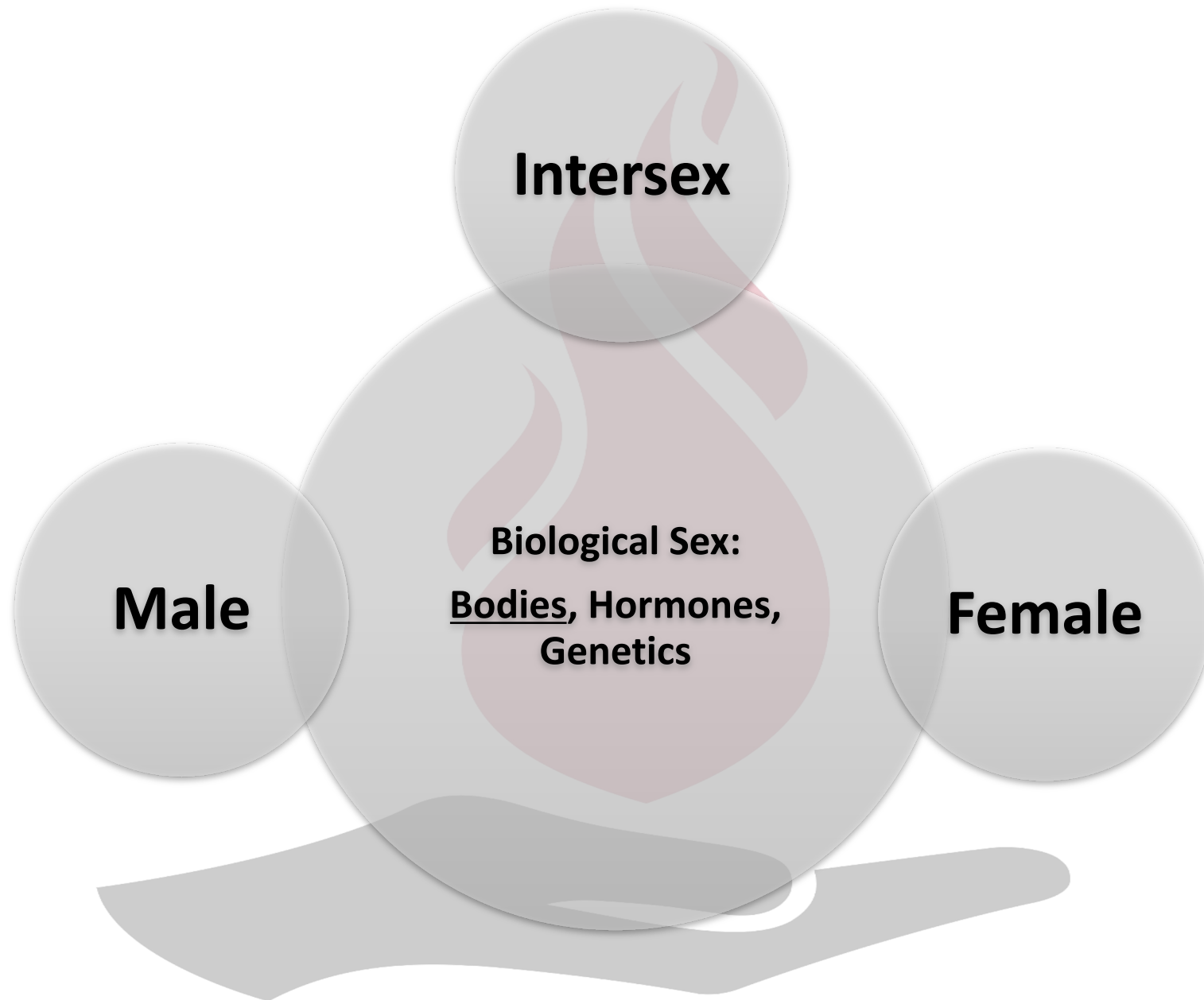
Be sure to watch:

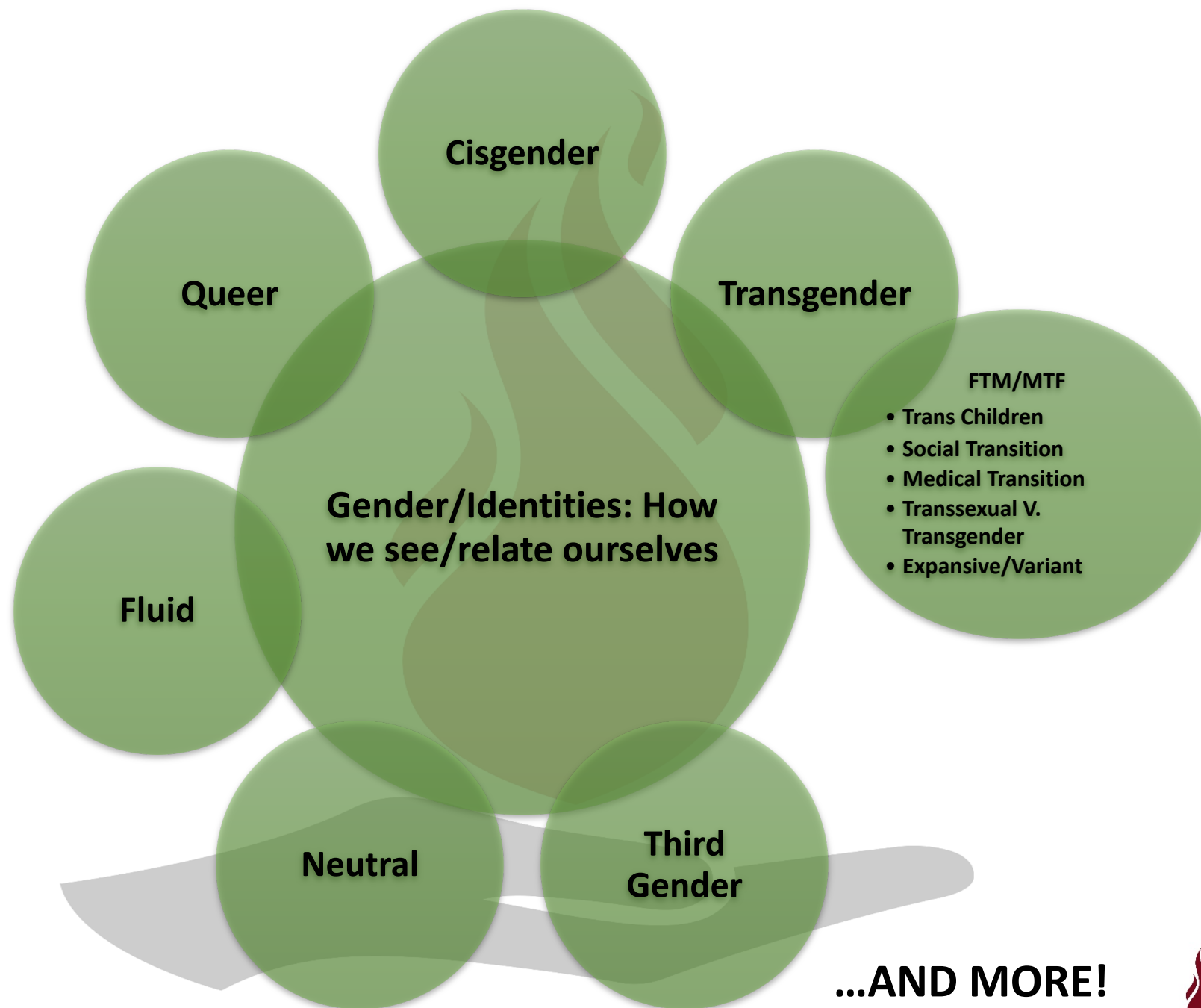
Gender Revolution (Netflix)

Stanford Prison Experiments (Netflix)

El Canto Del Colibri (link on site)

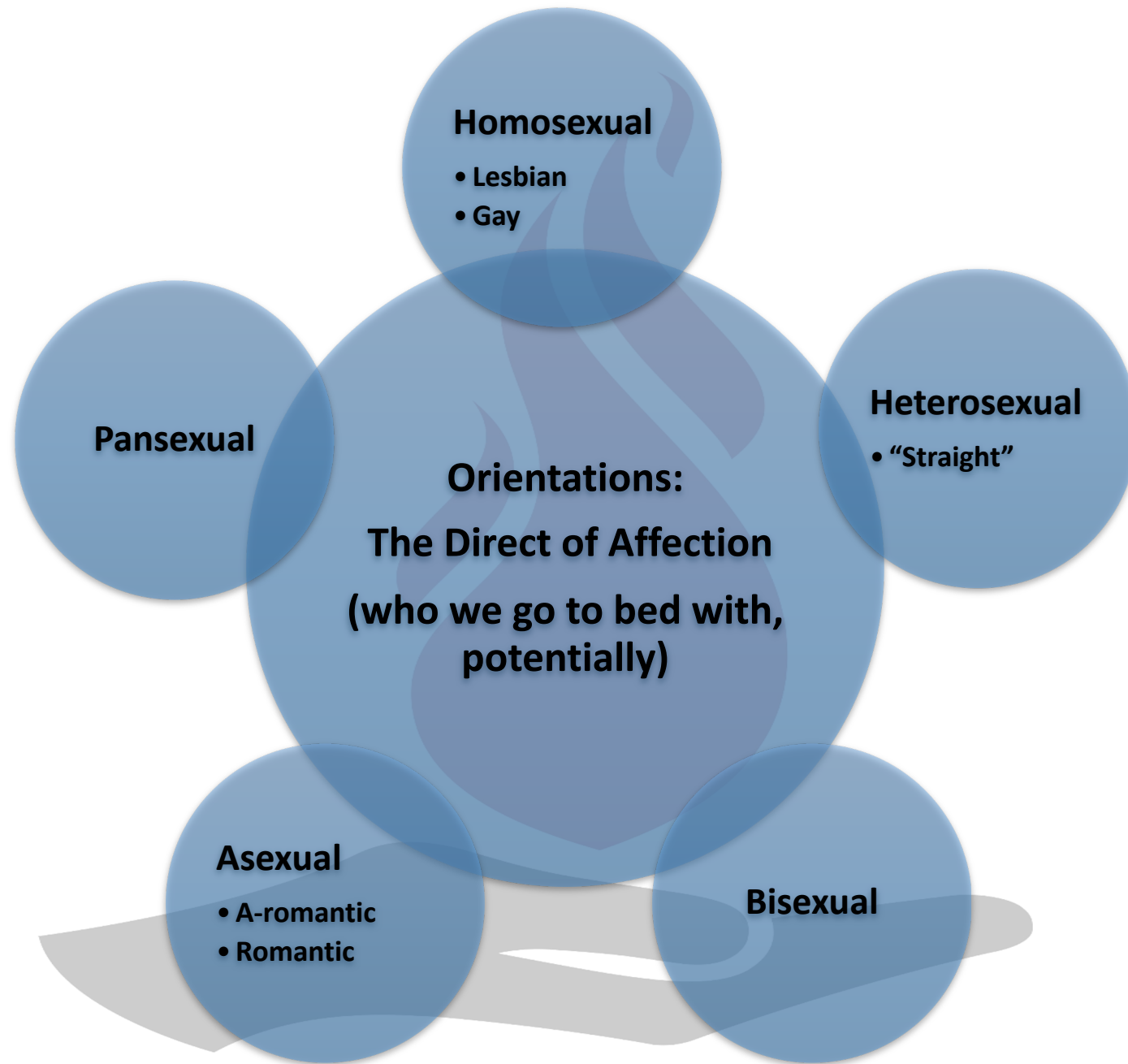


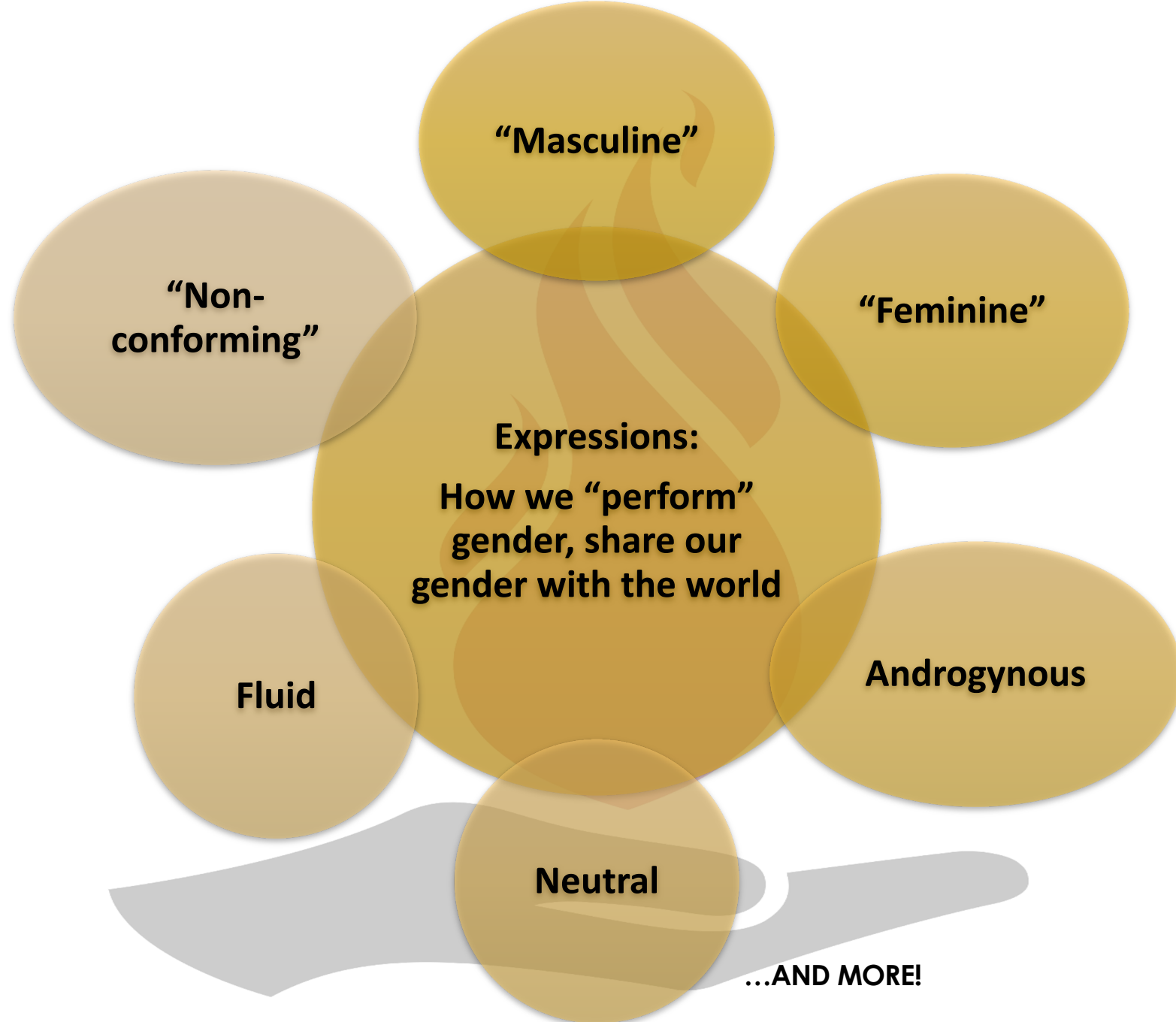




...AND MORE!







Resources

- The Acadami – www.theacadami.com/resources
- LGBTQ Sub-Committee
 - 303 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino CA
 - Every 4th Tuesday of the month
 - 12:30 – 2:00 pm
 - Resource Guide, Contacts
- TruEvolution
- Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance
 - Affirming Providers
 - SBC Department of Children & Family Services
 - Children's Network
 - Children's Fund
 - CA Give Back
 - SBC Department of Behavioral Health
 - LGBTW Awareness Sub-Committee
 - SBC Department of Public Health
 - SBC Probation Department
 - SBC DA's Office, Victim Services
 - Family Assistance Program
 - Reach Out
 - San Bernardino LGBTQ Center

