

# Elevating Fluidity: Advising Bisexual or Fluid Students



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## Theory (or lack thereof)

- No Bisexual Identity Theory
- Higher Ed tends to focus on the LGBTQA umbrella as a whole
- Kinsey Scale (see reverse)
- Identity Spectrum (see reverse)

## Terminology

- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Bisexual/Bisexuality
- Gender
- Affectional Orientation
- Fluid/Fluidity
- Pansexual
- Omnisexual
- Queer

## Myths

- No one is bisexual.
- Everyone is bisexual.
- Bisexuals are polygamous.
- Bisexuals are sex-hungry.
- Bisexuals just want to play.
- It's just a phase (on the way to a gay identity).
- Bisexuals are really gay/lesbian but aren't ready to admit it.
- Bisexuals are defined by their current partner.

## Societal Norms, Phobias, and "isms"

- Biphobia vs.  
Homophobia
- Heterosexism
- Heteronormality

## The Takeaway

- Be educated
- Listen
- Ask questions
- Meet students where they are
- Don't be afraid that you have to have all the answers
- Dedicate yourself to the actions of an Ally
- Be a referral agent

## Resources

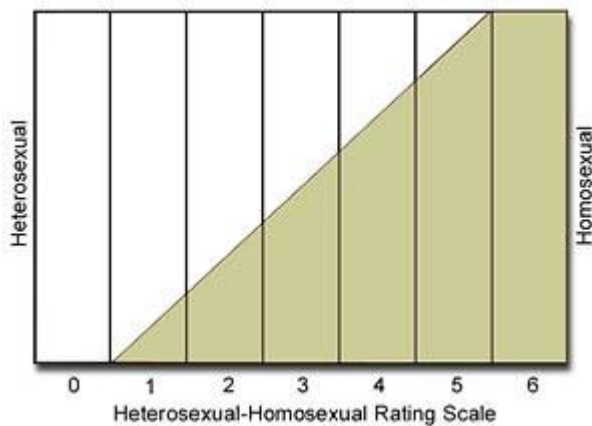
- [Commission for LGBTQA Advising and Advocacy Resources Page](#)
- <http://bit.ly/19CfrRQ>



## THE IDENTITY SPECTRUM

This graph is a fun exercise to help one understand that Sex, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sexual Orientation does not have to be black and white as both the Heteronormative/Cisgender Society around us (AKA Straight People) and the LGBT Community ascribe them to be -- find your own identity with this exercise and sincerely explore who YOU are and challenge the stereotypes of Gender and Sexual Orientation. Simply draw a line that best identifies along these spectrums.

## Kinsey Scale



### SEX

<-----+----->  
Female Intersex Male

### GENDER IDENTITY

<-----+----->  
Woman Genderqueer Man

### GENDER EXPRESSION

<-----+----->  
Feminine Androgynous Masculine

### SEXUAL ORIENTATION

<-----+----->  
Attracted to Bisexual Attracted to  
Male Pansexual Female  
Asexual