

Advance Praise for...

# ***ORIENTATION***

## ***Teaching about Identity, Attraction, and Behavior***

"*ORIENTATION* is a much needed resource! This body of work has some of the most brilliant minds in the field of sexuality education. The lessons are incredibly user friendly and focus on a variety of topics in and around sexual orientation. Most I commend the contributors for incorporating multiple theories and, more importantly, intentionally highlighting intersectionality. A definite step in the right (inclusive) direction, *ORIENTATION* is shimmy worthy."

Cindy Lee Alves, M.Ed.  
Sexuality Educator and Consultant  
Women of Color Sexual Health Network

"*ORIENTATION* is groundbreaking. It addresses issues never before covered in a sex education manual. From addressing the importance of creating safe space in the workplace, or the invisibility of bisexuality, to how to handle the holidays as an LGBTQ-identified person, this manual has it all and more. Basics, Inside Relationships, Health, The Workplace, Cultural Perspectives, and Social Justice are all types of lessons an educator can explore with audiences from teen to older adults. These facets of education, attitude exploring and skill-building are setting the bar high for all future sex ed curricula. Well done!"

Catherine Dukes  
Vice President for Education  
Planned Parenthood of Delaware

"We have waited for a long time for a manual such as *ORIENTATION* for the education of our society. I think it is appropriate to be used by sexuality education classes in a variety of settings. To change attitudes about what constitutes healthy sexuality requires education, education, education!"

Dr. Joycelyn Elders  
15th U.S. Surgeon General

"I am thrilled this (very thorough) manual has been created and know it will be very beneficial to creating a more just society for our communities. I especially appreciate the inclusion of intersectionality, power/privilege, and trauma-informed education. Great job."

Elicia Gonzalez, LCSW, MEd  
Sexual and Gender Justice Advocate

"The richness, significance, and value of this admittedly huge and unprecedented resource cannot be overstated! This collection, gathered from experts in sexuality education in all its incarnations, offers lesson plans that are eminently teachable. The plans possess achievable objectives and are designed to reach those objectives with creative activities and the provision of profound and often difficult-to-find information, and frequently include one of the essential elements of effective teaching – fun. I want to facilitate them all! These lessons will be an important addition to the repertoire of many sexuality educators and trainers, whether in academic or professional settings. Students fortunate enough to experience these lessons may well fulfill the hope expressed by one of the co-editors in the Introduction to this Manual: discovering, expanding and more effectively demonstrating their own compassion towards the LGBTQ individuals in their lives. Hooray for this marvelous manual!"

Joan Garrity  
Principal, Garrity Healthy Consulting & Training

"*ORIENTATION* is nothing short of brilliant. This set of lesson plans goes where no curriculum has gone before, delving deep into LGBTQQAAP, gender identity, sexual orientation, gender norms and gender roles. It touches upon today's relevant topics leaving no stone unturned. It is past time to realistically address attitudes, beliefs and social norms as related to the LGBTQQAAP community with respect to the many realities i.e., military, workplace, prison system, etc. that people experience. Making meaning of orientation, identity and roles is more than using the correct pronoun. This text arms educators with the necessary tools to help the audience do the work; to dive deep into the constructs that have erroneously created realities and therefore misunderstanding and phobias. The authors and the contributors should be applauded for the sharing their work. I thank them for so many things, particularly for the culturally inclusive examples (more than just ethnic names). Thank you for being brave enough to do the work."

Monique Howard, EdD, MPH  
Executive Director, Women Organized Against Rape

"Wow! So many excellent lessons to choose from. It will be hard to select just ONE, so hopefully many lessons may be used with students."

Konstance McCaffree, PhD  
President, American Association for Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists

"This most valuable, comprehensive collection of exercises designed to enable others to better understand the many facets of sexual orientation and gender authenticity, reflects years and years of thoughtful study and practice. These lessons effectively enable others to feel competent and confident in addressing LGBT issues."

Brian McNaught  
Author and Educator

"The godfather of gay diversity training," *New York Times*

"*ORIENTATION* is a must have resource that fills a much needed void in sexual education curricula that has historically focused on cisgender heteronormative behavior. In general the lessons, *ORIENTATION* moves away from the binaries associated with sexual and gender identity, and examines the continuums on which they operate while acknowledging the fluidity of both sexual and gender identity. *ORIENTATION* also has numerous lessons on bisexuality, often a forgotten component in the discussion of LGBTQ identities, that address the stigma and stereotypical thoughts often associated with individuals who identify as bisexual, and those lessons reinforce bisexuality as a sexual identity. The exercises/games are useful and reinforce the learning objectives in a fun manner. This highly valuable resource should be a part of all sexual education programs."

Melissa Perkins, MEd, MPPM  
LGBTQ Cultural Competency Trainer

"I am simply blown away by the depth, sophistication, and comprehensiveness of what you've put together in *ORIENTATION*. My heartfelt congratulations to the editors, and to all the contributing authors."

Deborah M. Roffman  
Author, *Talk to Me First: Everything You Need to Know to  
Become Your Kids' "Go-To" Person about Sex*

"This is an impressive collection of educational activities useful to address sexual orientation with adolescents and adults. The number of proposed activities is large enough to satisfy the needs of a great variety of audiences, which is an important strength of the manuscript. The value of this collection will be slowly appreciated by sexuality educators as they become acquainted with the great variety of techniques offered. The introduction that addresses the general principles of sexuality education is also of great value. I want to congratulate the editors and The Center for Sex Education for producing this important resource."

Eusebio Rubio-Aurioles, MD, PhD  
Director, Asociación Mexicana para la Salud Sexual, A.C.

"This manual is what many educators, whether in K-12 or higher education and other non-profit settings, have been looking for in teaching about sexual orientation and gender identity for years. This access to information is vitally important for young people, whose identities are consistently contested and erased within traditional educational settings. A practical and comprehensive guide, it gives teachers the tools needed to effectively dispel myths, separate often-conflated concepts and address real-world issues impacting people everyday. As language changes and young people display more authentic expressions of their gender and sexuality, educators need a resource to help keep them up to date and accessible to the people they are working with. Along with the 101-style introduction to key concepts, *ORIENTATION* also brings educators and students to tackle the more complex shades of nuance which make up gender and sexuality, allowing more room for us all to explore this terrain in needed ways. This volume allows both educators and students a chance to use common language in a ever- shifting landscape, and is an essential tool for helping all people find their most fulfilled selves."

Elliot Ruggles, LCSW, PhD  
Brown University

"Finally a resource that puts the focus squarely on sexual orientation in a purposeful, thorough, and thoughtful way! These lessons demonstrate the richness and diversity within the general category of sexual orientation. Their scope is both wide and deep. I look forward to using these lessons in my classrooms and recommending this resource to anyone wanting to do a better job teaching about this important topic."

Al Vernacchio  
Educator, speaker, and author of *For Goodness Sex:  
Changing the Way We Talk to Teens About Sexuality, Values, and Health*