

# Introduction to Sexual Orientation



Unit 4.8

## 4.8 Journal

- Suppose your best friend confided in you that he or she was a homosexual (attracted affectionately, sexually, romantically to someone of the same gender). How would you react? How would you begin to treat your friend after finding this information out?

## 4.8 Objectives

- Identify the six different classifications of sexual orientation in the acronym LGBTIQ.
- Develop knowledge and skills leading to healthy attitudes concerning sexual orientation.

# What does LGBTIQ stand for?

- **Lesbian** - of, relating to, or characteristic of female homosexuality
- **Gay** - of, relating to, or exhibiting sexual desire or behavior directed toward a person or persons of one's own sex; homosexual
- **Bisexual** - sexually responsive to both sexes
- **Transgender** - relating to a person whose gender identity does not correspond to that person's biological sex assigned at birth
- **Intersex** - an individual having reproductive organs or external sexual characteristics of both male and female
- **Questioning** - a person who is in the process of exploring his or her sexual orientation

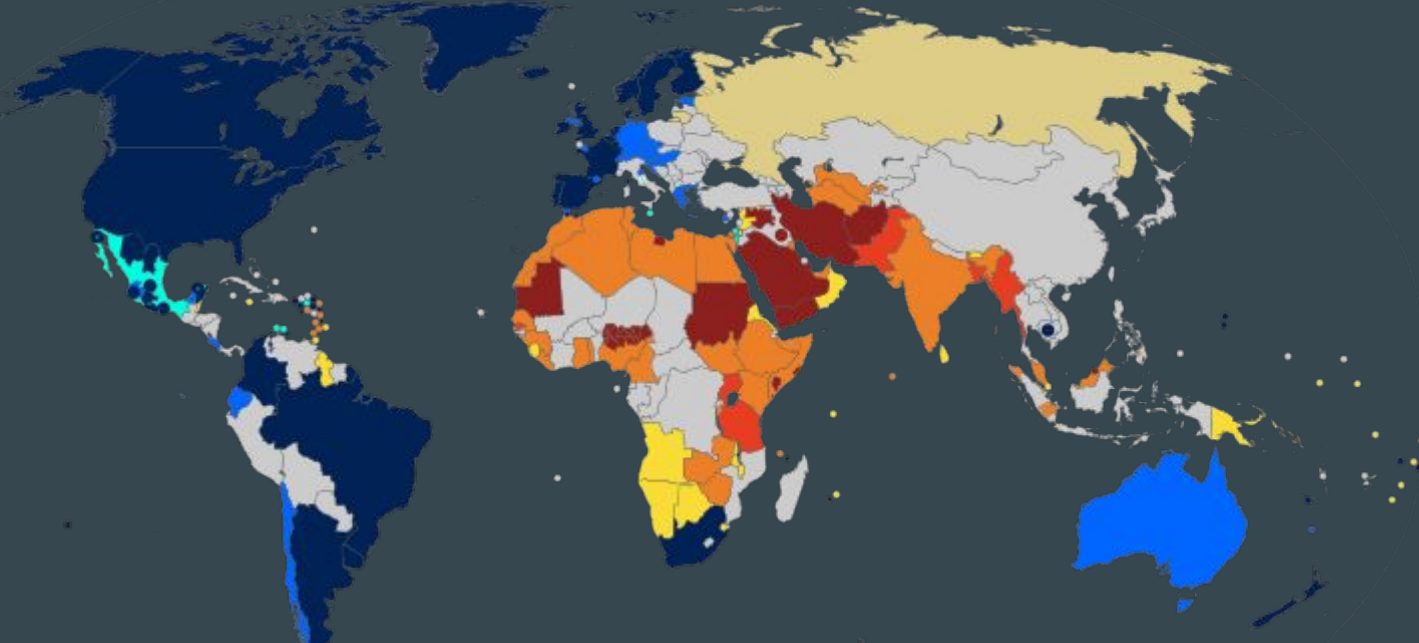
# LGBTIQ in History

- The practice of pederasty (an older upper class man would make a young free boy his partner and become his mentor) is mentioned in Homer's Iliad, and is evidenced to have existed at least 4500 years ago in ancient Egypt.
- Juvenal (60-140 A.D.) and Martial (c. 40-102 A.D.) were Roman authors who wrote of formal gay unions between homosexuals.
- Art, poetry, historical and legal documents infer or attest to the practice of homosexuality in China as far back as the Han Dynasty (Western 202 B.C. to 9 A.D.)

# LGBTIQ in History

- 1927 - *Wings* movie featuring two men kissing wins the first “Best Picture” award at the Academy Awards
  - “As long as one maintained one’s proper gender role, same-sex affection was allowed and even celebrated” (Benshoff and Griffin, 22)
- Production code created that heavily censored what could and could not appear in movies
- Supreme court lifted that production code in the 50s, but homosexuality was still vilified in film until more recent years
- “How we represent each other in media changes the way we think about each other, how we treat each other, and ultimately how we govern each other.” (Hight, History of Homosexuality in Film)

# World Laws Pertaining to Homosexual Relationships and Expression



## Homosexuality legal

- Same-sex marriage<sup>1</sup>
- Other type of partnership (or unregistered cohabitation)<sup>2</sup>
- Foreign same-sex marriages recognized
- Limited recognition of same-sex marriages at the federal level, no state level recognition
- No recognition of same-sex couples

## Homosexuality illegal/restrictions

- Laws restricting freedom of expression and association<sup>3</sup>
- De jure penalty that is de facto not enforced
- Imprisonment
- Imprisonment (up to life sentence)
- Up to death

**Story time!**



# Exit Ticket Questions

1. How would it feel to have to hide something as important and as basic as your sexual orientation (the sex of the people to whom you are romantically, emotionally and physically attracted)?
2. What were the first things you remember learning about homosexuality? Do you remember learning anything from your family? Friends? Community of faith? Was what you learned positive or negative?
3. What movie or television character have you recently seen that is LGBTIQ? How has that affected your thinking?
4. How would it feel to need to hide from other people your gender or the sex of those whom you are attracted? How would that affect your life?