

CRITICAL EVENTS INVENTORY

Purpose: To begin to identify some early learning about sexual identify and our experiences with differences in sexual orientation.

Directions: For each question, try to think of a specific event or experience the day, place, and circumstances, if possible. As you review each situation please try to answer the following questions:

1. When did it occur?
2. How old were you?
3. How did you feel about the situation?
4. How did the situation influence your attitudes, values, or beliefs about sexual orientation and heterosexism/homophobia?

Questions:

1. When was the first time, or a significant time, when you became aware that people had a sexual orientation different from you?
2. When was the first time, or a significant time, when you became aware that people were treated differently because their sexual orientation was different from yours?
3. When was the first time, or a significant time, that you became aware that your sexual orientation affected the way you are and would be treated in this society?
4. When was the first time, or a significant time, in which you felt angry about homophobia/heterosexism in our society?
5. When was the first time, or a significant time, in which you were challenged about your beliefs or attitudes regarding sexual orientation?
6. When was the first, or a significant time, in which you felt ashamed, guilty, or embarrassed of your sexual orientation?
7. When was the first, or significant time, which you felt proud of your sexual orientation?
8. When was the first or a significant time, in which you felt helpless as an individual in creating change regarding homophobia/heterosexism in our society?
9. When was the first, or a significant time, that you decided to actively resist homophobia/heterosexism?