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Stand-Up Sit-Down Ice Breaker Game with LGBTIQQ Emphasis 2011

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Stand-Up/Sit-Down Game

Note to facilitator:
Ask everyone to stand. When a statement is read that refers to them, ask them to sit and remain seated for the rest of the activity. Ask them to be honest. All items do not have to be read or read in this order. You can pick and choose statements to read based on the type of audience you are speaking to.

- You are a man and sit with your legs crossed.
- You are a woman and have ever worn a baseball cap.
- You are a woman and you play sports aggressively.
- You are a man and you wear jewelry (rings, bracelets, necklaces, anklets…)
- You are a man and you have your ears pierced.
- You identify as a feminist.
- You are a woman and you do not shave your legs or under your arms.
- You are a man and you enjoy musicals.
- You are a woman and you are not wearing any makeup today.
- You are a man and you do not play sports.
- You are a woman with short hair (chin length or shorter).
- You are a man with long hair (chin length or longer).
- You have not dated anyone of the opposite sex in the past six months.
- You are friends with someone who is LGBT.
- You have a family member who is LGBT.
- You are a man and you have been told that you are sensitive.
- You are a woman with a low voice.
- Majority of your friends are the same gender as you.
- You are a romantic man.
- You are a man and you polish your toenails or fingernails.
- You are a man and you have received professional massages.
- You verbally support LGBT issues.
- You are a woman and you shop in the men's section in stores.
- You are a man and you color or perm your hair.
- You are a woman and you stand up for yourself.
- You are a man and you have often been complemented on your sense of style.
- You are a woman and went to Lilith Fair.
- You are a man and enjoy female music groups.
- You are a man and you show affection to other men.
- You have another visible part of your body pierced besides your ears.
- You are a man and you have spoken out against sexist jokes and comments.

<u>Why'd we do that?</u>
Everyone who is now sitting down could be a target for LGBT hate crimes. All the statements we have read off were actual items perpetrators used to target LGBT people. This exercise shows that hate crimes do not have rationales behind them. The reasons people have given to discriminate against the LGBT population are often very arbitrary.

For those of you still standing, we have only named a few things people have given to target the LGBT population. It is possible that you may be sitting down if we read additional statements. It is also possible that you have recognized these as reasons people target the LGBT population and have either intentionally or unintentionally avoided behaving according to these statements. This is just some food for thought for you to consider.