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The Committee to Eliminate Heterosexism and  
Homophobia

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## The Campaign to End Homophobia Flyer

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# ***The Campaign to End Homophobia***

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The Campaign to End Homophobia is a network of people working to end homophobia and heterosexism through education. We are committed to a process which celebrates diversity, promotes love and support, and provides alternatives to oppression.

Our work includes:

- Conference Planning
- Educational Resources
- Consultation on Educational Strategies
- Publications
- Information Sharing and Networking

We vary in our sexual orientations and preferences, race/ethnicity, physical ability, class, age, sex and spiritual or religious beliefs. And together, we're working to end homophobia.

Won't you join us?



*Printed on recycled paper*

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### ***The purpose of the Campaign to End Homophobia***

is to build and support a network of people working together to end homophobia and heterosexism through education. We believe that education is a powerful tool for ending homophobia and heterosexism, so our work is focused on providing educational strategies which can be used to end homophobia and heterosexism.

We believe that education about homophobia and heterosexism is most effective when done in connection with other oppressions, and realize that other forms of oppression are always present in our work. Therefore, in the context of our work to end homophobia and heterosexism, we are committed to recognizing and exploring alternatives to oppression based on race/ethnicity, physical ability, class, age, sex, and religious or spiritual beliefs.

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■ **Homophobia** is the irrational fear of homosexuality and the hatred, disgust, and prejudice that fear brings. Oppression of lesbians and gay men, as well as bisexual women and men, is based on homophobia.

■ **Heterosexism** is institutionalized homophobia, the assumption that being heterosexual is inherently better or more moral than being lesbian, gay, or bisexual. Like racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression, heterosexism awards power to members of the dominant group (heterosexuals) and denies privilege to members of the subordinate group (lesbians, gay men, and bisexual women and men).

**Homophobia and heterosexism** clearly oppress lesbians, gay men, and bisexual women and men through individual acts of verbal and physical harassment and collective actions which result in invisibility, invalidation, and discrimination. But homophobia and heterosexism also hurt heterosexuals by maintaining rigid definitions of "appropriate" sex-role behavior and sexual relationships. In the same way that racism is a white person's problem and sexism a man's problem, homophobia and heterosexism are a heterosexual's problem.