



Allies in Action

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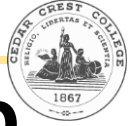
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Recap of GSD (Gender and Sexuality Diversity) 101 Presentation

- Focus on terminology, expanding knowledge
- Exploring just a few (of the very many) gender identities and sexualities
- Start a resource folder
- Promote inclusivity and validate all forms of self-defined identities





Outline of Allies in Action Presentations

Activity

Identify/define “Ally”

Tips/strategies effective allyship

Workshop/Application Scenarios

Discussion



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Small Group Activity

What is an Ally?

Who is an ally?

What should an ally do?

What should an ally not do?

[Video!](#)



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“*10 things all allies need to know*” --Jamie Utt

1. Being an ally is about listening
2. Stop thinking of ‘Ally’ as a noun
3. ‘Ally’ is not a self-proclaimed identity
4. Allies don’t take breaks
5. Allies educate themselves constantly
6. You can’t be an ally in isolation
7. Allies don’t need to be in the spotlight
8. Allies focus on those who share their identity
9. When criticized or called out, allies listen, apologize, act accountably, and act differently going forward
10. Allies never monopolize the emotional energy





Just a few ways to support GSD on Campus

- Include GSD and promote inclusivity in examples in classes, workshops and presentations
- When discussing current events, include GSD issues
- Display information about local resources, such as employers, organizations/clubs, and welcoming congregations that are inclusive for all Gender and Sexually Diverse individuals
- Research/utilize resources to continue to self-educate



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Ally Scenario #1

You overhear a student worker, Sarah, talking about another student worker, Jenn, who openly self-defines as polyamorous. Sarah believes that poly individuals are disgusting and promiscuous, and don't know what they want and cannot be trusted. How would you navigate the situation? What might or could you say/do? What changes could you advocate for in your workplace/school to make it known that these comments are offensive and not acceptable, and should not be tolerated?





Ally Scenario #2

Many students around campus casually use the phrase “that’s so gay”. Truly, it seems to be uttered more frequently since a student pointed out to you how much it bothered them to hear it. What are some possible ways to navigate the situations? What options might exist?





Ally Scenario #3

Someone you've known for a few semesters has asked to be referred to by gender neutral pronouns, specifically Ze/hir, and also politely requested any help in disseminating information around campus to individuals who felt comfortable doing so. Sitting in the Canova Commons, you overhear a small table of your peers discussing "made up pronouns" and "how difficult it is to remember and keep them straight", but not directly referencing any individual by name. What might you say to address pronoun usage misconceptions?



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Ally Scenario #4

A friend of yours tells you that there is a new person at their workplace who “dresses like a girl, and has a girl name, but everyone thinks he’s really a guy.” Your friend then says, “I don’t have a problem working with him, but if he comes in the women’s restroom, I’m speaking directly with my supervisor.” How might you respond to your friend, especially if you wanted to challenge some of her ideas regarding transgender people?





Ally Scenario #5

A student with whom you regularly interact has privately mentioned to you that they feel frequently marginalized when they openly identify as both aromantic and asexual, and that other friends who identify as one, or both, or are somewhat fluid also are experiencing similar feelings of isolation. You overhear a group of your peers talking, and you catch, “I just don’t think asexuality can exist, they just haven’t met the right person.” How might you respond to challenge ideas of compulsory sexual/romantic attraction?





Discussion

What are some ways allies can act in solidarity at Cedar Crest?

What are some specific instances you can think of?

What additional resources might be necessary?

What institutional frameworks might need to be utilized/altered for change?



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Resources

A Guide Toward Allyship. (n.d.). Retrieved March 10, 2015, from <http://transwhat.org/allyship>

How common is intersex? (2008, January 1). Retrieved March 10, 2015, from <http://www.isna.org/faq/frequency>

Killermann, S. (2015, January 1). Breaking through the binary: Gender explained using continuums. Retrieved March 10, 2015.

Overview: The Asexual Visibility & Education Network. (2012, January 1). Retrieved March 10, 2015, from

<http://www.asexuality.org/home/overview.html>

Utt, J. (2013, November 8). So You Call Yourself an Ally: 10 Things All 'Allies' Need to Know. Retrieved March 10, 2015.

www.glaad.org

www.glsen.org

www.pflag.org

www.thegenderbook.com

www.thesafezoneproject.org

www.thetrevorproject.org



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