

Bisexuality Myths

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>> Like magic. Humans have cool toys. Person is best thing to happen to shelter pet. Be that person. Adopt. Brought to you by Ad Council and shelterpetproject.org.

>> Hello and welcome to "Inside Out." You're listening to KCOU Columbia 88.1, it is 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, this is "Inside Out" with DJ Excellence.

>> And DJ Discovery. We are here for real talk facing the LBGQTQ folks of Mizzou. How you doing?

>> I'm doing fabulous. How are you?

>> I'm good. It is busy and happening. Topic on "Inside Out" this week as bisexuality, get the facts.

>> Yeah, it is.

>> Let's talk about them.

>> Hello.

>> We have a guest today.

>> Hi.

>> Who are you?

>> I'm Suzy. I don't have a cool DJ name yet.

>> Yet.

>> I have been working on it but nothing rolls off the tongue..

>> So if you have example DJ names or suggestions, please tweet us at @MULGBT.

>> We want to hear suggestions both for show topics and DJ names.

>> Anything else you want to tweet at @MULGBT.

Feel free.

>> Compliments.

>> Go tweet crazy.

>> You can hear us every Thursday three to four here on KCOU 88.1 live streaming or podcast on the website lgbtq.mo.edu and "Inside Out" tab and all of our episodes podcast. Let's get down to it. What is bisexuality?

>> Let's talk about it.

>> It is a sexual orientation. A sexual orientation is who you feel attracted to and attraction levels and who gives you butterflies in your stomach and palms sweaty and heart all aflutter. We have sexual orientation, who we are attracted to, not attracted to. What we see mostly in the movies are straight ones and today we are focused on bisexuality which is in the LGBTQ and B is bisexual and that means you identify as a man or woman and attracted to some men and women, it is not exclusive to only men or women but attracted to people

of both of those genders.

>> Not all men and all women. Notice you said some men and some women.

>> Indeed. That will come up again in the myths multiple, multiple, multiple times. It is one of the largest myths.

>> Absolutely.

>> Another kind of basic question that we want to get to which is really kind of on the hearts and minds of a lot of the queer community these days is what is the difference -- well, Suzy -- I wish you had a DJ name.

>> DJ Suzy.

>> DJ Token.

>> You now have a DJ name at least for the remainder of the show or stop telling us to call you bad.

>> Do you want me to add on what is bisexuality?

>> Same thing as any other identity, the person gets to pick it. Just because someone might have identified as straight and had same gender or same sex interaction, if they don't choose to be bisexual, just like any other identity don't put it on them.

>> That's an excellent point to talk about, for us to be clear with everyone, there's three distinct things, and those are attraction, behavior and identity, so who we are attracted to we don't always act on. I'm attracted to a celebrity and never going to act on that.

>> Or maybe you will.

>> Maybe I will. Like Alf.

>> Exactly. He is so cute.

>> Cute to each their own.

>> He is an overweight alien who's funny.

>> He has a sense of humor.

>> He has a personality.

>> Eating habits less than stelar. All you college students are wondering what we are talking about. We are old. So DJ Shane. Tell us what you know about Alf. Anything? Attraction, behavior, identity. Who you're attracted to is one thing. Your behavior, what you like after actions and behaviors, those are something else that occur. What behavior is happening, so you might be choosing to have sexual acts with people who you're not necessarily that attracted to. That happens so behavior is different than attraction or your identity and identity is how you identify. Just because I am a woman who has sex with other women, doesn't mean I have to identify as lesbian. Might identify straight as I so choose and sex with a woman and identifies queer or bi and they are up to me and separate from the behaviors I have.

>> Also let people explore. You know what I mean? Somebody can be a lesbian 1 week and very next week they can tell you I'm bisexual and that's completely valid and recognized. I think I covered this before but it is such a cool idea and good thing to think about because

I never thought about that until the past five years. It was just like duh, if somebody says they are something, respect them and yeah, they probably know better than you. It is always just a good idea to go with that.

>> And when I was talking about when we all have sexual orientation that doesn't necessarily mean we have all had behaviors or we all have any identity.

Sometimes we are like I'm not going to identify with that and talk to anybody and our culture in the world today most are presumed to be straight. I know I was told I was straight from family and media and school and whatever and then I learned actually you should figure out what you are. I should, let me figure that out.

>> It is cool. It is an awesome opportunity. And I think it is pretty distinctive to the queer community. It is -- you know, there are problems, I will not ignore there are issues but you get to choose, you get to be like this is my identity and a lot more fluid and a lot of options and take part in that, explore wherever you are in life really. College is good time and that's what the show is geared toward and college is great time to explore, and if you have friends who are like that's gross, maybe you shouldn't be friends with them.

>> Or bring them to a save face training or listen to "Inside Out," there are lots of options. (laughter) .

>> That's what -- my bad.

>> No.

>> It is important to check in because especially for bisexuals, looking at they are currently dating or hooking out with, she could be bi or pan and at that point dating somebody. Important to check in and let people self-identify because my identity to others, do they think my identity change over time, it hasn't, it happens to be how they are identifying me.

>> That is excellent, excellent point. I want to really quickly DJ Excellence just said that you get to choose and what she meant choose who and how you identify and we aren't -- the show is not about is it a choice or is it not a choice, which is a huge question and it is not, but we will have that be a -- (laughter) Have that be a discussion and it is not and I want to make sure people -- it is a debate that people have and more to talk about. So I --.

>> Make sure nobody misquotes us there because that's not --.

>> Don't misquote me.

>> That's not what we are saying. And DJ Shane is here. How are you?

>> Good. How are you guys?

>> Good. Tell me what you know about Alf. (laughter)

.

>> Is that a name?

>> Correct.

>> Absolutely proved that we are --.

>> We are talking about being attracted to different things and I said Alf and no one that listens to the show knows what I mean.

>> If you know Alf is, tweet us and tell us about Alf and how you feel about him. Are you attracted to Alf.

(laughter) .

>> Oh my goodness. I wish I remembered somebody's DJ name because I would do a shout-out to them and hey, have the Alf lunch box. One of my friends who has a radio show in San Francisco, California used to have intense amount of Alf memorabilia.

>> That's awesome.

>> Let's get back to the topic at hand. We mentioned it a couple times. What is the difference between pansexual and bisexual or pansexuality or bisexuality. I can answer that or if somebody else wants to take a stab at it.

>> I will take a stab. Here it is. Bisexuality is your attracted to some people of both genders. And so like -- and then pansexual is you are attracted to all genders basically, all gender expression orientation.

>> Yeah, that's exactly how I would describe it. Bi we know from English language classes.

>> Only you know from your English language classes.

>> Nerd alert. I was English major. Tweet at us if you are a English major. (laughter) Tell us your favorite book. Bi means two and two genders and big thing in

the queer community is recognizing all gender expression and identities, so that is infinite if you allow people to be own genders, however they want to be, and being pansexual I'm attracted to all genders and acknowledge there are more than just man and woman.

There's trans and queer and gender noncom-forming and trans-woman and man and there's lots of those so pan is recognizing that, but there's a lot of cross-over.

>> It is interesting because I got invited to be on the show but don't identify as bisexual because I think it is exclusive of the trans community even though I think they are super attractive so usually when I'm explaining to people my identity I explain to people because less long conversation with people I don't know on the street but I usually say queer because I feel like it is more inclusive of all folks.

>> I would agree.

>> I would agree too. I'm kind of semi moving toward queer as identity but kind of one of the words that you sometimes have to put in your back pocket because your parents are like what? Don't make fun of yourself. God, mom and dad. Get with it.

>> That's not what I'm doing. They will -- they will say queer and becomes like a super long conversation. You're like I don't have time. I'm lesbian and gay.

>> Anything else to add on pan, bi?

>> You covered it pretty well.

>> Pan love.

>> So let's move on to some of the myths.

Promiscuity. Kind of already talked about that with -- and I will say most of the myths are true for bi folks and pan folks so --.

>> Sometimes the queer community at large.

>> Indeed. Excellent point.

>> Absolutely. And like not to mention -- so it is like in our community and then it is also like hello media and that's the only thing you think exists is like these bi-women that get drunk at parties, which is totally valid, and oh I get drunk at party and make out with a girl for all of these guys to watch, and that is constantly perpetuated in the media in every single form and it is frustrating.

>> That is a safe place to explore your bisexuality because it is okay with men, women, whatever. She was so wasted and made out with them but she is not gay or something like that. Totally valid to do that because say you are bisexual or pansexual and want to make out with a girl and you're a girl and like everybody will make fun of me or hate me. Did I explain that?

>> Yes, makes total sense. Like all myths, thing itself isn't bad and having drinks and making out with someone is not bad and only time it has ever shown. I think that's why -- sometimes we are like myth, this isn't real, it is real, only time we see, but yeah, I think -- I saw

that a lot in undergrad was people not wanting to come out so they could be themselves and blame alcohol. (laughter) .

>> I didn't think about breaking it down on air.

>> The myth is real but not the only reality and a couple quick disclaimers you college students and queer community, please do not drink to excess. The abuse of alcohol is used way too often in the queer community and within the college community. If you have any issues or concerns about your alcohol use or have questions about what it does to your body, what's happening there, please feel free to visit wellness resource center and if you are going to consume alcohol and you are of age and on this show we do not believe breaking the law, visit Stripes. It is amazing resource and any resource we mention we put on the website with the podcast to reference all the resources.

>> I think we should talk about what Stripes is.

>> Stripes is safe ride home program, Wednesday through Saturday 10:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. -- I think that is right, we will make sure to put all the correct info, Stripes will give you ride home. They will not give you ride to another party. They will not give you ride out to the club but they will give you ride home if you need one with no judgment, no problems, they have a grade relationship with MUPD and the police department and never trick to get you in trouble, they want to get you

home safely. Please do not drink and drive and any good Mizzou Tiger I have Stripes saved in the cell phone, so if you don't, get out cell phone, contact plus sign Stripes 573-442-9672, and again, that will be on the website later and even tweet it out, tweet @Stripes.

>> iPhone centric.

>> BlackBerry over here.

>> Don't push plus?

>> I don't know. I have an iPhone.

>> All phones. Just add contact. You can do it.

>> I think the go Mizzou app Stripes is on there too.

Apaholic, you can do.

>> Al -- al -- app is one syllable so we ran out at the end. Promiscuity. Part of why that -- what DJ Token said which I reel liked because we are seeing it is a myth, saying it is a myth because not apply to all people, can apply to some people, not super valid, but we want to make sure that -- like you listeners know bi people are not more likely to be promiscuous than any other people and it is equal across the board, how often we act on the attraction, that is all individual choices for each of us, so it is important to point out that -- I think that that myth, part of where that comes from what we talked about and well, if you are attracted to men and women --.

>> Twice as many.

>> Right.

>> Don't think every person opposite or same gender are attractive. Picky.

>> If you did think that until the show, that is okay but it is not twice as many but just that you're looking at multiple people and deciding who you're attracted to and amount is individual to each person and same person who is bi and don't have automatic attraction rate.

>> Don't judge people for promiscuity in general. Promiscuity I feel is very laden word.

>> That's true.

>> Let people do their thing. It is cool. I mean maybe if it is your friend and legit worried about them, okay, you know, connect them to things like to get tested or like we have free condoms on campus and free dental dams, all kinds of stuff, so if it is like a safety issue. I get that, but for the most part if it is two consent adults, don't judge.

>> Feel free to express your sexuality however you see fit.

>> Express yourself. (laughter) .

>> So one of the things -- by promiscuity, how do we define that? Is that too fancy of a word? Too hard of a word?

>> Different people define it different ways.

>> Let's break it down.

>> What we were talking about earlier was bi people will

have more relationships or sexual relationships with more people than the, quote unquote, average person and what we are saying is that is not necessarily the case. Bi people have the same rates of it had there's some people do a lot and don't do any as the general population. Another part is they will have multiple partners at once either in relationship or in sexual relationships and while that is valid if that would you like to do, just at the same rate as the general population as it is in the bi population, not people identified as bi having sex with lots of people at once or in relationship with lots of people at once. Other thing is there's kind of -- there's a big -- like the next kind of big myth about bi folks is they are just super confused. They cannot figure it out. They don't know what's going on and wandering around lost in the world and super confused.

>> The bisexuality world which is different than the other world.

>> Is that true? Is that the case?

>> I'm sure we get lost like on the way to McDonalds as much as everybody else. I mean normal amount of confused in the world, but -- I mean again, there are people who might be like questioning or, quote unquote, not experimenting or whatever who might eventually land on bisexual or identify -- who might eventually identify as bisexual or like some point identifies bisexual but again it is not any more or less than anybody else.

So I think the confused thing is because our society is so like -- this is how it looks. Okay. Now if it is man and woman and okay, we are going to get behind the gay -- (laughter) .

>> Man on man or woman, woman relationships get into two seconds later. So then when they are like we figured that out, that is legit and when it is like whatever, gender doesn't matter. Whoa, whoa, whoa. I think it is just the next part of like figuring it out. Culture.

>> Pieces at a time.

>> Absolutely.

>> So wait. Are you saying the end goal to respect all people regardless as long as it is respectful of others.

>> Yeah, sure.

>> What an idea. You're a little bit more concise.

>> I like it. So I think that's really important. I think that some of the confused things are that people are confused or too scared to actually come out or bisexuality is stop on the way to gay town.

>> I want to speak to the -- a lot of bisexual friends I have, biggest thing I hear, if you are just bisexual, just be heterosexual, because you already like men anyway. Your life will be easier and it is like any sexual orientation. It is really crappy to make someone tailor or change sexual orientation because it doesn't fit in society or it is not like --.

>> Would you give the advice to your best friend?

Some people do. If you are in love with this man if you are straight but if you marry this guy who you don't love, you can live a better life because he is rich. If you're the type of person to give the advice to everybody, take the easy route and not follow your heart, whatever, but I think yeah, you're pressuring the person to decide on privilege or whatever versus what the heart is telling them. I don't blame people who are confused who are bi because they are getting mixed messages from the society and LGBT community and everybody is telling you to pick a side because LGBT is afraid of people tearing them apart and straight community might be afraid of like confusion of what is LGBTQ so I would be confused and maybe there isn't such a thing as bisexuality and maybe I am confused. Does that make sense?

>> Yeah. And starting to support the gay movement, that's specific, not trans , bi and basic overall message I get you get in the box and stay in it.

>> We finally figured it out and you are messing with us.

>> You're a lesbian, don't identify as that, gay or queer and that's it and don't you ask again. I'm like okay.

They do that with a lot of identities and constant struggle but fun struggle who at the same time if you can find a supportive community and being queer is awesome.

>> We do it for safety. Put people in boxes because it

makes people feel safe and once figure it out, feel safer as person and adding boxes and already got you figured out. Also I forgot to mention this, DJ Token, I'm talking from my own experience. I'm not a doctor of bisexuality, so if I say something that doesn't represent you, I'm sorry. Tweet at me. (laughter) .

>> I like that. Thank you DJ Token you're talking about your personal experience.

>> Totally.

>> I want to say too this is DJ Excellence talking right now, full disclosure, I was so one of those people who was like bi, pssst, that doesn't mean anything. You're a straight girl and want some of this. All of that --.

>> Did you say want some of this? Act mature.

>> Like my best friend -- I shout-out to Cali, I gave her like a lot of trouble when came out as bisexual, and I'm proud it was years ago and everybody has room to grow.

>> Last week.

>> Two days ago. 15 minutes ago on the phone, and like I have had to work hard and think about that, educate myself and not educate myself but being like tell me more, you tell me why, and it is like you also have a responsibility as their friend or as someone who's interest in learning more, doing that information finding yourself and then being like I think it is always really important to apologize or whatever, you know, it

may be. Like for me I did end up apologizing, seriously probably a year ago. And I was like wow, for years I made fun of you. It wasn't mean spirited.

>> You were doing it probably again out of some sort of confusion or fear what it means to be bisexual.

>> Absolutely.

>> I hear women who date women and go back -- quote, back to men. You can't see my air quotes because I'll on the radio and then break up with the person because they didn't work and then go quote quote back to men and see the person never liked me to begin with, and then also you really can't hold up signs while we are talking --.

>> Sorry.

>> So I think that's -- you're protecting your group or whatever.

>> Absolutely.

>> I had something really else super articulate but passing notes is hard.

>> This is DJ Discovery and this is my fault and take a quick break about our discussion to talk about the coming out week events and super excited.

Celebrating on the campus here at Mizzou October 8th to October 19th. Entire time having a rainbow food drive and collecting perishable items and toiletries. I'm sorry nonperishable. Rotten food. Do not bring egg plants. We will build enormous rainbow

food rainbow with cans and boxes and whatever. So choose your favorite color and bring it in and it will look awesome, it will be in the LGBT resource center which is in the lower level of the student center which the building with the food court and bookstore and come on downstairs with the food and help us build giant rainbow. We will put pictures on FaceBook and Twitter so as. You can see it as it progresses. This calendar will be on our website. Monday we will have queers on campus, come visit us. That evening we will have open mic night co-sponsored with queer people of color, so you got something to say, say it, bring it, we are inviting you and keynote program coming out this year is showing of the documentary film Gen Silent, generation fought hardest to come out is going back in.

>> I'm so excited.

>> 6:30 Ellis auditorium and auditorium in Ellis library and entrance outside of the building.

>> Bring tissues.

>> I will bring tissues to the event so we can pass them around. It is going to be great. That, of course, "Inside Out" Thursday three to four on KCOU FM and our pride photo, listen, if you have not been to a pride photo in your time at Mizzou, it is time. If you live in Columbia, come to the photo. Come to this photograph. It is the coolest thing. Last year we had 400 people. We want to have more this year. Truman

the tiger comes, we have rainbow flags. Bring your groups.

>> It is a big deal.

>> Make T-shirts or show up after work. 5:00 p.m. north steps of Jessie Hall and photo that gets printed on the back of this is us and we support us. We support each other. Huge ally event, bring all of your ally friends, it is easy, fast and amazing thing to be a part of and keep it.

>> I'm so excited. It is my first photo. I didn't get to be in it last year.

>> Campus administrators come, professors come, it is great.

>> It is a fabulous event.

>> Ask all of your professor[s] to go. Ask all of your campus administrators to go.

>> Hall coordinators, huge amount from res life, ask your doctors if you are stopping by student life. Invite everyone.

>> Can you bring your dogs?

>> Absolutely.

>> Cool. I don't know if I'm allowed to make shout-outs through local businesses and we went through FCC training and there's rules. We can shout-out. Lizzie and Rocco natural pet market has pride puppy wear.

>> They're so cute.

>> There are like T-shirts.

>> Kind of like deciding our dog's allyship identity for them but I think it is okay.

>> I wish I had an animal to dress up.

>> Stuffed animal, it is cool.

>> It is the first week. Second week of coming out two more programs. Wednesday night in the shack we are having the black and gold drag show and homecoming theme and homecoming drag show and sparkly and wonderful and amazing.

>> It is going to be incredible show. Seriously, everyone should come. It is going to be so much fun.

>> Going to be great.

>> Last drag show, it was packed to the gills. It was insane.

>> Blew everyone out of the water.

>> It was a lot of fun. I recommend coming. Get there early and wear the black and gold. We will look good. Do dapper black and gold. Wear whatever you have.

>> Paint your face. Paint your entire body black and gold but also have clothes on. It is in the shack. The final program which I'm excited about enter sex awareness day Friday October 19th at 12 noon. We are going to have biological sciences Professor Miriam Gollum come and talk to us about what it means to be intersex and issues around intersex and biological background of intersex and I think the campus has been lacking in resources and I'm excited we are raising our

awareness at this time. We will take a quick break and come back and talk about bisexuality. [music].

>> Gambling can be fun if you are legal age, it is not a risk-free activity. For some college students gambling for fun can turn into a serious problem and have negative impact on the lives. [Www.collegegambling.org](http://www.collegegambling.org) to learn more about college gambling, how to make responsible decisions and resources for help if you have a problem. Resource and message brought by the national center for responsible gaming. [music]. KCOU88.1 FM.

>> And we are back.

>> Welcome back. Who gave you the board with all the buttons?

>> Hey.

>> It just happened. She is the captain.

>> Feels kind of legit pressing the buttons across the board.

>> Those are the actual sounds it makes, bop, bop.

>> If only.

>> So I think we talked about a lot of that, so there's another myth that it is too scared to actually come out and I will get a little personal with this one. When I was first coming out, wee little DJ Discovery, I had no idea what to do and because I grew up you will have husband and children and picket fence and dog and two and a half kids and all of those things we are told by

society, I was like well, but I just figured out maybe I like girls, I don't know. So for a short amount of time when I was coming out I did identify as bi because it was confusing and hard to figure out who I was and how I am and don't think that I am bi, no longer identify as bi, queer primarily if I have to do lesbian for ease of understanding and point that matters about this and the myth, this is not true of everyone. Just because it was true of me, like we were saying, if the myths --, quote unquote, myths are true for you, super valid and legit, what we are saying is it is not true for every single person. There are people that are truthfully not just doing it because they are confused or on their way. This is my coming out, this is my identity, I am attracted to both genders, that is true for me and always be true for me, I will. I am a bisexual and super valid and I think more common identity than really gets credit. I don't think that it is talked about often enough.

>> Absolutely. Because it is ignored. It is ignored by the society at large and then in our own community it is -- you know, it is either ignored or passed over in the sense that come on, just choose. So it does. It is like goes under reported for lack of a better word.

>> Box theory, once you have someone figured out, you're happy with that, don't want to expand on that and when someone tells you something completely different, figure it out all over again and listening to very valid and

people can change all the time. I used to identify as lesbian and now I identify as queer. If people are receptive hopefully they would listen and try to figure out you're trying to figure yourself out too.

>> It could be true who you're attracted to changes and who you're attracted to doesn't change but words you use change as you understand new language or join new communities, so -- like when I -- someone might have said, you flip-flopped. That's because when I came out as like bi or queer and then heard from the LGBT community that wasn't a thing and heard from the straight community, you're dating men so you're straight, so I started saying I'm straight, I'm ally, I'm lesbian or whatever and said that not because identity changed but I thought in different contexts I would be safer and less criticized. She is confused, she is flip-flopping and that way I didn't have to have the long conversation.

>> Absolutely. Because also let me just say and I'm sure it will be echoed around here, it is exhausting to constantly identify your identity. I would like to say I'm DJ Excellence and identify in this way. Okay. Let's get a soda together. Whatever it happens to be that we are doing, don't want it to be a stop or halt in activities in order for me to justify who I am to someone else because that can be really tiring. Me personally I love being an educator and I am much more likely to do

that. Here I am on the radio show about it. But there's a lot of people that don't feel like that way, and even I get tired after full days or weeks or months of it.

>> No one should ever have to justify their identity.

Don't ask people to do that. If you want more information, okay, maybe they are open to that, maybe they are not, you should check in with them because I know there's lots of times that like -- I mean you can go to party sometimes and people are like what? How do you do that? What does that look like? It is like listen, I just want to party, can you leave me alone, thanks.

>> I feel like I get a lot of questions from strangers, not friends that are concerned that know me and guy come up and asked me questions because he was confused who I was sitting with. He was confused. I wasn't.

He said you like to have sex with men. No. I have a girlfriend. He would be like you still think we are cute.

>> Yeah but -- what? Like if you had a girlfriend would you want someone asking you in front of your partner do you want to have sex with other people, attracted to other people? It was because he was so undereducated about the issue and he was trying to learn but again, like I'm sitting there having a burger and stranger asking me if I want to have relations with straight people I have never met. I'm like uh.

>> Just to go with that too. It is rude to go up to someone --.

>> Wait until I finish my food.

>> Now I'm ready for your insulting comments and questions.

>> It is also really rude to go up to someone and go what, you're gay? You're a lesbian? You're way too pretty to be a lesbian. My girlfriend gets that. I mean kind of too much. Definitely too much. And first thing, yeah, she is pretty. Second thing. Hey, whatever. That was rude. That's like suggesting that lesbians aren't pretty. They are. Duh.

>> That's so insulting saying all lesbians must be ugly except for the one I'm talking to who probably doesn't want me to talk to her anyway.

>> Because you don't recognize people who you think are attracted walking down the street part of the LGBT community does not mean they don't exist. That's your own fault for not figuring it out. Just reinforcing the stereotypes in your head because you see someone attractive and acknowledge they could be part of a community that maybe you don't have access to.

>> You bad.

>> So the KCOU DJ booth has windows on it and DJ matriarch just walked by. Shout-out to matriarch. She is amazing. If you ever want to come by and wave, glance quickly and not get distracted.

>> I can't wave and talk at the same time. (laughter) .

>> I was going to say this is DJ Excellence, I have said

it before, I have ADD, if you wave at me I will stare at you too long and there will be dead air.

>> Echo what everyone else was saying and really like this thing we are talking about and talking about the difference between strangers and friends. Have conversations with your friend. Just because your friend shares some sort of your identity with you, don't be like on the radio they said I'm not supposed to talk about this and turn away from your friend. Be yourself. When I first came out to my best friend, we got wavers. When I first got out to my best friend was really?

Which is which was happening in my brain. How about that. Be genuine and be yourself with that. Just strangers, we don't know you, why are we going to tell about the intimate details of the life with you and what makes you think you have the right to come up to us and ask us intimate details in the lives.

>> It is a theme in marginalized communities to ask them questions that are personal, so if someone asks me a personal question, turn it back, I go, do you want to have sex with somebody else? Yeah, sounded the same to me.

>> Exactly. Totally.

>> Other thing I want to talk about is we mentioned safety a couple times, and I think I want to make it really clear when talking about safety of it is more safe for me to put somebody in a box and that's a very kind of

artificial comfort that is not a physical threat of violence or loss of support, loss of societal support, loss of familial support, and when talking about safety of the queer community and safety of coming out and strangers coming up and talking to us and think they have to right to talk us or touch us our treat us in a certain way, that is a physical safety issue, and that's really different. So while we are saying, you know, people are putting us in boxes because it is safer for them, we encourage pushing through that boundary of discomfort to try to open your mind past those boxes, but when we are talking about the safety of the queer community in regard to harassment and discrimination of violence, don't push harassment and violence on people.

>> Absolutely.

>> I hope that's clear. I assume you listening would know that.

>> Like what DJ Token said about like walking up to people and she is like oh, really, do you like to have sex with random people, that's a good idea. Kind of run your question through your head and be like what would I do if someone asked me this. I would be like why are you asking me that? That was rude. And I was like that was a valid question, thank you for sharing. If you run through that, most things you think before you talk. Right?

>> Right.

>> I also feel like educator and grew up in a small town so used to my life being open book and very comfortable with open questions and teaching why it is okay or not okay to ask the questions, so I'm a rare breed, work in higher education, that's my job. When you do it to someone else, make it feel inferior, safe, making them feel oppressed.

>> Putting them on a spot.

>> Stop by the LGBT resource center and I am curious about this, trying to educate myself and don't want to do it in a way that makes them feel like an other, I'm guessing, talking to her, the resource center will be more than happy to answer the question so do it. Don't ask strangers on the street.

>> Yeah.

>> Why they are pretty.

>> Check out books, go to our website and read through. Go to the resources link that we have. If there are resources that you know of that we don't have on the website send them to us and we will put them on the website. We do not think it is comprehensive and as soon as we have time to research more we will add more and if you do the research, shout it out to us.

Okay. I want to get to a couple other things. I want to get to the myth that only women can be bi and men cannot be bi. That's just untrue. I don't have

necessarily clever anecdote but men are bi. We do the queer monlogs every April during pride month and had really great one last year, last semester about man as being bi and he is identified as that and plenty other people in the world who are identified as bi and if that's hard for you to somehow get to, recognize that's because the media tells us that that is so and not because you have any inherent knowledge about that, and also that there's no representation, so it is hard sometimes for us to believe things are true without us being able to see it but not going to be safe for him to say that, and then, you know, we are equal folks here, so if women can be bi, so can men. Attracted to Rick and Bobby --.

>> Rick and Bobby.

>> Sal. What kind of name is Sal.

>> Dicky Bob. (laughter) .

>> Why couldn't also be attracted to Rick and Bobby and Sally.

>> Speak.

>> Good examples.

>> And man can be the same way.

>> I think there's a real reason. Somebody might be like yeah, they don't exist. Never met a bisexual man. Blah, blah, blah.

>> You might have. Did you ask him who he slept with or attraction to his entire life?

>> Absolutely. Just being open to the fact that people don't fit this certain mold. Bisexuals don't look like anything. They don't have it painted anywhere on the body that says bisexual. They look like all kinds of people, are all kinds of people.

>> Absolutely. And I think that pretty easily leads into one of the next myths -- misconceptions of bi people once they are in a relationship they have chosen, that is done and that's the end of that. Those are only two, that can't be accurate because if you are a straight person and in relationship, are you no longer straight? I think you're just in a relationship and still straight.

>> Very good point.

>> Sexual is --.

>> Put it toward heterosexual because they still call themselves straight.

>> Still call themselves straight. I still call myself queer.

>> Totally.

>> Might be in a different way but obviously -- depending on the relationship, acting on it and think the partner is most attractive thing that ever walked the earth and some way you're attracted to people on TV, swoon, that guy in the notebook, whatever --.

>> Ryan Gossling.

>> Yeah. Yeah, you still have some sort of attraction

even though partnered -- sexuality and attraction in the world doesn't die off.

>> Absolutely. If it does, I'm sorry because doesn't sound very good.

>> That's a good point.

>> We have some other questions left but we are getting toward the end of the show so is there anything you wish we have covered we didn't?

>> I want to ring again the invisibility piece because depending who you're currently dating, hooking up with, talking to, whatever, that becomes your identity. Not in that it becomes your identity, how people identify you, and so it is really hard. You feel very in the middle of two communities. You feel like you're part of the straight community or part of the LGBT community and, you know, also depending how you look, if you don't -- how do you say this? Have that stereotypical LGBTQ haircut or clothing.

>> J Biebs.

>> Quintessential lesbian haircut.

>> Identified as straight looking queer and constantly give the hey, what up to other queer people and they look at me why is that straight girl giving me the hey, what up? Especially when I --.

>> When I was dating a man.

>> Straight girl giving me the hey, what up.

>> I would bring my boyfriend to events and called ally

by people in the LGBT community who have been judged and labeled their whole life and turn around and do it to me. Constantly like I am not an ally. But you have a boyfriend. Uh-huh.

>> Thank you. I already knew I had a boyfriend. That being in the middle piece is kind of hard.

>> I also think when you're bisexual or pansexual you go and levels of going in and out of privilege. Like depending on the relationship, and could you speak to that a little bit?

>> Yes, you to have -- especially if you look -- mainstream I can't think of another word but if people don't identify you as stereo typical person might be part the LGBT community you get a lot of privilege and walk through the world with people not treating you differently or maybe like calling hate speech at you or things like that, especially with, quote, opposite sex partner, opposite gender, if that's a binary but I feel like the opposite side is you don't get the benefits of the community. You don't get the what up wave and don't get the family discount and you don't get the -- the communal feeling. And I think again that's maybe why there's harbored feelings because people know that depending on your relationship they get religious, they don't, and kind of a weird feeling because literally I broke up with my boyfriend United States recognized me and thought I was great and then the next day I

wasn't recognized by the United States. Granted I didn't start the relationship the next day, but people looked at me as completely different person. I didn't change and felt really weird because I was in the same body and literally -- just like any other relationship quit dating someone, started dating person, just happened to be this person was a woman and literally people and government looked at me in a different way. Going in and out of privilege, get a lot of good things out of it but day-to-day and who you're dating, I can get married and then I can't, and I think that's kind of --.

>> That's weird.

>> Feels weird.

>> I never thought about that before, and I heard that from like just a person I know who identifies as bisexual kind of told me that, and I don't know, kind of hard to wrap my head around but in a good way. I was like ugh, it was gross and bad.

>> People that we really care about and we are -- if we watch someone get out of a bad relationship and then get into a really great one, it is like wait, how come the really great one isn't getting rights and privileges, it is making my friend so happy, making the person I care about happy in their life and decisions and being reported and all the things we talk about in the healthy relationship shows and yet suddenly that relationship is bad simply because of who it is with when the person

they are with now is such a great partner for that.

You're right, it is very --.

>> Hard to wrap your mind around.

>> Totally eerie.

>> It is odd rather you marry abusive -- technically you can do that and can't marry someone that's good for you. I'm not saying that's what the relationship but person in and out of that and, you know, technically could break up with same gendered partner and then have all the rights, that's a lot of pressure on the partner. Might be having to run it through the head.

This person could break up with me because they have rights because they dated someone else.

>> All the rights. That's where it goes back to healthy relationships and communication. Identify someone that's bi or pan and talk to them, say I feel a lot of anxiety that I cannot give you things like marriage, biological children, acceptance from your family, acceptance from society at large and easy time at company picnics when you go into the big world.

>> Socials .

>> Whatever we feel nervous about, feeling that anxiety, talk to your partner about it and check in with them and really find out where they're at so they can reassure you or you too in your relationship that talk about what are realistically we are doing here because what matters you're on the same page and both being

reported in what you're doing.

>> That's real valid in so many ways. Important to have the opposite gender person at your picnic and marry the opposite gender person, recognize that, and that's okay. Like there's a hierarchy of needs as far as relationship comes, and it may be more important to you to present heterosexually than to like be true to your sexual orientation. That may come before your sexual orientation and that's okay and that's valid. Just make sure you're not getting a bunch of people's feelings mixed up in that situation.

>> If you figure that out about yourself, A, way to go, way to figure yourself out, and be, be honest with the people around you if that's where you're at. Make sure you're being honest and clear this is where I am right now, not be the relationship I will be in forever because I would like to marry a man. Be honest with your partner. If it doesn't work out, that's okay. Sometimes it doesn't work out but you have to be honest and clear with each other and have those conversations. They can be hard.

>> I have been doing this -- like my own identity of, quote unquote, straight looking but if you flip it also and have someone who has dated mostly same -- you know, same gender relationships and then all of a sudden they're identifying as bi and dating opposite, it is hard. I have seen lots of students identify as lesbian

and bi and start dating a man and LGBT community just kind of shuts them out. What are you doing, you trader. So looking and being part of that stereo -- whatever, stereotypical I'm a lesbian, short hair, the Biebs haircut and dating a man, see the same issues as people who are invisible.

>> I agree. Brings me into what I was hoping to be the closing point which I know this sounds simple but treat people like you like to be treated. If you don't want people to question your identity, don't question other's identities just because it is fill in the blank and in this instance talking about bi. Hey, queer community, let's support each other. It is hard enough with the harassment and discrimination we face on daily basis and systematically and let's support one another. Somebody says I think I will date a man. That surprises me. Tell me about it. Don't be like traitor.

>> You're out of the pact.

>> Support people for what their sexuality and if you want support for your gender identity, support their gender identity.

>> If it is your friend that's bisexual and you're recognizing yourself that it is like it is your privilege that I'm mad at you about like that you get to go in and out of privilege and right now you're in a privileged relationship because you're a man and woman and like that's okay to have that conversation too. Like that -- you know,

you need to have that. Especially if they're your friend or someone you care about. That's stuff you need to talk about. And do it.

>> You they'd to remember, talk about it it had it is I system that I'm mad at. I'm not mad because you got butterflies over your stomach on this person, the butterflies granted you rights from a system that's unfair. Remember who we are mad at. Not mad at each other, we are mad at the world not recognizing us, so then be smart in how we use that anger and passion and drive in order to make the world better and support one another.

>> Ask them if it -- again, back to the self-identification piece, make sure you're checking in with them did your identity change? Do you want me to start saying that you are this identity now or one time you happen to like this guy whatever and identify as lesbian or bi because let the person self-identify.

>> Attraction is different from behavior and different from identity and important we do or don't identify folks.

>> Absolutely.

>> Next week on "Inside Out" three to four on Thursdays at KCOU Columbia 88.1 FM talking about definitions and terminology, a lot of different definitions and terminology. I think it is important, I think a lot of community know it and a lot of us don't and go through it.

>> We are breaking it down.

>> Breaking it down.

>> Thank you so much to the guests.

>> Thank you so much.

>> DJ Token.

>> Brilliant, fabulous, funny, enjoyed it. And yeah, tweet at us. This podcast will be up with the resources sometime soon. Have a great rest of your week and weekend. Use Stripes.

>> Bye. [music]

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