

NO: Sexual Preference
YES: Sexual Orientation

The word “preference” denotes choice

NO: Homosexual
YES: Gay, Lesbian, LGBTQ

The word “homosexual” is appropriate in a clinical, not personal, context

NO: Admitted, Avowed, Practicing Homosexual
YES: Openly Gay

Insensitive rhetoric that suggests being gay is sinister, shameful, and secretive

NO: Gay Agenda
YES: Gay Rights, LGBTQ Rights, Human Rights

Using accurate words to describe a movement to raise awareness and achieve equal treatment

WORDS MATTER

- Practice communicating in an affirming way
- Show respect by choosing appropriate words
- Be sensitive to others
- Avoid being offensive



NO/NEVER:
Fag, faggot, homo, dyke

NO/NEVER:
Pervert, Deviant, Depraved, Unnatural, Immoral, Sinful

Being LGBTQ is not:
Disorder, Disease, Sickness, Dysfunction

LGBTQ People are not in need of Repair, Curing, Conversion