

Workshop: Creating Safe Spaces - Being An LGBTQIA Ally



Overview: The Safe Space workshop is an innovative, dynamic, hands-on approach to creating *safe space* for all; focusing specifically on the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA) community. From the classroom bully to the unintentional exclusion by use of certain language, LGBTQIA people frequently find themselves excluded and uncomfortable in a variety of settings. This workshop aims to reduce the often unwelcoming and even hostile environments in which LGBTQIA people navigate in their daily lives. Workshop participants will explore their role and responsibility in creating a more welcoming environment at work, school, and in our communities. All attendees will leave the workshop with greater understanding and workable solutions for promoting *Safe Spaces of Respect, Acceptance, and Support* for all.

Objectives:

- Participants will develop an understanding of the lived experiences of LGBTQIA people through current statistics and examples.
- Participants will be able to identify sources of unwelcoming behaviors in a variety of settings.
- Participants will become more familiar with and comfortable in using LGBTQIA-inclusive terminology.
- Participants will learn to dispel negative stereotypes and develop strategies to create more welcoming and inclusive environments for LGBTQIA people.
- Participants will be able to recognize many of the issues and scenarios that LGBTQIA people experience in their workplace, community or school and formulate effective responses.

Workshops: Training workshops are 3 hours for groups of 10 to 40 people and include a resource booklet for each participant. (Fees are negotiable)

Salisbury University and Surrounding Community Contact: Dr. Diane S. Illig by email at dsillig@salisbury.edu
Sociology Department Chair, Safe Space Training Coordinator, Salisbury University

If you are interested in scheduling a workshop for your agency or organization -

Contact for Maryland state government, county agencies and others outside the Salisbury area:

Tara Taylor at tara.taylor@maryland.gov or 410-767-6459

Director of Education & Outreach, Maryland Commission on Civil Rights