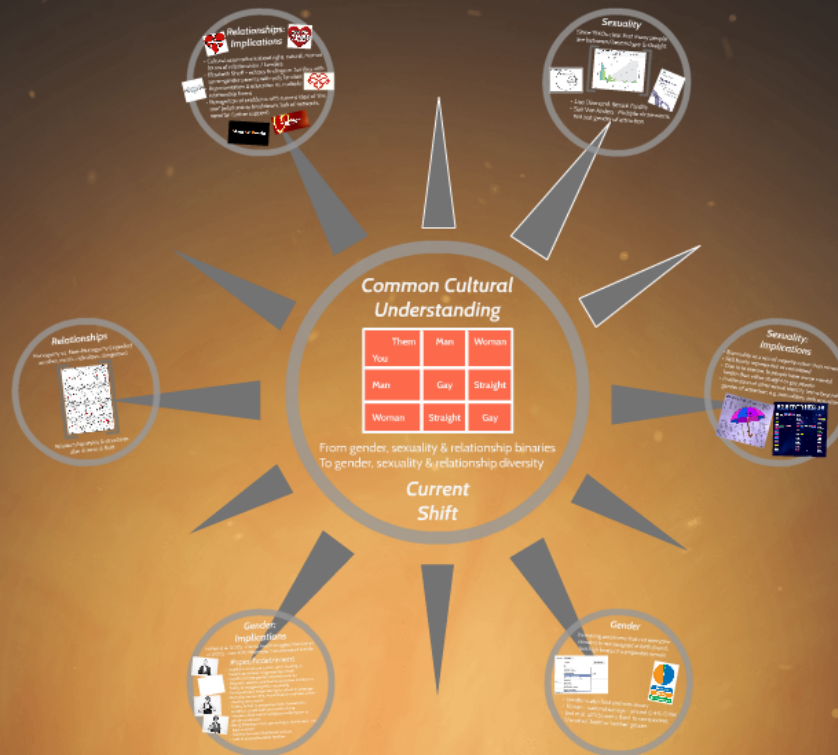


The Explosion of Gender, Sexuality & Relationship Diversity (GSRD)

Dr. Meg-John Barker





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Common Cultural Understanding

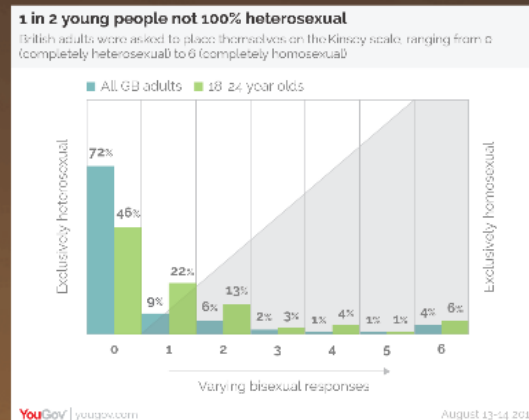
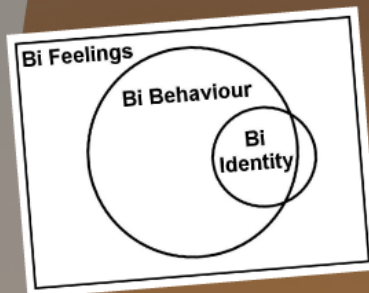
Them You	Man	Woman
Man	Gay	Straight
Woman	Straight	Gay

From gender, sexuality & relationship binaries
To gender, sexuality & relationship diversity

Current Shift

Sexuality

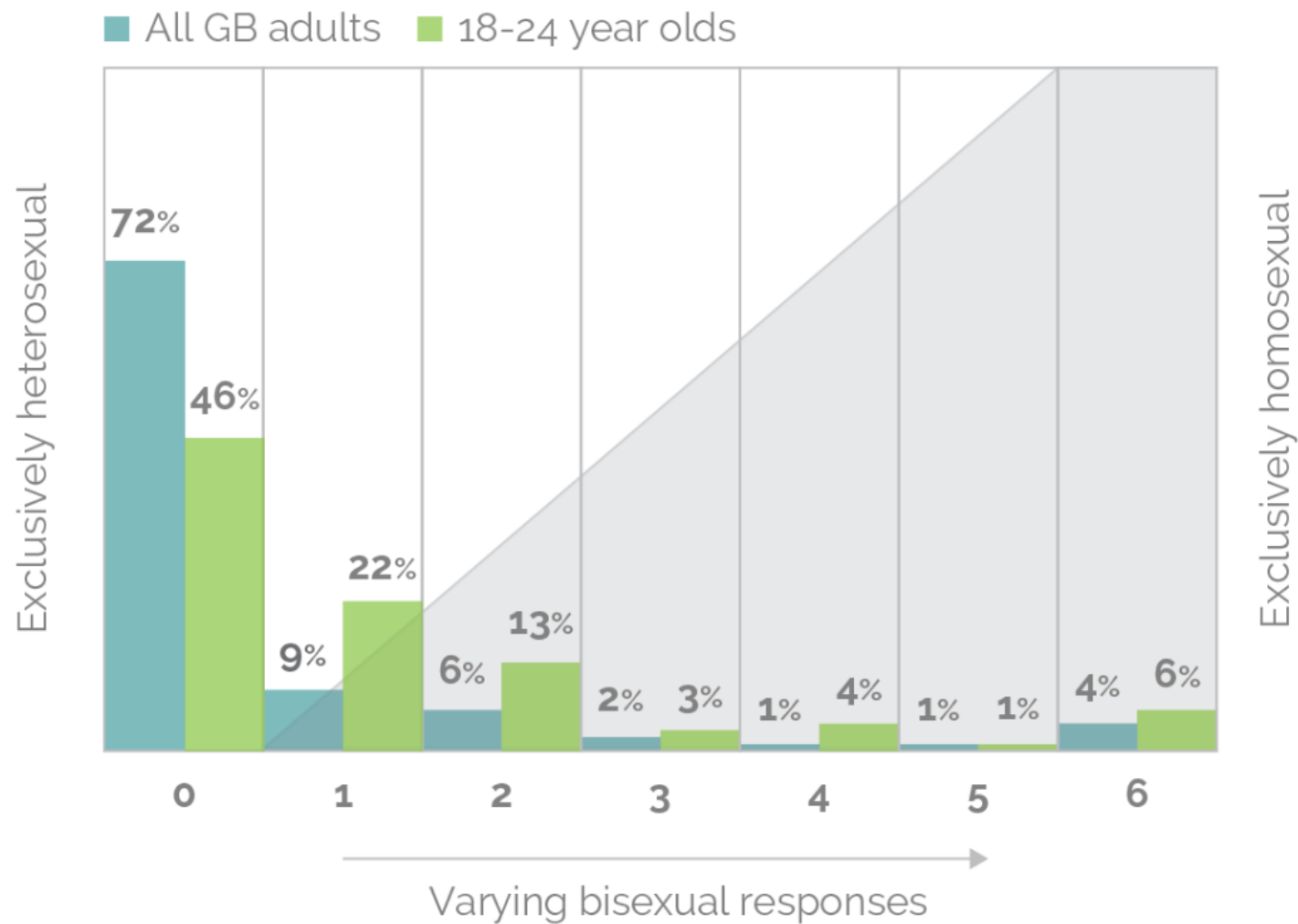
Since 1940s clear that many people are between/beyond gay & straight



- Lisa Diamond: Sexual fluidity
- Sari Van Anders : Multiple dimensions, not just gender of attraction

1 in 2 young people not 100% heterosexual

British adults were asked to place themselves on the Kinsey scale, ranging from 0 (completely heterosexual) to 6 (completely homosexual)



Sexuality: Implications

- Bisexuality as a sexual *majority* rather than *minority*
- Still barely represented or considered
- Due to bi erasure, bi people have worse mental health than either straight or gay people
- Proliferation of other sexual identity terms beyond gender of attraction, e.g. asexualities, kink sexualities



THE BISEXUAL* UMBRELLA

BISEXUAL*

Anyone attracted (sexually, romantically or otherwise) to people of more than one gender, or to people of similar+different genders, and who identifies as bisexual*.

- * This text represents one person's opinion and is not meant to speak for anybody else.
- * The umbrella only includes people who identify under it and want to be included.



PANSEXUAL/ OMNISEXUAL

Anyone attracted to people of all genders and sexes, or regardless of sex and gender, and who identifies as pan or omni.

POLYSEXUAL

Anyone attracted to people of many genders and sexes (but not all), and who identifies as poly.

QUEER

A non-specific identity for describing anyone diverging from heterosexuality monogamy and vanilla sexuality. In a bi-spectrum context, it's used to convey attraction to people of more than one, or to many gender(s).

FLUID

Attraction which changes or might change over time (towards people of various genders).

HOMOFLEXIBLE/ LESBIFLEXIBLE

People who are usually attracted to people of genders similar to their own, but might occasionally be attracted to people of genders different from their own.

HETEROFLEXIBLE

People who are usually attracted to people of genders different from their own, but might occasionally be attracted to people of genders similar to their own.

OTHER BI* IDENTITIES

Include: biromantic, panromantic, bisensual, pansensual, bi-dyke, byke, bisexual-lesbian, ambisexual, anthrosexual, multisexual, gender-fluid, homosexual, and many more.

BI-CURIOUS

Describes people who are usually gay, lesbian or heterosexual, and who are curious about experimenting with people of genders different from their usual preference.

Made by Shiri Eisner <http://bidyke.tumblr.com>



Prezi

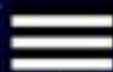
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SEXUAL IDENTITY PRIDE FLAGS



HETEROSEXUAL / STRAIGHT



HETEROROMANTIC



TRANSROMANTIC



STRAIGHT ALLY



HOMOROMANTIC



LITHROMANTIC



HOMOSEXUAL / GAY



BIROMANTIC



GREYDEMIROMANTIC



LESBIAN / LIPSTICK LESBIAN



PANROMANTIC



NEUTROISROMANTIC



BISEXUAL



POLYROMANTIC



ANDROPHILIA



PANSEXUAL



AROMANTIC



GYNEPHILIA



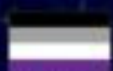
POLYSEXUAL



MONOROMANTIC



DEMISEXUAL



ASEXUAL



ANDROROMANTIC



AUTOCHORISSEXUAL



LITHSEXUAL



GYNOROMANTIC



AUTOSEXUAL



SKOLIOSEXUAL



ANDROGYNOROMANTIC



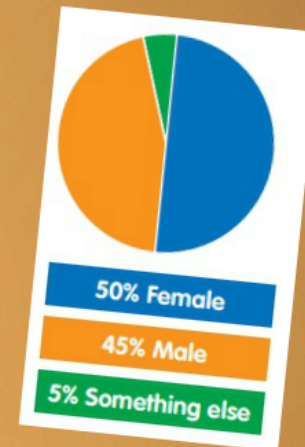
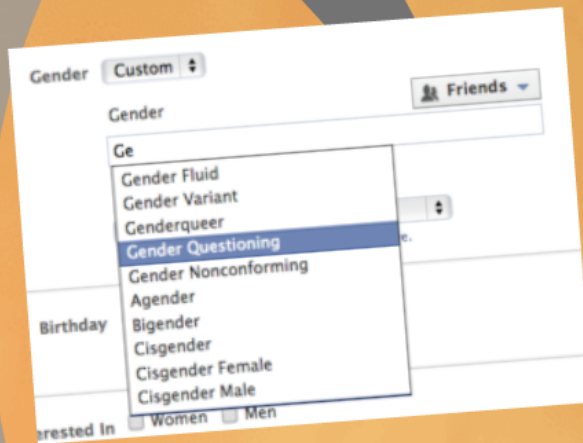
CHAMELEOSEXUAL



Prezi

Gender

Increasing awareness that not everyone remains in sex assigned at birth (trans), but high levels of transphobia remain



- Gender is also fluid and non-binary
- Titman - national surveys - around 0.4% ID NB
- Joel et al. (2013) over a third to some extent 'the other', 'both' or 'neither' gender

Gender: Implications

McNeil et al. (2012) - mental health struggles, Harrison et al. (2012) - over 40% NB people had attempted suicide

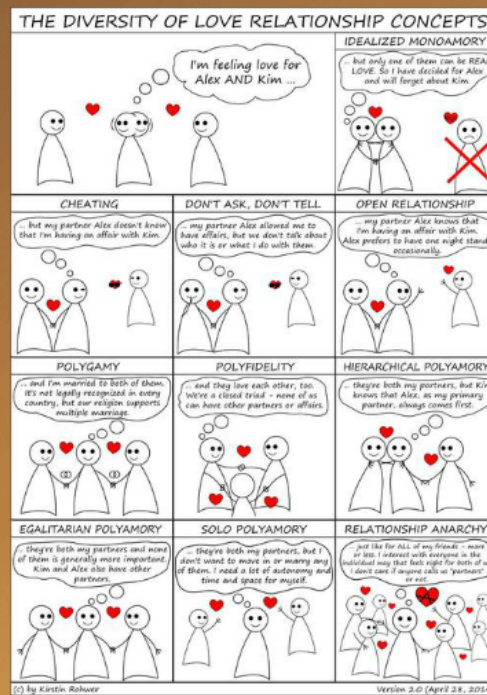
#specificdetriment

- Inability to access education, work, housing, or healthcare without misgendering oneself
- Inability to have gender recorded correctly
- Hospitals, prisons, care-homes and other institutions failing to recognise gender accurately
- Facing constant misgendering by others in language
- Everyday harassment, discrimination and hate-crime - > feeling very unsafe
- Feeling forced to present as male/female to be accepted, access work and make a living
- Intense school and/or workplace bullying due to gender expression
- Being forbidden from presenting as non-binary - no legal recourse
- Inability to access healthcare services
- Lack of accessible public facilities



Relationships

Monogamy vs. Non-Monogamy (regarded as other, exotic, ridiculous, dangerous)



Relationship styles & structures
also diverse & fluid

THE DIVERSITY OF LOVE RELATIONSHIP CONCEPTS

			IDEALIZED MONOAMORY ... but only one of them can be REAL LOVE. So I have decided for Alex and will forget about Kim.		
CHEATING ... but my partner Alex doesn't know that I'm having an affair with Kim.		DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL ... my partner Alex allowed me to have affairs, but we don't talk about who it is or what I do with them.		OPEN RELATIONSHIP ... my partner Alex knows that I'm having an affair with Kim. Alex prefers to have one night stands occasionally.	
POLYGAMY ... and I'm married to both of them. It's not legally recognized in every country, but our religion supports multiple marriage.		POLYFIDELITY ... and they love each other, too. We're a closed triad - none of us can have other partners or affairs.		HIERARCHICAL POLYAMORY ... they're both my partners, but Kim knows that Alex, as my primary partner, always comes first.	
EGALITARIAN POLYAMORY ... they're both my partners and none of them is generally more important. Kim and Alex also have other partners.		SOLO POLYAMORY ... they're both my partners, but I don't want to move in or marry any of them. I need a lot of autonomy and time and space for myself.		RELATIONSHIP ANARCHY ... just like for ALL of my friends - more or less. I interact with everyone in the individual way that feels right for both of us. I don't care if anyone calls us "partners" or not.	

(c) by Kirstin Rohwer

Version 2.0 (April 28, 2014)



Relationships: Implications



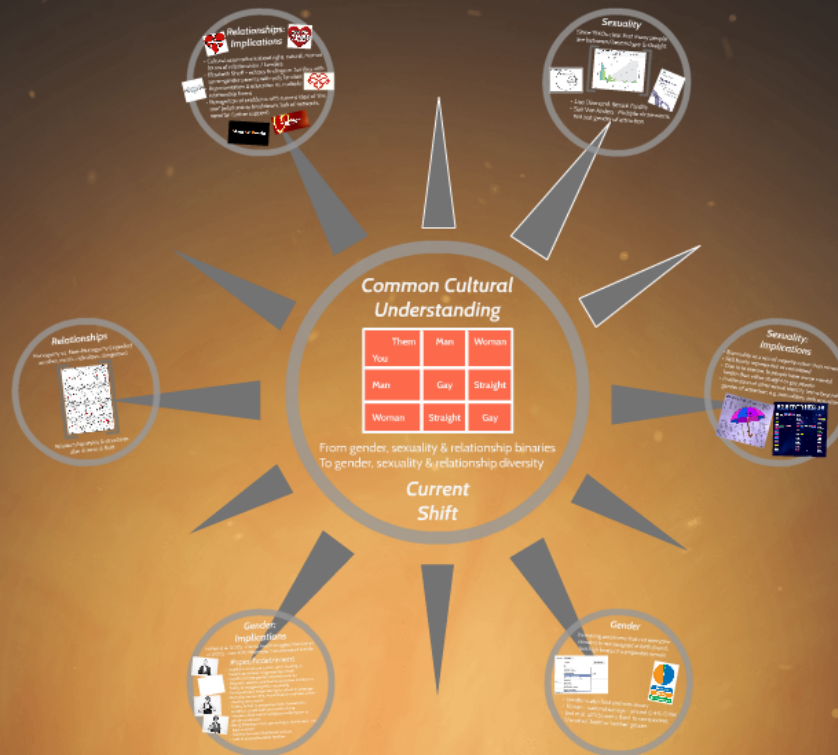
- Cultural assumptions about right, natural, normal forms of relationships / families
- Elizabeth Sheff - echoes findings re. families with same-gender parents with poly families
- Representation & education re. multiple relationship forms
- Recognition of problems with current ideal of 'the one' (relationship breakdown, lack of networks, need for further support)



Further Resources

- BACP GSRD resource (Barker, 2017)
- rewriting-the-rules.com / megjohnandjustin.com
- Barker, M-J. (2018). *Psychology of Sex*. London: Routledge and Psychology Press.
- Richards, C., Bouman, W., & Barker, M-J. (Eds.) (2018). *Genderqueer and Non-Binary Genders*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Barker, M-J. & Scheele, J. (2016). *Queer: A Graphic History*. London: Icon Books.
- Barker, M. J. & Gabb, J. (2016). *The Secrets of Enduring Love*. London: Penguin RandomHouse.
- Barker, M. (2013). *Rewriting the Rules*. London: Routledge.





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