



## **I8: Heterosexual assumptions in health care assessments**

**Type of Exercise:** classroom/workshop activity

**Level:** Intermediate

**Length of time:** 60 minutes

**Resources needed:** None

### **Instructions:**

#### **Part I. Divide the group in half.**

- One half of the group is asked to write down ten things they would want to know about someone they were meeting for the first time who was coming to them as a patient or client. What are the ten most important questions you need to ask all of your clients/patients in order to provide the best quality of care?
- The other half is asked to write down 10 things they would want a health care provider to know about them as patients or clients when meeting for the first time.

#### **Part II. Ask for one volunteer from each group to role-play an intake/assessment session.**

- One participant acts as the health care provider and uses the ten questions generated in Part I, another participant acts as the patient/ client who comes in with their own list of ten things they want the provider to know about them, and the other participants serve as observers.
- After 15 minutes, stop the role-play and have them explore how they experienced the role playing, what they felt, thought about, and would do differently the next time. Did the health care provider questions address the concerns that the client/patient brought into treatment? Follow this by a discussion of the overt and subtle heterosexual assumptions present in the interactions. Did the interaction leave openings for someone who is LGBT or Q to express their concerns?

#### **Part III. Use the discussion that stems from Part II to modify the ten questions generated in Part I.**



This work by [Lavender Health](http://www.lavenderhealth.org) is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/).  
Permissions beyond the scope of this license may be available at <http://lavenderhealth.wordpress.com/about-2/permissions/>.

*Developed for Lavender Health by  
Mickey Eliason and Carla Randall*