



# DIVERSITY - SEXUAL ORIENTATION

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

2010-11



# HIGHER EDUCATION ISSUES

- ⊙ Housing, roommates
- ⊙ Don't Ask Don't Tell – Military/ROTC
- ⊙ Class Discussions (inclusive language)
- ⊙ Workplace Socialization
- ⊙ Student Organizations' Recruitment and Membership
- ⊙ Personal and Electronic Bullying/Harassment



# CAMPUS PRIDE SURVEY

- ③ 23% LGBTQ staff, faculty, and students reported experiencing harassment
- ③ 33% LGBTQ and 38% transgender students, faculty, staff have reported considering leaving their institution due to the challenging climate
- ③ 43% staff, faculty, and students hide their sexual identity to avoid intimidation
- ③ 43% transgender and 13% LGBTQ feared for their physical safety



# UCA PRISM

Pride

Raising Awareness

Involvement

Support

Mentoring

**UCA PRISM estimated membership - #400**



# SEXUAL ORIENTATION

- ◎ **3 - 4% of men, 1 - 2% of women**

(Laumann 1994, Mosher 2005, Smith 1998)

- ◎ **2.5 % of US population is gay or lesbian**

(2000 US Census estimates)

- ◎ **3% of men, 1.5% of women describe self as gay or bisexual**

(Doughton, National Institute of Health, 2005)

- ◎ **3 % of US population in homosexual relationships**

(American Community Survey 2006 US Census estimates)



# SEMINAR OBJECTIVES

- ① **Awareness**

Higher Education Issues, PRISM, Data, Students' Reflections

- ② **Education**

Terminology/Symbols, Law, Religion

- ③ **Understanding**

Personal Assessment, Group Exercise, Steps of Respect, Speak Up!



# DISCUSSION ETIQUETTE

- ⦿ Allow everyone to participate
- ⦿ Agree we can disagree, and do so with respect
- ⦿ YOU determine what you share
- ⦿ Allow yourself to learn



# SEXUAL ORIENTATION

## Personal Assessment & Group Activity





**3 % of US population in homosexual relationships**

(American Community Survey 2006 US Census estimates)

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**40% of suicide victims are gay or lesbian**



# UCA STUDENT COMMENTS....

- ① ....”I came out majorly in my senior year of high school, though coming out is a continuous process. I have not told my family ----too dangerous.
- ① ....” when I bought \_(name)\_\_Valentine's candy because I had a crush on him. The person I told ‘outed’ me when I was a senior. I lost all of my friends and my mom hated me.”



# UCA STUDENT COMMENTS....

- ① ....” I came out to my siblings and some friends in High School but I officially came out in college. I’ve had mostly positive experiences, but I haven’t told my parents or aunts because I’m afraid of their reaction.”
- ① ....” My first memory, 10 years old. Fully came out around 16-18. Family good - - dad still in denial.”



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- ③ Campus Pride – “2010 State of Higher Education for LGBT People”  
[www.campuspride.org/research](http://www.campuspride.org/research)
- ③ Joel Burns’ YouTube – “Joel Burns Tells Teens it Gets Better” [www.joelburns.com](http://www.joelburns.com)
- ③ Mom to Daughter (October 1, 2010 post)  
<http://www.vicky-bell.blogspot.com/>



**“I’m gay.... But I’m also so  
much more.”**

**---UCA student responding to questionnaire**