What is Lesbiophobia/Homophobia?

Homophobia involves harassing, prejudicial treatment of, or negative attitudes about or towards lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, two spirited, queer or questioning individuals (LGBTQQ) or those who are perceived as these sexual orientations or gender identities. Homophobia also includes the belief that heterosexuality is normal and LGBTQQ identities and sexualities are sinful, deviant and/or disgusting.

What is Heterosexism?

Heterosexism is a system of belief that heterosexual norms and identities are superior, normal and desirable, and that all other sexualities and gender identities are seen as abnormal, inferior, or deviant.

What is Heterosexual Privilege?

Heterosexual privilege refers to unearned advantages and rewards given to heterosexual persons because of their sexual orientation, and includes ways that gender and sexual norms and roles are organized according to heterosexual norms and ideologies.

What is Queer? A once derogatory term reclaimed by LGBTTQQ positive space.

Queer is a term for transsexual, transgendered, inter-sexed people. Trans people is a prevalent problem on this campus.
Effects of Implementing the Positive Space Campaign

Challenging campus heteronormativity and promoting visibility for LGBTTQQ people is the main goal of the Positive Space Campaign. The University of Toronto Positive Space Website explains:

[t]here is still widespread reluctance to speak out about sexual and gender diversity, which stands in stark contrast to the routine talk of the sexual and emotional bonds of heterosexual people. LGBTTQ people grow up in and work in environments rife with signs that same-sex attraction is repugnant. Stereotypical and rigid male and female gender roles limit the freedoms and rights of those whose gender identity is outside of these boundaries.

The silence surrounding LGBTTQQ issues must be broken in order to combat this type of homophobia on campus. This is accomplished through the visibility of LGBTTQQ positive posters.
Two-spirited beings has special and respected roles as teachers, leaders, artists, seers and spiritual guides and had special ceremonial duties.

References
University of Toronto Positive Space Campaign
http://www.positivespace.utoronto.ca/site5.aspx
University of British Columbia Positive Space
http://www.positivespace.ubc.ca/
LGBTQQ Positive Space Brock University
http://www.brocku.ca/positivespace/

What Not?
Multiple Canadian post secondary institutions, notably the University of Toronto, McGill University, Queen’s University, University of Calgary, University of British Columbia, Wilfrid Laurier University, recently Brock University and many others currently have Positive Space initiatives. Waterloo is the only university that does not have a well developed program to widely promote sexual diversity and alternative identity acceptance.

The question is Why Not?
GLOW, University of Waterloos gay and lesbian center, has been attempting to implement this program for four or more years. The Feds have meet briefly regarding implementation and in 2006 made it known that they supported the Positive Space Initiative, however nothing was done after that. The university has refused to implement the program as it could create negative spaces on campus. University of Toronto addresses this problem stating that:

[i] If you do not see a rainbow triangle sticker in a room or office, don’t assume that the occupants.

TWO SPIRITED: The Two-spirited person is a native

What is it?
There have been many public homophobic crimes of graffiti by youth to gain visibility or fame. Identity.

Identity.

again is Why Not?

symmetrical mirror on campus. The question of

regarding sexual diversity and alternative identity acceptance. Students, faculty and staff must help GLOW

sticker.

do not have control over what goes on their

have negative views regarding sexual diversity.
invisibility of bisexuality as a valid sexual orientations or gender identities. heterosexual and lesbian/gay/bisexual (LGBTQ) or those who are perceived as these two spirited, queer or questioning individuals. Experienced in both the heterosexual and

## Definitions and Terms

### Uniqueness Positive Space Campaign for University Campuses: Methodology of Distribution

Homophobic acts that occur on the University of Waterloo campus are of a diffused nature that is it occurs at the individual or group level through daily acts. There is no direct institution from which these acts derive. The context of violence and ignorance directed towards LGBTQ people is taken into account in the dissemination of the Positive Space posters, stickers and buttons. Instead of having a unified group that distributed these posters and stickers, students, staff and faculty personally put up the posters and buttons. Thus, when someone sees a poster they know that an individual put it up supporting LGBTQ people, not a group.

As ignorance and systematic violence occurs in a diffused nature on campus, so must the resistance. In disseminating postcards to students our postcard project also took this into account. After information was provided to students about the Positive Space Campaign they have the option of peeling of the sticker and placing it anywhere on campus which states I support Positive Space at the University of Waterloo. The sticker facilitates individual students tagging university

### Implementation of the Positive Space Campaign

Alternative locations and support the campus visibility to sexual diversity and groups on campus, their sport and want to bring down problematic signs on any sort of LGBTQ people. stickers to emphasize that many individuals, who stick tags of visibility or come of gay things to gain visibility of some spaces. Tagging is not primarily used as a method
Homophobia also includes the belief that what term he/she prefers, or else using “partner” political activism or academic inquiry on LGBQTT more to them than sex. You can ask the person term to encompass all of LGBQTT, or to refer to two spirited, queer or questioning individuals people, a purely sexual connotation, which is as an umbrella term for everyone who has http://www.positivespace.utoronto.ca/site5.aspx http://www.positivespace.ubc.ca/ University of British Colombia Positive Space attracted to or involved with other men; also used Inter-sexed: A person who is born with both male References heterosexual and lesbian/gay/bisexual characters. Homosexual and heterosexual norms, that privilege heterosexuals over all (heterosexualism) refers to societal values and beliefs and “norms” that privilege heterosexuality over all other sexual orientations. Discrimination against cross-dressers, Transphobia Conscious or unconscious hatred of, transsexuals, transgender people and other fear of, and discrimination against cross-dressers, gender=benders. Experienced in both the heterosexual and lesbian/gay/bisexual identities, masculine, feminine and communities. Typically demonstrated through disrespect, denial of rights and needs, and often harassment and violence.

Implementing the Positive Space Campaign: Helpful Information

Before students, staff and faculty can make educated decisions it is important to understand terms and concepts underlying the Positive Space Campaign.