

# Queering Up Social Work: From Theory to Pedagogy to Practice

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Transgressing Boundaries and the Intersection of Sexualities in Social Work Conference

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# Overview

- Introduction
- Contextualizing Terminology
- Approaching and Incorporating Sexual and Gender Theory in Social Work
- Including Gender and Sexual Diversity in Social Work Pedagogy
- Practicing Gender and Sexually Diverse Sensitivity in Social Work
- Making the Links to Queer Up Social Work
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# Introduction

- Personal Naiveté and Social Work
- Local Stealth Activist
- Provincial Firsts
- National Critique
- International Responsibility
- Professional Integrity

# Contextualizing Terminology

- 'Queering'
- 'Sexualities'
- 'Gender Identities/Expressions'
- 'Queering Up'

# Approaching and Incorporating Sexual and Gender Theory in Social Work

- Women's/Feminist Studies
- Gay and Lesbian Studies
- Queer Theory
- Queer Liberation Theory

# Including Gender and Sexual Diversity in Social Work Pedagogy

- Inclusion of Gender and Sexual Diversity in Curricula
- Core vs. Elective Courses on Gender and Sexual Diversity
- Relevant readings, case studies, role plays, etc.
- Gender and Sexually Diverse field placement experiences

# Practicing Gender and Sexually Diverse Sensitivity in Social Work

- Non-Heteronormative approach
- Inclusive assessment forms and assessments
- Inclusive and/or specialized programming
- Inclusive equity policies

# Making the Links to Queer Up Social Work

- Principled and Ethical Stances:
  - IFSW
  - IASSW
- Documented Policy
- Research
- Training
- Practice



# Queering Up Social Work: Critical Arguments

- Sexuality and/or gender identity and expression are an integral part of many people's lives
- Society's understanding and acceptance of the diversity of these concepts lags
- Social work's responsibility to bridge the two
- Direct practice, programming, management, policy making, funding, etc.

# Contact

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