



“Never doubt for a moment that a small group of dedicated citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has“

Margaret Mead

Diversity in Action



Co-operative Housing
Federation of Canada

MAY 1999

Lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and trans-gendered people are —

- co-op board members
- parents and grandparents
- people of colour
- co-op staff
- delegates
- seniors
- leaders
- disabled
- aboriginal/First Nations
- teenagers
- your neighbours
- your friends

Sometimes people don’t know that lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgendered people are NOT:

- HIV carriers
- child molesters
- perverts
- unstable

These are some of the bad stereotypes we have to live with.

When people believe these bad stereotypes, it causes us to -

- hide our sexuality/be “in the closet”
- not get involved in the co-op
- feel isolated and left out

This Prejudice hurts!

It hurts us inside, it leads to anger and fear, and it can lead to being discriminated against.

Lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgendered people sometimes find it hard to be open about our sexuality in the co-ops where we live. That’s because –

- people stop talking when we come up
- people make homophobic jokes
- people don’t want us around children.

Who are we really?

- I’m a member on the finance committee
- I’m always willing to help out at kid’s parties
- I’m quiet and keep to myself but I work hard for the co-op
- I’m chair of the board

We’re just like YOU!

PLEASE POST

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and Rights
Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)