Intersections of Race/Ethnicity, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity & Gender Expression

When people are both persons of color and LGBTIQA+ identified or same-gender loving they may feel that they have to “choose” between the conflicting identities. Often, LGBTIQA+ identified or same gender loving people of color feel pulled by each of their cultures to primarily identify with one culture (e.g., sexual orientation or racial/ethnic identity). Because LGBTIQA+ identity is often not visible to others, it is sometimes easier to deny or ignore that aspect of self. For many it is difficult to strike a balance that allows them to be empowered and liberated in all of their identities. Multiple oppressions affect their lives because:

- They may have increased difficulties as a result of the multiple marginalized identities.
- They may feel like one aspect of their identity conflicts with another aspect of their identity
- They may find it challenging to find a community where all aspects of their identities are affirmed and celebrated

The experience of each racial/ethnic group is different depending on cultural values and beliefs about LGBTIQA+ people. Each person has a unique experience of having multiple identities.

Books:
1. Margaret Anderson and Patricia Hill Collins (eds.), Race, Class, and Gender (8th Ed) (2008).


**Websites:**


2. Desi LGBTQ Helpline for South Asians [http://www.deqh.org/] 100% confidential support for South Asian / Desi lesbian, gay, bi, trans, queer, questioning individuals, families, and friends.

3. The National Center for Black Equity [http://centerforblackequity.org/] The mission of the National Center for Black Equity is to promote a multinational LGBT network dedicated to improving health and wellness opportunities, economic empowerment, and equal rights while promoting individual and collective work, responsibility, and self-determination.

4. National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) [http://www.nqapia.org/] The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) is a federation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Asian American, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Pacific Islander (AAPI) organizations.

5. XQsi Magazine [http://xqsimagazine.com/] An LGBTQ Latin@ multimedia publication that reexamines identity, guides critical dialogue, and inspires political action through content that reflects the diversity and dignity of our community.