

Bisexual, Omniseual, & Pansexual Identity and Communities

Bisexual – A term used to describe someone who is attracted to and may form sexual and romantic relationships with someone regardless of that person's gender-identity or genitalia. Omniseual and Pansexual are related terms that are used by some to connote their recognition of the fluidity of gender or that there are more than two genders. There is less research about developmental issues for this community. It is assumed that they experience many of the same issues as gay and lesbian persons. However, there are some issues unique to their experiences.

- Many people who are bisexual feel marginalized by heterosexual and LGBTIQA+ communities.
- Although many bisexuals tend to align themselves with gay and lesbian communities, the bisexual identification is frequently met with skepticism in the homosexual community and is seen as an attempt to avoid the stigma of homosexuality.
- One common misperception among both heterosexuals and those who identify as lesbian and gay is that bisexuals are promiscuous and spread HIV through their actions.

Books:

1. William Burleson, *Bi America: Myths, Truths, and Struggles of an Invisible Community* (2005).
2. Shiri Eisner, *Bi: Notes for a Bisexual Revolution* (2013).
3. Lisa Diamond, *Sexual Fluidity: Understanding Women's Love and Desire* (2009).
4. Robyn Ochs and Sarah Rowley (eds.), *Getting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World* (2009).

Websites:

1. Bisexual Resource Center [<http://biresource.org>] Since its inception, the Bisexual Resource Center has been creating resources, providing support, and helping to create a stronger sense of community for bi/pan/fluid people across the U.S. and beyond.
2. Bisexual.org [<https://bisexual.org>] Bisexual.org is a project designed to introduce our community to the world. With this site, we hope to bring faces

and voices of the bi community to the world, share accurate information, answer questions, and provide resources for further learning.

3. BiNet USA [<http://www.binetusa.org/>] As America's oldest advocacy organization for bisexual, pansexual, fluid, queer-identified and unlabeled people, BiNet USA facilitates the development of a cohesive network of independent bisexual and bi-friendly communities; promotes bisexual and bi-inclusive visibility; and collects and distributes educational information regarding sexual orientation and gender identity with an emphasis on bisexual, pansexual, fluid, queer (bi+) communities.