

Personal Comfort Assessment

All foster children have a right to be treated with respect and dignity. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning (LGBTQ) youth in care often face additional challenges as they negotiate their sexual orientations in a society often hostile to nontraditional sexual identities. Take the following assessment to determine whether you are ready to work with LGBTQ youth in care.

	Disagree	Neutral			Agree
	1	2	3	4	5
1. Being LGBTQ is healthy and normal.	1	2	3	4	5
2. I would be able to emotionally support an LGBTQ child in my home.	1	2	3	4	5
3. I would be comfortable with a foster child in my home bringing their same-sex partner over.	1	2	3	4	5
4. I would be comfortable advocating for the educational needs of an LGBTQ child placed with me.	1	2	3	4	5
5. I would not ask for a child to be removed from my house based solely upon their sexual orientation.	1	2	3	4	5
6. I would be accepting toward a close friend or family member who is LGBTQ.	1	2	3	4	5
7. LGBTQ people should have the same rights as straight people.	1	2	3	4	5
8. Transgender youth should be able to wear clothing that is consistent with their gender identity.	1	2	3	4	5
9. I would be okay with a foster child in my home coming out to me.	1	2	3	4	5
10. I would feel comfortable displaying LGBTQ-friendly magazines, books, etc. in my home.	1	2	3	4	5

If you agree with most or all of these statements, you can be a great support to LGBTQ youth. If you don't, ask yourself if you're able to work with this population. Either way, we suggest you talk more with your licensing specialist about this issue and what opportunities exist to learn more!