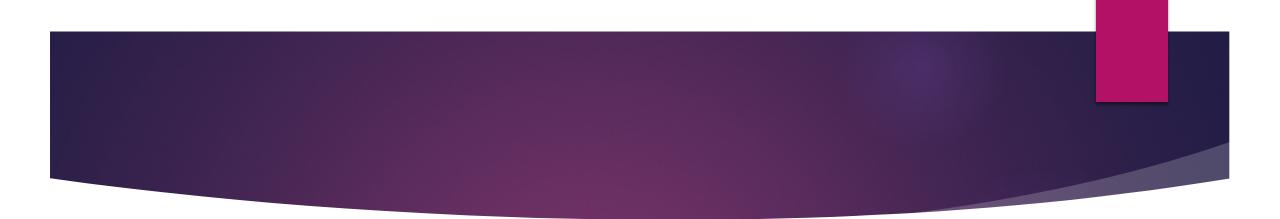
The Queer Refugee Hearings Program (QRHP) Toolkit

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Chairperson's Guideline 9: Proceedings Before the IRB Involving SOGIE (SC)

Guideline at Para 2.6

There is no standard terminology that adequately captures the diversity within and between the evolving concepts of sexual orientation and gender identity and expression across cultures and societies.



Why might some individuals not use terms like 'LGBT', 'gay', or even 'homosexual' in their testimony?

Impacts of Erasure / Stigma

individuals may have never heard positive language, or any language, that might reflect their personal SOGIESC. As such, they may have extremely limited experience putting their SOGIESC into words

Awareness or Acting on ≠ Identity

☑ people may feel or act on same-sex attractions or gender variance, without associating these feelings with an identity



Image:they don't use terms like "gay" or "homosexual" in the ways that we understand them due to a cultural variation in SOGIE concepts

Guideline at Para 3.1

Depending on factors such as race, ethnicity, religion, faith or belief system, age, disability, health status, social class and education, individuals with diverse SOGIE recognize and act on their SOGIE differently. <u>An</u> <u>individual's self-awareness and self-acceptance of their</u> <u>SOGIE may present as a gradual or non-linear process</u>. There is no standard set of criteria that can be relied upon to establish an individual's identification as an individual with diverse SOGIE.

The Staged-Identity Models

Stage one: Identity Confusion

 aware for the first time that homosexuality may define his or her thoughts, feelings, or behaviors

Stage two: Identity Comparison

begin addressing their feelings of otherness and social alienation

Stage three: Identity Tolerance

 individuals will select certain other gays and lesbians to fulfill social, emotional, and sexual desires

Stage four: Identity Acceptance

seek more opportunities to be in contact with other sexual minorities

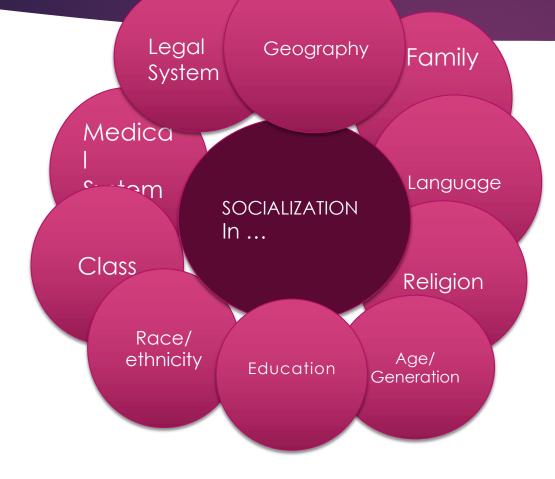
Stage five: Identity Pride

feel comfortable enough to reveal identity to others

Stage six: Identity Synthesis

- overcome societal stigmatization of non-heterosexual intimacy
- integrate their private and public sexual aspects of self

SOGIESC: Diversity within & beyond LGBTIQ+ 10 identities



Each individual's SOGIESC shaped by unique constellation of social memberships

No standard criteria

(Guideline 9, Section 3.1)