

Who we are

Helpline and Info: 401-751-7571
www.pflagprovidence.org

We invite you to share our knowledge, to be free from fear, and to reach out, search, and discover more about being human.

We are Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transgendered people. We are committed to helping other families learn what we have learned, and to help change attitudes and create an environment of understanding so that all gay people can live with dignity and respect.

We know how to educate a misinformed society about homosexuality because many of us were once misinformed ourselves.

We encourage parents of gay women and men to call us to talk, ask questions, and especially to attend our monthly support meetings. Here, participants find a confidential, warm and safe place where we express feelings, share our concerns with others, and find comfort and reassurance about our gay loved ones. PFLAG offers a wonderful opportunity for families, friends and gay people to learn and grow together.

Founded in 1981, PFLAG has grown to over 500 chapters and has become one of the most respected and effective grassroots organizations in the United States. Today, PFLAG represents more than 27,000 families—and speaks for countless others—concerned about society’s attitudes toward their gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered loved ones.

PFLAG’s mission is to provide support, education & advocacy.

About our children

Gay people are healthy.

The American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychological Association have recognized that homosexuality is not a mental or emotional disorder.

Gay men and women share the same amount of interest in sexual activity as heterosexual persons, neither more nor less. Lifestyles of gay persons cannot be lumped into one category any more than heterosexual lifestyles can. Gay persons establish stable, long-lasting relationships, work for a living, shop, vote, pay taxes, buy homes and rear healthy children.

Gay people are naturally homosexual.

Homosexuality is *not chosen*, like selecting clothes or a line of work. No one knows how human sexual orientation is determined. In discussions with hundreds of families with gay children, we have found that:

- The gay child is most often aware of his/her sexual orientation at a very early age.
- None of the children was influenced or taught to be gay by any person. One can’t be “recruited” to homosexuality.
- In homes where gay children attempt to become heterosexual, all attempts fail. Being gay is not just a stage youngsters go through. In 1990 the American Psychological Association stated that no scientific evidence shows that conversion therapy works, and that it can do more harm than good.

Gay people are everywhere.

Lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgendered people come from families in all corners of the earth, from every culture, religious and ethnic group, and in every occupation. Kinsey estimated that about 10% of the population is homosexual; gay people and their families represent over one-third of the people in this country.

WITH LIFETIMES OF **MYTHS**

AND MISINFORMATION ABOUT

HOMOSEXUALITY

MANY PEOPLE DON’T KNOW

WHERE TO TURN

WHEN THEY **FIND OUT**

A FAMILY MEMBER

OR FRIEND IS **GAY.**

PFLAG IS HERE FOR THEM.



Numerous national professional, religious, civic and educational associations approve of PFLAG’s mission and praise our work. Psychiatrists and other mental health professionals often refer clients to PFLAG as a valuable adjunct to professional treatment.



PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS of LESBIANS AND GAYS

GREATER PROVIDENCE CHAPTER
www.pflagprovidence.org

**Families giving
caring,
confidential
support**

PFLAG's family voice is a rich tradition—began in 1972 when a courageous mother marched alongside her gay son in New York City's gay pride parade. Her single voice, which called on society to treat all of its citizens with understanding and respect, has been joined by tens of thousands of voices over the years—both straight and gay—to make PFLAG the foremost family voice on issues crucial to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, and their parents, families and friends.

- PFLAG helps parents to understand and accept their LGBT children;
- PFLAG helps LGBT people—of whatever age—understand and come out into honest relationships with their parents;
- PFLAG helps society understand and respect people of all orientations and gender identities;
- Physicians, clergy and therapists often refer clients to PFLAG.

All are welcome to attend our meetings without charge.



YES! I would like to become a supporting member of PFLAG. Enclosed is my check for:

- Student/Limited Income \$15 Household \$30 Additional Contribution \$ _____
 Individual \$25 Newsletter only \$10

Send checks (payable to PFLAG/Greater Providence) to PFLAG, c/o Apr. 212, 500 Angell Street, Providence, RI 02906.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

All information held in confidence. PFLAG does not sell, lease or lend mailing lists to any person or group. Our mail is sent in plain, unmarked envelopes.