

# Case Studies on School Issues

## MIDDLE SCHOOL/ HIGH SCHOOL

- A. In a middle school class, while teaching *To Kill a Mockingbird* and discussing modern prejudices, the subject of gays comes up. One student announces, "I hate fags."
- B. A middle school student reports that he is being called "fag" and a "Rainbow Boy" by some high school students.
- C. After an assembly on name-calling and treating gay students with respect, a 6th grader goes home and tells his parents that he is gay.
- D. Two male students are caught "making out" at a level of PDA not allowed in your school.
- E. A 10th grade student comes to you and says that he has something very personal to say. He tells you that he is gay. (Variants: he tells you he might be gay; he tells you not to tell his parents; he tells he may have AIDS.)

## ALL GRADES

- F. During a recess/PE, several students make "fag" and "That so gay" comments. One student who has two mothers comments on this in her journal entry in English.
- G. A teacher in the school tells you that she is scared to let anyone know that she is gay, even though the school has in its policies a non-discrimination clause protecting sexual orientation.

## GENERAL/ADMINISTRATION

- H. A parent wishes to hold a presentation on campus on "the homosexual agenda" and Reparative Therapy (the ability to change one's sexual orientation).
- I. An angry parent writes a letter and then comes in complaining that his son should not be punished for making hateful or anti-gay comments on the school bus.

### Useful Guide

- How is this student/issue like all students/issues?
- How is this student/issue like other multicultural or disenfranchised groups?
- How is this student/issue unique to transgender students?