



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Parents and Their Children: Support Strategies for Educators

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Awareness of the diversity of families has increased among professional educators over the last decade. Our schools are comprised of children who are part of family constellations that deviate from traditional households of a biological father, mother, and siblings. According to the 2000 census, 99% of counties in the United States reported the presence of self-identified lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) couples, many of which have children or will have children in the future (U.S. Census, 2000). Even with increased awareness of such partnerships, LGBT families and their children may still tend to be rendered invisible by a society that condones prejudice and discrimination and devalues its gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender members.

Our schools today are built on the belief that all students have the right to a quality education that allows students to reach their full potential. The National Education Association (NEA, 2006) supports educators' efforts to be inclusive and respectful of LGBT issues within the school setting.

Communiqué Handout: