

1st Sex and Gender Diversity (SGD) Human Rights and Dignity Conference –
Australasia. 2011 - Sydney Friday 2 December , 2011
Redfern Community Centre, The Block, Sydney

Hello workshop coordinators: please email the following before the end of October

1/ A 100-word bio, using whatever name you are presenting under.

2/ A picture of yourself if you are comfortable with that but if you are not, that is ok.

Conference and Workshops Guidelines

One of the most important parts of this conference will be to formulate outcomes to publish to help forward the course of human rights improvements for all sex/or and gender diverse groups of people.

Sex and/or gender diverse (SGD) people are made up from many differing groups including people who are intersex, transexed, transsexual, transgendered, androgynous, without sex and gender identity, cross-dressers and people with sex and gender culturally-specific differences. They are people who experience variations in physical presentation and social behaviour that is other than stereotypically male or female. Each group may have its own physical, psychological, social, legal and political issues that may not necessarily relate to any of the other groups.

Our idea for the workshops is as follows:

Each workshop will have three workshop coordinators who will help lead the workshop. They will be people with special knowledge in the area of the workshop's topic. They can be from both professional and the public forum to get a fair balance on analysing the issues of concern.

We are looking to workshop coordinators to help guide the workshop in a positive and constructive direction so that all experience that their voice has been heard. In debates please try to guide the debate in positive directions. Ask people to focus on the issues and refrain from personal attacks. There are bound to be many different opinions on issues but it is important to keep the process a constructive, building process.

The three workshop coordinators will each have five minutes at the beginning of the workshop to present their knowledge, and the rest of the workshop will be around a talking circle format where all attendees get an opportunity to contribute to the debate. Those workshop coordinators guide the workshop to producing up to 10 recommendations and changes to further the human rights of sex and/or gender diverse groups in that particular area in which the workshop is concerned.

After the workshop is finished the recommendations are given to the conference assistant on the day so that all the recommendations from different workshop can be amalgamated into a conference outcome.

Please ask people not to use queer, transgender, GLBTI or GLBTIQ as an umbrella phrase as this is offensive to some people who do not associate with those labels. The conference is specifically about the needs of different groups of people who have difference in sex and/or gender. Some of the attendees may be gay, lesbian, bisexual or queer, but many SGD groups do not identify with the GLBQ community. Some people may be transgender but many will not be. Also, many people from SGD groups do not identify with the queer community so it is also inappropriate as an umbrella term for the conference. Please ask people to respect that other people may not identify as they do.

We will also have SAFE place monitors in all workshops so everyone can feel safe in being heard, no matter who they are.

If you are writing a paper or anything for the conference please submit before 25 November.

We are also exploring the possibility of workshop coordinators producing a more expansive amount of information on the workshop (around 5,000 words) for publication after the conference. It need not necessarily be an academic work; it can be a brief overview of the workshop and some stories told within the workshop about those people's experiences (participants will be guaranteed anonymity).

The workshop schedule will be posted on 1 December.

This conference is intended to be an intersection between those concerned and working for the rights, health and wellbeing of people from sex and/or gender diverse groups. Continual profession education certificates will be available for professionals working in the field on an hour pro rata attendance basis.