

## Creating an Inclusive Culture: One Difficult Moment at a Time

HERO Webinar – Jessica Halem

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## It's awkward. It's hard. But nothing will change if We don't try.



#### Learning to give and receive feedback well is the hardest thing you will ever do at work.



# Diverse and inclusive organizations have employees that are 19% more likely to stay.

https://aperian.com/blog/the-ten-big-benefits-of-diversity-in-theworkplace/#:~:text=A%20Corporate%20Leadership%20Council%2 Opiece,hop%20from%20job%20to%20job.



#### Workplace Inclusion is an Economic Issue



of Gen-Z said they consider an employer's commitment to diversity and inclusion when deciding where to work. <sup>1</sup>



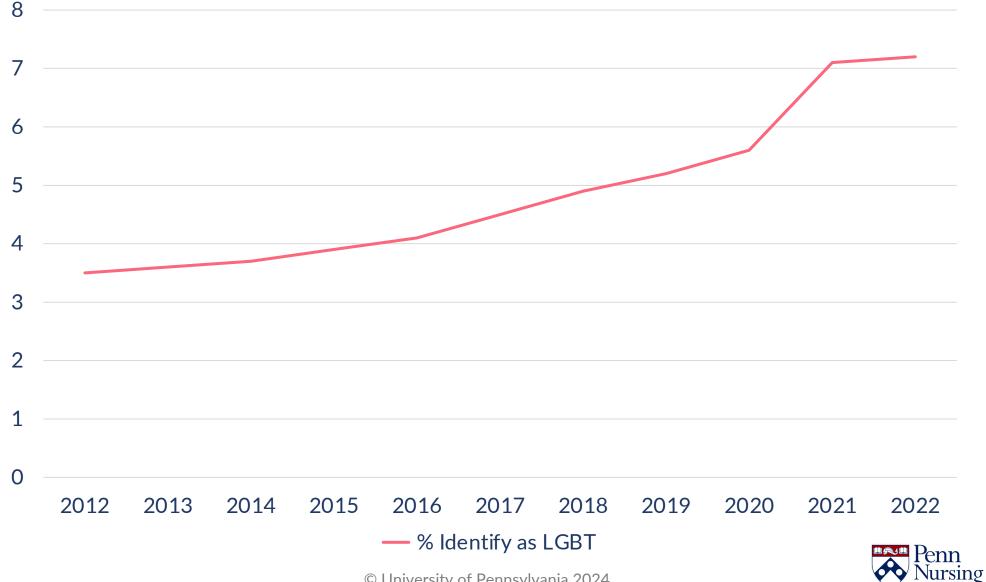
would think twice before applying for a job at an organization if they weren't pleased with their efforts to promote diversity and inclusion.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup><u>https://hiring.monster.com/resources/blog/monsters-2020-state-of-the-</u>candidate-infographic/

<sup>2</sup> <u>https://www2.staffingindustry.com/Editorial/Daily-News/75-of-Gen-Z-to-reconsider-applying-at-a-company-with-unsatisfactory-D-I-efforts-63021</u>

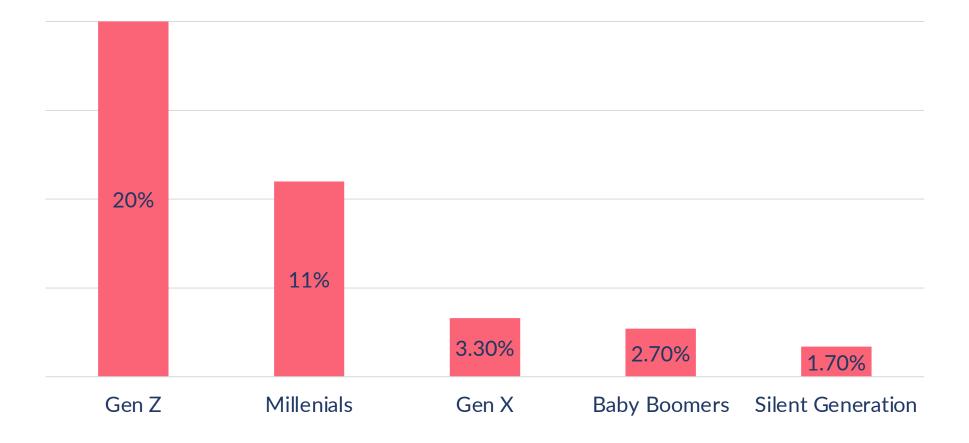


#### Americans' Self-Identification as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Something Other Than Heterosexual, 2012-2022



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Eidos LGBTQ+ Health Initiative **Total LGBT Identifying, by Generation 2022** 





Jones, J. M. (2023, June 5). U.S. LGBT identification steady at 7.2%

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  University of Pennsylvania 2024

#### **Driver of Difference: Exposure to Stress**

LGBTQ+ people experience "cumulative trauma" both personally and as a community because of discrimination and violence.

LGBTQ+ people face family and religious rejection and anxiety over concealing sexual orientation and gender identity. LGBTQ+ people in historically minoritized racial and ethnic groups experience much higher rates of poverty, unstable housing, and lack of health care.



## You do not need to understand to treat everyone with respect and dignity.



## Belonging

A fundamental human need—the feeling of deep connection with social groups, physical places, and individual and collective experiences.

Allen KA, Kern ML, Rozek CS, McInereney D, Slavich GM. Belonging: A Review of Conceptual Issues, an Integrative Framework, and Directions for Future Research. Aust J Psychol. 2021;73(1):87-102.





#### **The Loneliness Epidemic**

The mortality impact of being socially disconnected is similar to that caused by smoking up to **15 cigarettes a day**.

# "I don't know where to begin."



# Making Mistakes with Grace



**Check yourself before your wreck yourself.** Are your first impressions and assumptions accurate, or are you relying on out-of-date information or stereotypes that may not fit the facts?



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**Seek feedback.** Ask someone from a different background and ask what to expect, how to approach something new, ask **what is respected and valued**, and look for and respond to behavioral cues.





**Create opportunities to ask or to observe what motivates others.** Reflect on the differences between key motivators for them and for yourself, and how to best address what motivates them.



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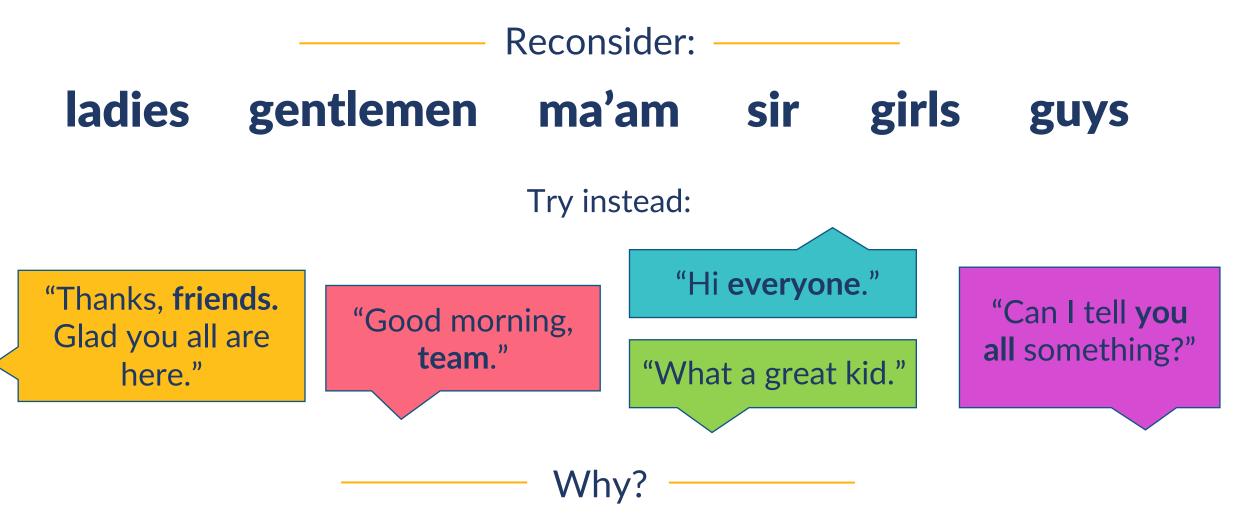
Ask why. If a colleague asks or responds in a way that you did not expect, respectfully ask for more information about what they are thinking and why.





#### Language = Power





We need not gender everyone all the time. Especially kids. Especially at work. Shifting to gender neutral language helps us be more human first.

#### **Be mindful of language**

## Find the path that helps us all treat each other with respect and dignity.





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#### **THANK YOU**

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