

From Bananas to Zucchini: **How Talking About Asexuality Contributes to Queer and Trans Positive, Comprehensive Sex Ed**

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Asexual: no sexual attraction
(and/or no partner-focused sexual desire)
— may or may not experience romantic attraction

Grey-asexual/Greysexual: some sexual attraction
Demisexual: sexual attraction only after intimacy

Non-asexual allies

(“sexual” or “zedsexual” or “allosexual”)

Community

“ace” for everyone on the asexual spectrum

Many Types of Attraction

- Sexual
 - Romantic
 - Aesthetic
 - Intellectual
 - Sensual
 - Etc...
-
- Romantic vs. Sexual

Asexual Spectrum

Asexy Census (Asexual Awareness Week, 2011)

- Romantic orientation

- Aromantic (aro).....20%
- Homoromantic (gay or lesbian).....5-10%
- Heteroromantic (straight).....20%
- Biromantic (bi) or panromantic (pan).....20%
- Other (e.g., WTF-romantic), etc.....30%

- Lots of gender diversity

- 1 in 5 is trans and/or gender-variant

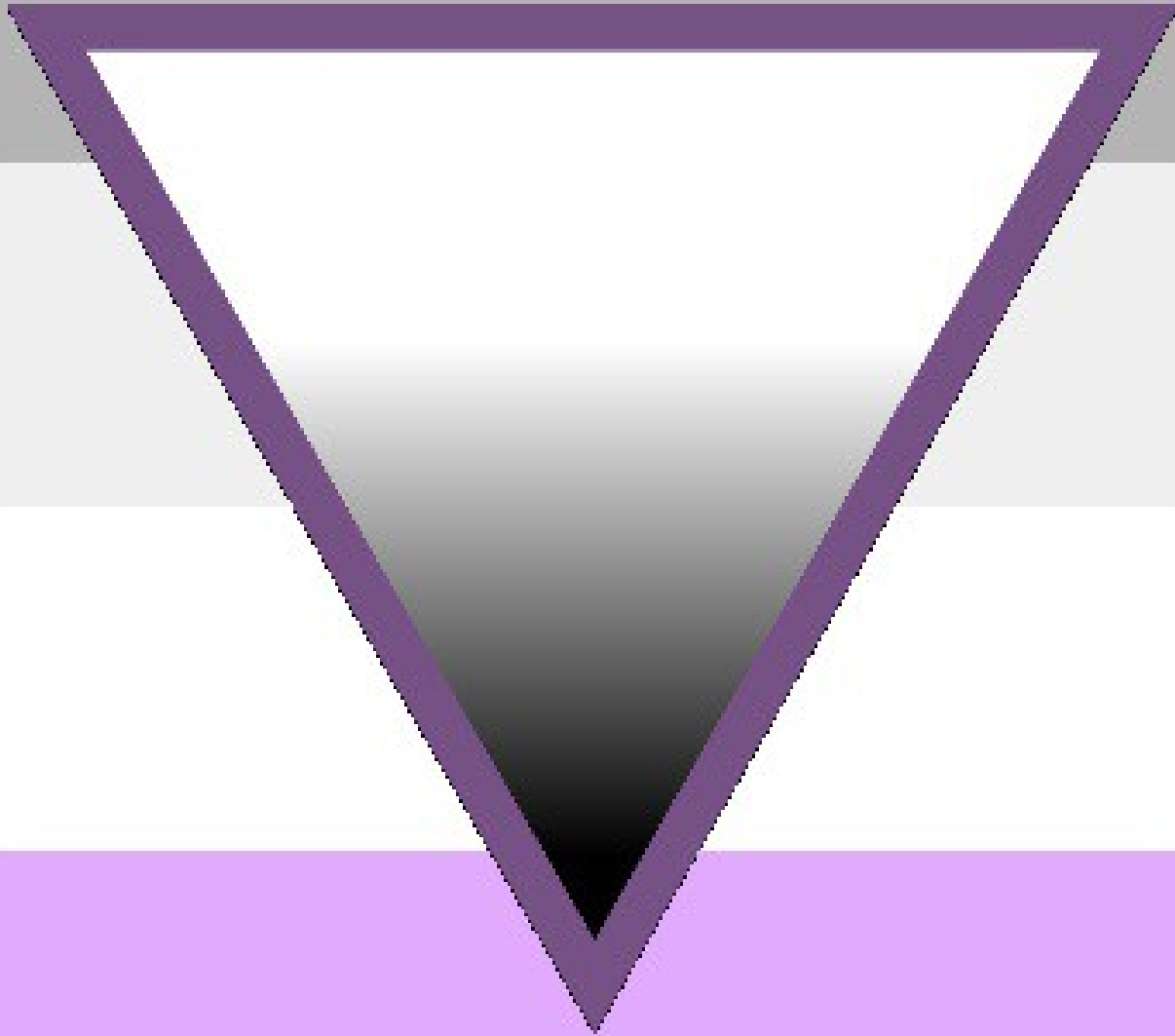
Relationships

- Friendships
- Families (of origin, created and found, etc.)
- Community relationships
- Romantic relationships
 - mono or poly

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- **“Non-normative” relationships**
 - Not “romantic” relationships but also not adequately expressed by “friendship”
 - Queerplatonic (or quirkyplatonic)... “zucchini”

Questions?



Activity: Lightning Relationship Brainstorm

- Think about the kind of relationship on your card
- In groups, brainstorm... (5 minutes)
 - What do people in these relationships do with each other?
 - What responsibilities do people in these relationships have toward each other?
 - How should other people treat these relationships?

Activity: Lightning Relationship Brainstorm

- 1 Representative of your group presents ideas
(2 minutes per group)

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 - What values and assumptions do you see?
 - Do you see anything that challenges assumptions you made?

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- Respond & Reflect: (15 minutes)
 - What values and assumptions do you see?
 - Do you see anything that challenges assumptions you made?
- Problem Solving: (15 minutes)
 - How can that be addressed or talked about via a discussion of asexuality?

Wrapping up...

- How do you think that talking about asexuality helps you meet your goals of queer and trans* positive sex ed?
- How do you think you can incorporate talking about asexuality into your work?

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