

ADVOCACY

People First of Toledo Monthly Newsletter



**People First
of
Toledo**

LGBTQ+ Intersectionality

By Quinn Thomas

Intersectionality is a word coined by Kimberle Crenshaw. It is the study of overlapping or intersecting social identities and related systems of oppression, domination, or discrimination. That means that someone is in more than one minority group at once. Today, we will be talking about people who are both disabled and LGBTQ+.

LGBTQ+ people actually have higher rates of disability than the general population. 24% of Americans consider themselves disabled, but 36% of LGBTQ+ Americans consider themselves disabled. That's the difference between 1 in 4 and 1 in 3.

The difference is even higher among the

UPCOMING EVENTS

DOMINO'S FUNDRAISER

June 2-16, with kickoff on June 2nd at 3:00. If we sell 225 cards together, we all get People First t-shirts!

DISABILITY ETIQUETTE WORKSHOP

June 6, 3:00-5:00, at Meeting Room 1 in the Main Library. Presented by OOD.

SUPER SATURDAY DANCE

June 8, 7:00-9:00, at Five Lakes Church gymnasium.

DISABLED & PROUD FEST

July 6, 11:00, at Swan Creek Metropark. Walk with People First in the parade!

ONE-DAY CONFERENCE

November 8, 9:00-5:15, at the University of Toledo Lancelot Thompson Student Union.

transgender population. More than half of all trans people are disabled.

	LGB	Trans	Cishet
Any Disability	35%	52%	24%
Cognitive	24%	35%	9%
Mobility	10%	19%	12%
Vision	6%	20%	5%

Why does this matter? The thing about belonging to a marginalized group is that it makes life hard. So if you're in two marginalized groups, then that makes life twice as hard. Disabled LGBTQ+ people are often excluded from both queer spaces and disability spaces. This is because each group assumes the people there will be *only* LGBTQ+, or *only* disabled. This is a stereotype.

Stereotypes are common ideas about entire groups of people all having the same trait, or traits. Negative stereotypes lead to negative treatment. Disabled LGBTQ+ are more likely to be harassed, unemployed, and arrested. This is, in part, because of stereotypes.

We fight stereotypes with information. Learning real facts about different groups of people will make you more aware of how different (and how similar) we all are.

This pride month, make an effort to unlearn some stereotypes. We can all have a part in making the disabled community a more inclusive space, and we should. LGBTQ+ disabled people are already in our lives and our communities.



OUR NEXT MEETING

April 18th, 6:00-7:30, virtually on Zoom or in-person at the Holland Library in Community Room B. Meeting dues are \$5 or \$50 for twelve months.

Advocate Sally Fish from the Disability Aging Rail Coalition at the Ability Center will be our guest speaker, talking about expanding accessible passenger rail options.