Gay or Straight - Same or Different?
(Adapted from Venette Cook, City College of San Francisco)

Objectives
• To explore personal feelings and beliefs about homosexuality via self-assessment
• to use the self-assessment as a foundation for healthy class discussion

Audience: High school students and adults
Materials Needed: Copies of the exercise, writing utensils
Time Required: 30 – 40 minutes, depending on length of discussion

Teacher Instructions: This values-clarification exercise should be completed in pairs or small groups. Allow students to separate themselves into groups of 2 or 3 and complete the following exercise. When they have completed the assignment, discuss the statements and students’ responses as a full class. This exercise can be used for several purposes. One suggestion is to use it as an introduction to a discussion about hate crimes. Discussion of the exercise may provide a natural lead-in into a discussion of why members of the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and trans-gendered community are targets of hate crime.