CampOUT! tips from your kids!

What would you like your parents/caregivers to know/understand but would rather NOT teach/tell them?

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This isn’t a phase!

“[My disability doesn’t influence my gender identity]"

“[Pronouns matter even if I don’t dress the way you see gender]"

“[You don’t have to understand to be supportive]"

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"Love unconditionally"

We don’t need to live by gender expectations and societies expectations!

"Respect your kid’s boundaries about their identity”

"It’s okay to grieve the loss of the child you once knew and to celebrate the child you now have”

"Listen when your kids do try to teach you”
Trans folks have always been here!

The youth also wanted their parents/caregivers to know that trans, non-binary, and two-spirit folks have been erased from history, especially through processes like colonization, so it may seem like trans folks are new and haven't existed before, but they/we have!
"I wish my parents would learn more about the experiences of others - being pushed to constantly provide them with different examples gives off the feeling that they don't feel like bothering to put in any effort to learn/understand."

Google is your friend (AND friendship takes work!):

- see if you can answer your questions before asking
- learn how the community has changed from when you were growing up
- learn things/terms as they might have different meanings than when you were young
- learn how to explain things to people that are confused about it
- look up 'first things to say when someone comes out to you.' My family's first words are the ones I remember the most!
What WOULD you like them to ask you about?

- What is the best thing about being queer?
- How do I ask a person about their pronouns?
- How to ask “how do you identify?”
- What is ok to share and what is private?
- Which pronouns should I use when talking about you with your teacher, etc?

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Please Don't....

"A few things we don't find helpful/supportive"

Don't make it a big deal/phase/disease, just keep it chill!

Don't out your kids, ESPECIALLY without their consent

Don't blame me for not being what you expected me to be

You don't have to change your beliefs but **DO acknowledge your reactions**

Don't mistake ME as inconvenient... cis-sexism and heteronormativity are the problem

"I wish they DIDN'T ask me if my friends and partners were out"
Activity Time

Take a moment to think about any hopes and/or fears you have at this point in your parenting journey.

We will share these on a group whiteboard and in the chat box to help guide this session.

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Thank You For Attending!

What’s next?

- Peer Support parent groups online
- CampOUT! VQFF Screenings!
- Keep in touch with each other
- We hope this session supports you in listening, learning, and being curious!

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