Handout 1, Core Identity and Models of Sexual Orientation

Core Identityⁱ

Core Identity has three components:

- Gender Identity: your deep inner feelings of gender, regardless of anatomy
- Style of behavior: your natural inclinations and expressions
- Sexual orientation: whom you are attracted to

Example:

I am a female (gender identity) who is very competitive (style of behavior) and is a lesbian (sexual orientation).

Models of Sexual Orientation

The Kinsey Scale

People rate themselves on a 6-point scale

The Klein Orientation Grid

People rate themselves on a 7-point scale

The Storms Scale

People rate themselves according to a 4-box grid

The Transgender Child: A Handbook for Families and Professionals, pp. 12-13