Ace Day Discussion

4/6/2023
LGBTQ+ Western
Aces & Aros
Agenda

- Introductions
- Ace Day History
- Ace Identity Overview
- Ace Challenges and Joys
- As/Is Video
- Discussion Prompts
- Open Discussion
- Other Gaypril Events

Please enjoy snacks, come and go as you need, and respect each other in this space.
Introductions

• Name
• Pronouns
• Why are you here today or what do you hope to learn today?
• Bonus: Ace media or characters you know
Ace Day History

• International Asexuality Day is the formal name. There are other asexuality/ace days too.
• It is a coordinated worldwide campaign to promote the ace umbrella including demisexual, gray-aseexual, and other ace identities.
• Four themes are:
  • Advocacy
  • Celebration
  • Education
  • Solidarity
Ace Identities

• Split Attraction Model (SAM): split of sexual and romantic attraction into two spectrums
• A-spec: An easy term to describe anyone under the asexual, agender, and aromantic umbrellas
• Allosexual: A person who experiences sexual attraction
• Alloromantic: A person who experiences romantic attraction
• Any of these identities include sexual orientation or romantic attraction in different ways. People can be asexual and straight, aromantic and lesbian, etc. Any combination is possible
• Note:
  • Each identity will vary per person and may change based on context and situation
Ace Identities

Asexual:

- The more common term people will use since subterms may not be understood by everyone
- A person who generally does not experience sexual attraction
- May have sexual repulsion, be sexual positive, or sex neutral
- May masturbate
- May want to have sexual contact with others but not want to receive sexual contact
Ace Identities

Aromantic:
• A person who generally does not experience romantic attraction
• Many may enter what are called QPPs: Queer Platonic Partnerships.
  • Have the same commitment as a romantic relationship such as living together, having children, even getting married, but without romantic attraction
Ace Identities

Grey-Asexual and Greyromantic

• Anyone who falls in the “grey area” between allo- and ace-identity

• May experience some romantic and/or sexual attraction but varies per situation and person

• Can also include people with low sex drive
Ace Identities

Demisexual and Demiromantic

- Demi- is French for “half”
- First coined to describe a person who does not experience attraction to an individual until a significant emotional bond has formed.
- Primary attraction is attraction to people based on first impressions, such as appearance or how they smell.
- Secondary attraction is attraction to people that develops over time, and forms out of the relationship one has with a person, and their emotional connection.
- This can be applied to both romantic attraction and sexual attraction.
- Demisexuals or demiromantics do not experience primary attraction but do experience secondary attraction.
Ace Identities

Reciprosexual/Recipromantic
• A person who does not experience sexual or romantic attraction unless they know the feelings are reciprocal.
Ace Identities

Akoisexual/Akoiromantic

• The flip of the last one. A person who may experience romantic or sexual attraction, but they lose attraction when the feelings are reciprocated
Ace Identities

Aceflux/Aroflux

• Someone whose sexual and romantic orientations fluctuate to include sexual and asexual or romantic and romantic attraction

• This fluctuation can make it hard for someone to know what their sexual or romantic attraction and orientations are
Ace Identities

Agender identities

• Agender: Someone who does not have a gender identity. Falls under trans and nonbinary umbrellas

• Demi-gender/boy/girl: Someone who experiences the suffix gender but only part of the time or in situations
Common Ace Challenges

• Sexual and romantic focused culture and media
• Lack of knowledge or respect for ace people
• Sexual assault or harassment
• Challenge finding their identity due to lack of representation
• Intersectionality: lack of representation of people of color, disabled, religious minorities, or other identities in community
Common Ace Joys

• Strong sense of intimacy and platonic relationships
• Small by tight community
Asexual People Answer Questions
You’re Too Afraid to Ask
Discussion Prompts

• What did you learn today? (video, lecture, shared stories, etc.)
• What questions do you still have?
• What can allo-sexual and allo-romantic people do be better allies for ace people?
• What are ways ace people can be in community (such as Aces and Aros!)
Open Discussion

• What else do you want to talk about?
Supporting LGBTQ+ Students in the Classroom and Community.
Gaypril Lunch & Learn & LGBTQ+ Lounge Opening
WWU 31st Annual Drag Show
Queer & Trans People of Color (QTPOC) Kickback
LGBTQ+ Roommate Mixer
LGBTQ+ Faculty, Staff, and Student Mixer
Undocuqueer Lunch & Learn
LGBTQ+ Intergenerational Panel
WWU Queer Con 2023!

To see our full list of events and for up-to-date information visit: 
lgbtq.wwu.edu/gaypril

AA/EO. Gaypril events are intended for all participants, including those with apparent or non-apparent disabilities. For disability accommodation(s) (such as ASL interpretation, etc.) or event questions please contact Joe Hahn at lgbtq@wwu.edu or 360-650-7583. Advanced notice is appreciated and sometimes necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.

To provide further accessibility for our disabled community members, we encourage all participants to mask at the Gaypril events.
Upcoming Gaypril Events

**LGBTQ+ ZUMBA DANCE PARTY**
Open for beginners, all are welcome! Free for students. $5 for guests. Meet at the campus Rec.
Friday, April 7th, 6-7:30 PM

**31st Annual DRAG SHOW!**
Hosted by Mr.
Pacific Concert Hall
Saturday, April 8th
Doors open at 7 PM, show starts at 7:30 PM
$10 student, $15 general admission
(Bring cash tips)

**QTPOC KICKBACK**
Monday, April 10th, VU Multicultural Center, 6-8 PM
Come chill with other LGBTQ+ BIPOC people and connect with LGBTQ+ Western, Ethnic Student Center, and Black Student Coalition staff and community. Snacks provided.

**LGBTQ+ POWER HOUR**
Want to gain confidence in the gym with fellow LGBTQ+ members? Come join us!
Mondays & Wednesdays, 7-8 PM
Free class? Say less.
Thank you for coming!