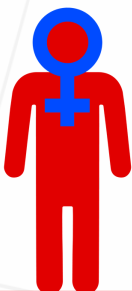
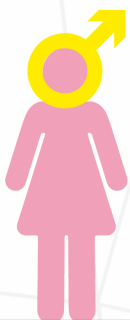




# IT IS OK NOT TO BE OUT OF THE CLOSET



**It is ok NOT to be out  
of the closet**

**As beautiful, as valid  
our feelings are, they  
will always be  
perceived wrongly by  
people who do not  
understand your  
sexual orientation.**



**Is ok NOT to be out of the closet**



**How do you  
intend to explain  
to such persons  
how harmless,  
how peaceful and  
how valid your  
feelings are?**





**I wish society will  
understand that  
queer people  
exist, we always  
have and we  
always will.**

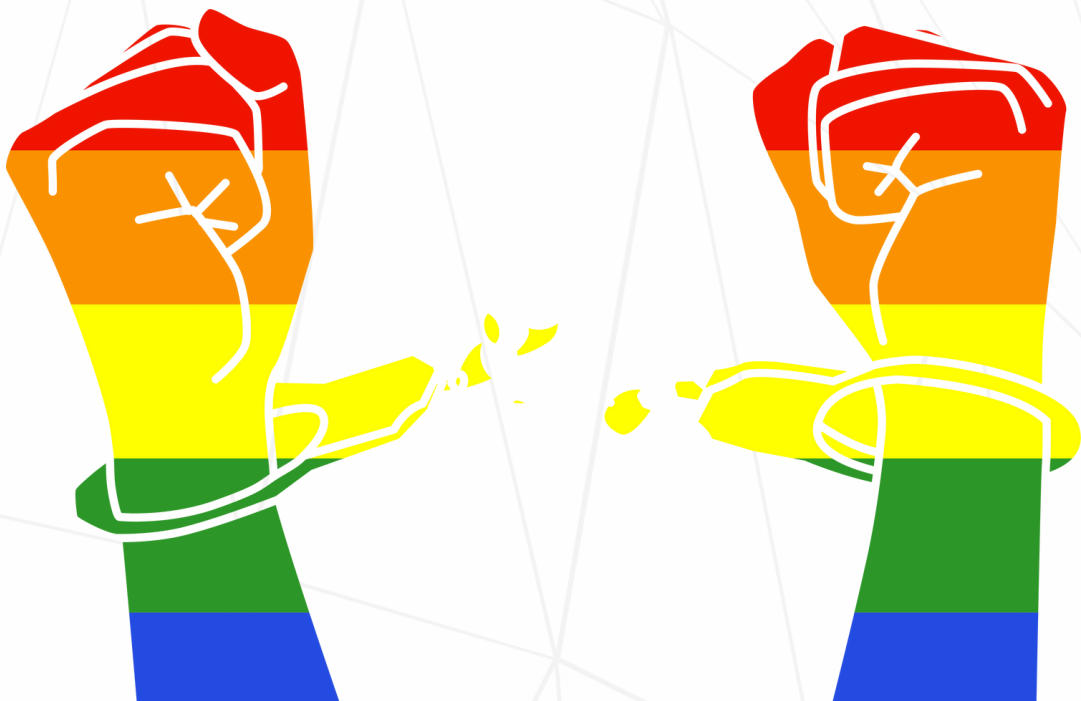
**It is ok NOT to be out of the closet**

**LOVE  
WINS**

**It is ok NOT to be out of the  
closet**

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**We are queer, not  
because of what  
we do, not  
because of the  
way we dress,  
walk or talk.**



**It is ok NOT to be out of the closet**

**We are queer not because of who we are and the relationships we desire.**

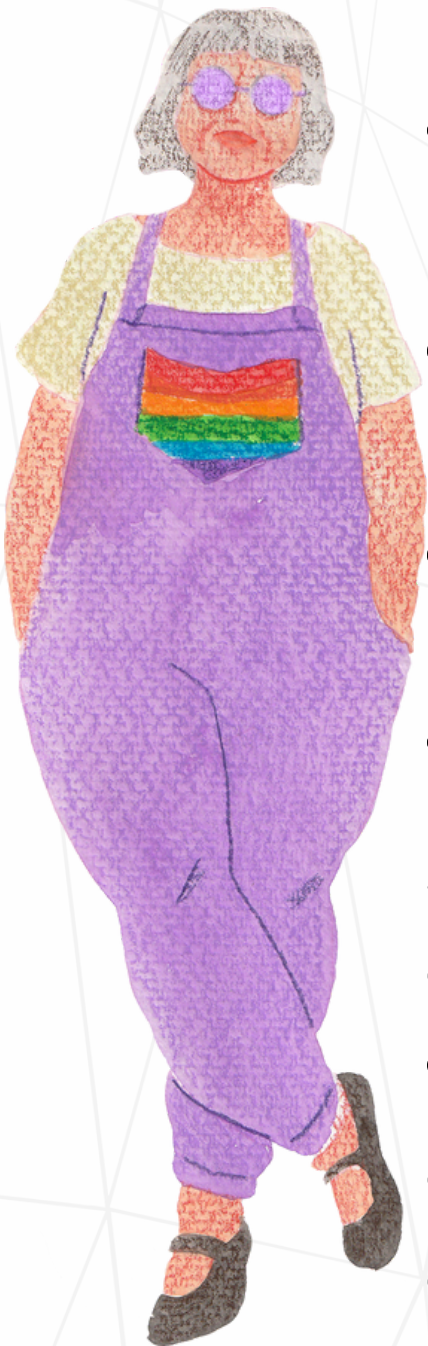
**In line with the above, Douglas C Sloan posits that all sexual orientations are inescapable and undeniable facts of life. It is the way life unavoidably is and it is the way life has always been.**



**It is ok NOT to  
be out of the  
closet**

**Of course, the homophobic environment in society made it impossible for us to live just like others freely. This has led to an increase in distress experienced by the LGBTQI+ community, ranging from Stigma-related to discrimination among many more.**

**The discomfort in disclosing sexual identity cannot be overemphasized due to the fear of abuse and micro-aggressive acts like being outed.**



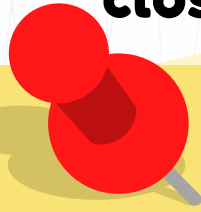
## **Is ok NOT to be out of the closet**

**Given the above, it is pertinent to take into consideration your mental health before deciding to get out OF THE CLOSET. The homophobic environment can put you at a higher risk of developing mental health problems like depression, and anxiety and being twice as likely to commit suicide.**

**To buttress the above assertion, D'Augelli et al. Citation (2006) opined that being exposed to violent incidents and bullying can lead to depression, low self-esteem and internalised homophobia.**



**It is ok NOT to  
be out of the  
closet**



**To BE OUT requires so much  
courage and confidence, to be  
out means you are ready for  
the battle, and to BE OUT  
means a lot!!**

**If you are not strong enough  
to face the hate! It's ok not to  
BE OUT Of the closet.**

