

Positive Images Supports Youth & Our Community

Positive Images provides a safe space for teens and young adults and provides community educational services for high schools, businesses, community-based organizations, colleges, hospitals, social service departments, and other organizations interested in learning more about the issues facing GLBTQQI youth and young adults.



Positive Images Panels have real youth share their true stories of growing up queer in our society.

About Positive Images

In January of 1990, Positive Images was created by co-founders, Beverlee Laird and James Foster, MFT, to address the need for educating and supporting the positive youth development of gay and lesbian young people in an era where none previously existed.

Since that time, Positive Images has served over 750 queer youth and young adults from Sonoma and surrounding counties. As we have grown, Positive Images has expanded its educational and supportive services to include the full range of gender and sexual identities that youth explore and express. In 1999, Positive Images established our status as an independent 501 (c)(3) non-profit and Nancy Vogl joined Jim Foster in leading the organization.

Positive Images' core services include:

- Weekly therapeutic support groups for youth and young adults ages 12 to 25.
- Community education and panels throughout Sonoma and surrounding counties.
- Adult mentoring & volunteer program.
- Youth Leadership development through youth-led facilitation and group planning, peer advocates program, and youth board members.

"Thanks for being who you are. You're all beautiful people. You've touched lives today."
- El Molino High School Student



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Sarah Smith Center for LGBTQQI Youth
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▶ Community Education and Panel Project



A community education resource & support group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, Intersexed, Queer, and Questioning youth and young adults in Sonoma and surrounding counties.

Tel: (707) 568-5830

About PI Panels

P.I. began giving panel presentations the spring of 1990, initially serving as a resource for high-school communication and survival skills classes. As community awareness about issues affecting LGBTQQI youth has grown, so has the demand for broader and deeper educational opportunities, including in-service trainings for employees. Since its inception, P.I. has provided educational opportunities for some of the following institutions and organizations:

- **College campuses** and courses, including psychology, sociology, education, and health.
- **Middle and high school** classes, assemblies, and “diversity/days of dialogue events”.
- **Social service agencies**, including those serving foster youth and youth in the juvenile justice system.
- **Police departments** and other **public and government agencies**.
- **Hospitals** and other health care agencies.

Educational Panel Topics

Positive Images educational panels have focused on some of the following topics:

Growing Up Queer: Real Stories of LGBTQQI Youth

This standard panel presentation features the true, intimate stories of youth growing up queer in today's society, and includes discussions around defining different sexual orientations and gender identification.

Homophobia Today: Experiences in the 21st Century

Youth and adult panelists share a historical perspective of gay rights and homophobia, coupled with contemporary stories and experiences.

LGBTQQI Rights: Supporting Equality

This panel explores some of the gains and setbacks of rights for queer youth and adults, and discussion of contemporary queer, human rights issues.

Transgender: Myth Vs. Reality

Transgender youth and allies present information about being transgender, including a critical look at gender Vs. sex and traditional gender roles in greater society.

Design Your Own Session:

Positive Images specializes in tailoring presentations to address topics specific to your group, class, or organization. Call us to discuss your idea/needs.

The Term “Queer” refers to the full spectrum of people who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, intersexed or other form of identification with “queer” culture.

PI Panel Price List

Customize the panel that works best for your group. No one turned away for lack of funds—scholarships available by application—contact PI for more information.

Standard Educational Panel	\$100-
One-hour panel with 4 to 6 PI youth panelists.	\$200 per hour
Each additional 1/2 hour	\$50
Professional Development Panels or Workshops	\$200-\$300 per hour
Standard one-hour panels and/or tailored workshops for professionals, such as MFTs, Counselors, Social & Case Workers, Psychologists, Police and Public Safety, Medical Professionals, Addiction Professionals, etc..	
Individualized Fee-for-Service	As negotiated
For specialized groups, longer presentations, and multiple presentations.	

Contact PI to schedule and discuss your individualized Panel Presentation.

“Thank you for coming in and speaking to the class... Now no one in this class can go by their stereotypes without at least having this incredible experience of getting to know you in the back of their heads.”
- SRJC Student

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