

Controversial Topics Handout

Disagree with Grace Statements

Remember: Using “but” negates. Using “and” hears.

“You’re right and this is how I feel/think...”

“That’s okay and...”

“That’s true for you and what’s true for me is something else...”

“That’s a really good point and I feel/think differently...”

“I was curious what you thought when you said...”

“I was wondering what you thought/felt when you said...”

“Can you tell me more about what you meant when you said...”

Controversial Topic: “You’re so gay!”

I think saying it is fine because...

We don’t mean anything by it.

It just means “stupid” or “dumb.”

Being gay is wrong.

Gay men are effeminate.

Being gay is a sin.

I think saying it is wrong because...

It is bullying.

There is nothing wrong with being gay in the same way that there’s nothing wrong with being heterosexual.

It’s hurtful to people.

Sometimes if people aren’t really masculine or feminine they get called gay and they aren’t.

A ‘faggot’ literally means a stick for kindling and it’s used to denigrate gays and lesbian because in medieval times they used to use gay men as kindling to burn women accused of witchcraft.

“Gay men are effeminate” is a stereotype. Plenty of gay men are not and plenty of heterosexual men are. There is no such thing as a typical gay or lesbian person.

Thinking that effeminate is negative is sexist.

Gay people believe they are born gay, that it isn’t a choice. Therefore, it’s not a sin.