



Sample Scripts for Asking Youth about SOGIE

Hey XXXX, we are adding some new practices at our agency and I wanted to ask you if you ever heard anyone who used pronouns for themselves such as they?

So if we were meeting for the first time I would say Hi XXXXX, I am XXXXX and my pronouns are.....

If they answer yes I know what that means, I know what pronouns are –

You might say: Great – can I ask you what pronouns you use so I don't make assumptions.

If a youth tells you they have pronouns that are different than what you thought or that they identify as LGBTQ – you can respond by thanking them for sharing that very important information with you.

Some possible follow up questions could be: Does anyone know this about you? Are there people you feel safe with who knows this information or you would be comfortable sharing this information with? Do your parents know? Do you feel like this may be causing problems or issues at home or school?

As I think about and plan for resources to support you I would like to share this information with my supervisor as I feel she/he may be able to help me provide support you might need.

Other questions if you don't want to ask about pronouns you could ask about romantic interests.

If you are meeting an older youth (age 11 and older) you can ask them if they have romantic interests to either boys, girls, or both. This is not a dating question (because they might not be actually dating anyone) just wondering if they are romantically interested in same sex or opposite sex people or both to determine sexual orientation.

If the parents don't know but the problems occurring not attending school – could it be because the young person is being bullied at school? Are you not attending school because people are bullying you about your SOGIE?

If the parents don't know but the youth is running away are they running away to be with people who are like them ie. Gay, lesbian, bisexual, pansexual. In what ways are these people safe or not safe for the young person?