

1.1 Readiness to learn Introduction activity

What	Readiness to learn, introduction
Purpose	To provide guidance to teachers on helping students to develop awareness of their own biases that may act as barriers to inclusive practice to teach skills in learning how to challenge situations in practice and increase awareness of the impact of language when teaching professionals whose practice will involve providing LGBT+ inclusive care with older adults.
Target group	teachers and trainers in vocational education and their students
Level	Level 2-3-4 in vocational education.
Execution	Extra support from the teacher might be necessary depending on the ability of the students to work independently (see The Teacher’s Manual)
Sources	BEING ME: Project Report on Best Practices in Learning and Education to Support LGBT Ageing Care and Wellbeing Best practice principles on developing LGBT cultural competence in health and social care education

The following clip is from the Oscar winning Film “Moonlight”. A young boy visits a couple with a lot on his mind. He suddenly asks what a “faggot is”. The couple deals with the question sensitively and with respect but you see them wrestling with what to say.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-plaNoB_0

This film clip could be shown to promote a discussion about the feelings of the adults/ professional when someone says something challenging or which they consider to be discriminatory. As you watch it the audience can wonder how the couple will deal with the question and fear that they will handle it badly. The teacher could stop the video after the boy asks the question and ask the group whether they think the couple looks comfortable in being asked this question- what does the class think they might say?

Then continue. When the clip is finished- ask the group how the couple handled it- how does the class think the boy may feel after their answer? Will he feel encouraged or discouraged? Get the class to think about the language the couple used (neutral, straight) and the importance and the difficulty of finding the right words. Do you feel equipped to manage challenging situations?

This acts as an introduction to skills in managing challenging behaviour/ the importance of language and of having values of respect. The teacher can go on to introduce the topics for this class- making a learning agreement; examining our own bias’; developing skills in managing challenging behaviour in practice and exploring the importance of language in developing an inclusive relationship