**Social Justice 12**

**Gender / LGBTQ2++ Unit**

***That’s so gay….!*  BCTF Lesson plan**

How can we respond to the statement, “That’s so gay!”? We hear it; it may or may not make us uncomfortable; we don’t always know what to say in response.

Some ideas:

* Ask, *How would you feel if YOUR identity was inserted instead of “gay”?* For example, *“That’s so Punjabi!”* or *“That’s so Black….”.* Use it repetitively and in the same tone of voice.
* Ask, *“What does that mean?”*
* Say, “*This is a homophobia free zone.”*

Class exercise:

Brainstorm homophobic terms on the board. Refer to Hate Language Workshop and our discomfort with these words, but create class consensus around that idea that we are using them in the context of unpacking the hate or fear behind them. Make connections across the “isms.”

Mini-Research project and report out:

1. Research either of the terms “faggot” or “dyke.” Compare society today with the medieval period in Europe in which LGBTQ2++ people were burned at the stake.
2. Research pink and black triangles, which comes from the Nazi period in which gay men and lesbians were forced to wear the symbols, like the Jews were forced to wear the Star of David. Why did the Nazi’s want LGBTQ2++ people exterminated?
3. Compare statistics on LGBTQ2++ people in Canada with other groups who have been the recipients of hate crimes.