

Modern Foreign Languages

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Theme

Further ideas and resources

References

Films:

- *La Cage aux Folles* (French)
- *Le Fate Ignoranti* (Italian)
- *Ma Vie* (French Canadian)
- *Water Lilies* (French)
- *Drole de Felix* (French).

Activities

Talking about families

Include an example in your worksheets of a family with same-sex parents or where one of the teenage children has a same-sex partner.

Problem pages

Give students a range of 'problems' to respond to. One of these could be about an LGB teenager who is uncomfortable about his or her sexual orientation. S/he may be worried about the consequences of coming out or be experiencing bullying.

- What advice would they offer?

Letters from pen friends

You could ask students to respond to a letter from a LGB pen friend who is coming to visit and wants to know about the local gay scene.

Social issues

Ask students to research civil partnerships in France ('Pacte civil de solidarité') or the legalisation of same-sex marriage in Spain and be prepared to discuss what they have discovered in the target language. Many other countries have introduced similar provisions in recent years.



Optional extension activities

Encourage students to discuss the portrayals of LGB characters or relationships in films such as *La Cage aux Folles* (French), *Le Fate Ignoranti* (Italian) or the films of Almodovar.

- Are these images stereotypical?
- Can they identify differences in the way these characters are presented from the way similar ones are shown in British or American movies?

Discuss films like:

- *Ma Vie* (a year in the life of a teenage boy)
- *Water Lilies* (the story of three young women dealing with opposite and same-sex crushes)
- *Drole de Felix* (a road movie about a young gay man who travels from Normandy to Marseilles in search of his father).