

Adam has told several students at his school that he is gay. When he's in class, in the hallway, in the cafeteria and on the bus, this is what he hears...

Did someone  
**hurt your  
feelings again?**  
Are you  
gonna cry?  
Are you gonna be a little  
**“drama  
queen”**  
about it?

You like what you see, huh?  
Just admit it already,  
you can't resist me,  
you're totally  
**in love**  
with me!

So, are you gonna read us another  
**poem?**

**Hey,**  
why don't you  
sing us some  
SHOW tunes?



**Come on,**  
get over it! I'm just kidding!  
Stop being such a  
**“girl”!**

**Q1**

Which of these statements are hostile and homophobic and refer to sexual stereotypes?

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What impact could these statements have on Adam?

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**Q2**

No way you're playing hockey with us, you're way too much of a **"WUSS,"**

you'll get hurt! And I better not catch you spying on me in the locker room!

Your shoes are so "gay" . . . but wait, that's okay, since **YOU ARE "gay"!** Ha, ha!

**Move your desk!**  
I don't want people to think I'm a "fag" like you!

**Gross, two guys kissing!**  
That's disgusting! If you bring your boyfriend around here, I'll show you what happens to sickos like you!



Q3

How might you react when you hear these types of statements?

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Q4

In some of the situations above, the speaker is clearly uncomfortable with homosexuality. Which statements show this?

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Q5

Is it normal for another student's sexuality to make us uncomfortable?

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How can I show respect toward Adam . . .

- a) if he is my friend?
- b) if he is my classmate?
- c) if he is a student at my school?

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Q6

WHETHER SAID AS A JOKE OR WITH A MORE SERIOUS UNDERTONE, all of these statements are homophobic and constitute verbal violence toward Adam. These types of statements, when regularly made, can also be a form of psychological violence or bullying. Some statements may also contain an underlying threat of physical violence. Violence can have a devastating impact on its victims. Never forget that violence—any type of violence, whether homophobic in nature or not—is never okay. Every person is unique, and every person has the right to express his or her differences in a way that respects the rights of others.