

**“Love comes in many colours”** – Über *same-sex marriage* und *gender-inclusive schools* diskutieren und interkulturelle Dialogfähigkeit schulen (ab Klasse 10)

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## **M 1 Love is all around – a placemat activity**

*Love comes in many colours, and there are many different types of couples and families.*



Bild 1 und Wortwölke: © www.colourbox.com; Bild 2: © sturti/E+/ Bild 3: © Ariel Skelley/DigitalVision; Bild 4: © Gary John Norman/DigitalVision; Bild 5: © Zing macro/E+/ Bild 6: Leo Patrizi/E+ /vision;

## Tasks

1. Choose the picture that strikes you most. In your section of the placemat, write down what comes to mind when you look at the photo. The words and phrases in the word cloud and below may help you.
  2. In your group, decide on the most striking photo. What question(s) would you ask the people shown in the picture?

## **Useful words and phrases**

gay/same-sex/homosexual/lesbian couples – heterosexual/straight/opposite-sex couples – single-parent/two-parent families – (to) conduct a wedding ceremony/(to) exchange wedding rings and vows

## M 2a Sin or civil right? – Before listening

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You are going to listen to a programme that was originally broadcast by National Public Radio on 11 May 2012. It discusses same-sex marriage, an issue that is highly controversial among Christians in the USA.



© Nevena Ristic/Stock/  
Getty Images Plus

### Tasks

- Which of the biblical passages below do you think are used by liberal Christians who accept same-sex marriage? Which by conservative Christians who oppose it? Put an **L** (for liberal) or **C** (for conservative) after the quotation.

a) <b>Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12)</b> In everything do to others as you would have them do to you. (Treat others as you want to be treated.)	
b) <b>Gay male sex (Leviticus 18:22)</b> You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination.	
c) <b>Double commandment to love God and neighbour (Luke 10:27)</b> You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.	
d) <b>The guilt of non-Jews (Romans 1:26–27)</b> [...] God gave them up to degrading passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, and in the same way also the men, giving up natural intercourse with women, were consumed with passion for one another. Men committed shameless acts with men and received in their own persons the due penalty for their errors.	
e) <b>Sexual immorality (1 Corinthians 6:9–10)</b> Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, sodomites, thieves, the greedy, drunkards, revilers, robbers – none of these will inherit the kingdom of God.	
f) <b>Unity and equality in Christ (Galatians 3:28)</b> There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.	

Source: New Revised Standard Version ([www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com))

### Vocabulary Aids

**b): abomination:** something disgusting; **e): fornicator:** someone who has sex outside marriage – **idolater:** der/die Götzenidiener/in – **adulterer:** here: person who engages in immoral sexual conduct – **sodomite:** here: homosexual who has anal sex – **reviler:** someone who criticises others in an abusive or hostile way

- Before listening to the radio programme, match the expressions on the left with the corresponding definitions on the right.

1) <b>(to) sacrifice oneself on behalf of</b>	a) gay ministers or priests who practise their homosexuality
2) <b>(to) condone</b>	b) sexual activity between a human being and an animal
3) <b>noncelibate gay clergy</b>	c) wicked, completely unacceptable
4) <b>vile (fml.)</b>	d) (to) give one's life for
5) <b>detestable (fml.)</b>	e) (to) forbid, condemn, reject, ban, prohibit
6) <b>bestiality</b>	f) (to) accept or forgive behaviour that most people think is morally wrong
7) <b>(to) proscribe (fml.)</b>	g) deserving strong dislike

## M 3a Marriage for everyone – What the German churches say: A role play

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During the 2017 national election campaign, Chancellor Merkel offered to allow a free vote on same-sex marriage. The offer was immediately taken up, and within days, the outgoing German parliament legalised marriage for everyone, giving same-sex couples full rights, including adoption. This was done by inserting the words "by two people of a different or the same sex" into the marriage section of the German Civil Code:

by two people of a different or the same sex

(1) Marriage is entered into for life. The spouses have a mutual duty of conjugal community; they are responsible for each other.

German Civil Code, Section 1353

### Tasks

1. How do you think the Catholic and Protestant churches in Germany reacted to the amendment of the German Civil code?
2. To prepare for a role play with your partner, study what Cardinal Marx, the chair of the German Bishops' Conference, said about legalising same-sex marriage. Also look at the statement by Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer below.

### Kardinal Marx zur Debatte um die „Ehe für alle“

Before the parliamentary vote that legalised same-sex marriage, Cardinal Marx, chair of the German Bishops' Conference, issued the following media release.

In an interview with the Augsburger Allgemeine, Cardinal Marx accepted that in a secular society the state has to make laws that are valid for everyone. He did not think that opening marriage to same sex couples would lead to marriage among relatives or to group marriage between three or four partners. Cardinal Marx expressed regret that, in the past, the Church had not opposed discrimination against gays.

(Based on: <http://www.augsburger-allgemeine.de/bayern/Kardinal-Marx-empfinden-Sie-die-Ehe-fuer-alle-als-Niederlage-id42049291.html>)

Die Deutsche Bischofskonferenz betont, dass die Ehe – nicht nur aus christlicher Überzeugung – die Lebens- und Liebesgemeinschaft von Frau und Mann als prinzipiell lebenslange Verbindung mit der grundsätzlichen Offenheit für die Weitergabe von Leben ist.

- 5 Wir sind der Auffassung, dass der Staat auch weiterhin die Ehe in dieser Form schützen und fördern muss. Wir bedauern, wenn dieser Ehebegriff aufgelöst werden soll und damit die christliche Auffassung von Ehe und das staatliche Konzept weiter auseinandergehen. Es ist auch wegen der von vielen Seiten geäußerten erheblichen verfassungsrechtlichen Bedenken völlig unangemessen, eine solche gesellschaftspolitische Grundentscheidung in diesem überstürzten Verfahren zu fällen.
- 10 Die Deutsche Bischofskonferenz hat in ihren Stellungnahmen zum Lebenspartnerschaftsrecht betont, dass es ein Missverständnis wäre, die hervorgehobene Rechtsstellung der Ehe und ihren bleibenden besonderen Schutz als Diskriminierung homosexuell veranlagter Männer und Frauen zu verstehen.

Source: <https://www.dbk.de/presse/aktuelles/meldung/kardinal-marx-zur-debatte-um-die-ehe-fuer-alle/detail/>  
(28/06/17)



Cardinal Reinhard Marx,  
chair of the German  
Bishops' Conference

By Wolfgang Rouska, Erzbischöfliches Ordinariat München,  
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## M 5 Love comes in many colours – Vocabulary Practice

The following exercises help you practise key vocabulary you need to talk about LGBTQ issues, marriage, civil unions, and religious attitudes to same-sex orientation.



By Ludovic Bertron from New York City, USA, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY 2.0

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### The rainbow community

- Match the following words and definitions.

1. LGBTQ (sometimes LGBT, LGBTIQ or LGBTI*Q)	a) homosexual male; may also refer to lesbians (sometimes used pejoratively by young people to mean alien, embarrassing, stupid, or wrong)
2. lesbian	b) different; other; critical of sexual norms ( <i>in the past derogatory term, now used as a title of pride</i> )
3. gay	c) sexually attracted to both men and women
4. bisexual	d) person born with an anatomy that does not fit the typical definition of female or male
5. transgender (trans)	e) unsure of one's gender identity or sexual orientation
6. queer	f) enduring pattern of sexual attraction (to the same sex, opposite sex, or either sex)
7. questioning	g) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, (intersex,) queer/questioning
8. intersex	h) woman who is sexually attracted to other women
9. homosexual	i) (1) biological sex; (2) the behavioural, cultural or psychological traits typically associated with one sex
10. heterosexual	j) the label people use to describe their gender
11. gender	k) umbrella term that emphasises the common interests of LGBTQ people
12. gender identity	l) people whose gender identity differs from the anatomical sex given at birth
13. sexual orientation	m) sexually attracted to people of the opposite sex
14. rainbow community	n) sexually attracted to people of the same sex

- Find synonyms for the underlined words or phrases. Use a thesaurus or an English-English dictionary if necessary:

(to) be homosexual\* – (to) be heterosexual – same-sex attraction – LGBTQ community

\* Note that some people find the words *homosexual* and *homosexuality* offensive. In the past, these terms were used by psychiatrists to classify same-sex orientation as a mental disorder.

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### Kompetenzen

- Schulung des Hörverstehens und der Medienkompetenz anhand einer Radiosendung
- Schulung der interkulturellen Diskursfähigkeit zum Thema *same-sex orientation/marriage*
- Verwendung diskriminierungsfreier, gender- und diversitätssensibler Sprache
- Training der Sprachmittlungskompetenz und der Interviewtechnik

### Niveau

ab Klasse 10 (die Einheit ist für Grundkurse, v. a. auch in der Einführungsphase, geeignet; auch in besonders leistungsstarken 9. Klassen ist ein Einsatz der Materialien möglich)

### Dauer

6–7 Unterrichtsstunden

### Einbettung

Die Einheit lässt sich lehrwerkunabhängig zu den Themen *religion, fundamentalism, culture war between liberals and conservatives, love/marriage/family, civil rights, minorities, schools* und *political correctness (gender and diversity sensitive language)* einsetzen.

Fächerübergreifende Bezüge:

- Religions- und Ethikunterricht (z. B. „Wandel sexueller Normen“, „Homophobie“, „Verantwortliche Partnerschaft“ „fundamentalistische vs. historisch-kritische Bibelauslegung“)
- Diversitäts- und Gender-Erziehung

**Minimalplan:** Je nach thematischem Kontext kann eines der Module (1) *Same-sex marriage: Sin or civil right? (M 2 und M 3a-c; ZM 3 und ZM 4)* und (2) *It's okay to be different – Towards a safe and inclusive school (M 4)* entfallen. Die vorgeschlagene Lernerfolgskontrolle bezieht sich auf das umfangreichere Modul 1 und ist v. a. für Lernende ab der Jahrgangsstufe 10 geeignet. Eine leichtere Fassung findet sich als differenzierendes **ZM 5** auf der **CD 29 bzw. in der Zip-Datei**.

### Hinweise

Ist **sexuelle Orientierung** angeboren oder erworben? Welche **Formen der Partnerschaft** tolerieren und bejahren wir? Ist **Ehe** eine auf Dauer angelegte Verantwortungsgemeinschaft zwischen einem Mann und einer Frau oder zwischen zwei erwachsenen Menschen unabhängig von ihrem Geschlecht? Und schließlich: **Wie sprechen wir angemessen von geschlechtlicher Diversität** in einer Zeit, in der die einen „gender- und diversitätssensible Sprache“ fordern und die anderen vor „Genderwahn“ warnen?

Sexuelle und soziale Normen wandeln sich, und für die **christlichen Kirchen** stellt sich in diesem Zusammenhang die Frage, ob die biblischen Verurteilungen homosexueller Handlungen (z. B. 3. Mose 18:22; Römer 1:26–27; 1. Kor. 6:9–10) gültig bleiben oder ob sie im Lichte historischer Entwicklungen, wissenschaftlicher Erkenntnisse und biblischer Grundnormen (Nächstenliebe, Einheit in Christus) relativiert werden müssen.

Das im Schülermaterial angebotene **Meinungsspektrum** ermöglicht eine differenzierte Betrachtung von **Religion und Gesellschaft in den USA und Deutschland**. Die Schü-