

Parents as Partners Conference

Workshop Session: B9

Room: 203A

Affirmation and Acceptance: Talking to children about gender and sexual identity
Mental Health and Well-Being Parent Partnership Committee

As parents, we all want the best for our children; but mainstream conversations often stigmatize and exclude particular interests, expressions and identities they may have. And while we encourage our children to share their thoughts, feelings and identities with us, we may feel uncertain about how best to respond. This workshop will explore how expectations of gender and sexuality impact young people's lives, and how parents can engage their children in conversations that help break down social stigma, model empathy and build resilience.

Ilana David

Social worker with the Gender-Based Violence Prevention Office, Toronto District School Board

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Ilana provides a range of support and consultation services to schools and families. Ilana facilitates groups for parents/caregivers of trans* and gender independent students; provides counselling services to students in the Triangle Program, Canada's only LGBTQ+ alternative school; and advocates for safe and inclusive school climates across the TDSB.

Roza Nozari

MSW Student from Wilfrid Laurier University

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Roza's field placement is with the Gender-Based Violence Prevention Office in the Toronto District School Board. Roza facilitates groups and provides counselling to LGBTQ+ students in the Triangle Program. She also co-facilitates trainings and workshops across the TDSB to support safe and inclusive school environments.