



## **The Manifesto of French Bisexuals** (September 2007)

### **Of bisexual identity:**

Bisexuality has always existed. It exists because we, bisexuals, in our diversity we openly declare ourselves to be so identified.

It's a feeling of being in the world before being a lifestyle.

We are attracted emotionally and/or sexually by people of all sexes and all genders, without necessarily having sex, and we assume this fact.

We like to live our desires, our pleasures, our love, simultaneously or sequentially. Like everyone, we build these relationships on either a temporary or a permanent basis.

We grant ourselves a wide range of sexual possibilities, ranging from abstinence to multiple-partner relationships.

We only differ from monosexuals by this double attraction.

Some of us live their bisexuality as a choice, for others it is self-evident. We live it in our identity and/or in our practices.

What we share is the willingness to admit this identity to ourselves and, if possible, to others.

### **Of bisexual dignity:**

Our identity is neither more nor less worthy than heterosexual and homosexual identities.

For us, freedom consists not only in being able to choose one's way of life, but also in the possibility of changing it.

We can't reach self-fulfillment if we must sacrifice our bisexuality.

We fight against any hierarchy of genders and put into question the prevalence of male domination, and the preponderance of heterosexual norm.

We also refuse the gay and lesbian normativity which tends to reduce sexuality to only two categories: heterosexual and homosexual.

We fight against any male or female normative order, which imposes marginality on homosexuals, bisexuals, asexuals, transgenders, intersexuals, and transsexuals.

We stand for a bisexuality that allows everyone to live his or her desires without being stigmatized.

To this end, we do our best to prevent the confusion of those who are the weakest among us; this goes through our visibility and valorizing different figures of bisexual identification.

We wish to reduce phobia and discrimination aimed toward bisexuals that inevitably results in problems in all spheres of our lives: societal, familial and economic.

To achieve this goal, we rise against the categorization of sexual and emotional behaviour decreed by (religious, medical, legal, scientific, media-related...) institutions and authorities.

### **Of bisexual rights:**

We demand:

- to be recognized as bisexual regardless of our past or present situation,
- to see bisexuality considered on the same footing as heterosexuality,
- to be able to live our emotional or sexual orientations without having to justify them,
- to be allowed to establish a family of our choice (celibacy, single or multiple-partner relationships) without having to sacrifice our bisexuality, and in any case, that our potential role as parents, step-parents, godmothers/godfathers, and educators be recognized;
- to have spaces where it is possible to express ourselves, to exchange and share experiences with other bisexuals,
- that the media be aware of the fact that bisexuals exist in the same way as heterosexuals and homosexuals,
- that both educational policies as well as public health initiatives, especially those concerning sexually transmitted diseases, address bisexuality with the same respect and sense of importance as other accepted sexual orientations.

### **Of duties of bisexuals:**

We are fully responsible to our families and friends, as well as the society as a whole.

As in any emotional relationship, we must respect our partners. This requires us to establish values and principles accepted by all the members of the relationship that we create.

### **Conclusion:**

Through this manifesto, we declare our solidarity with all those whose sexuality is unfairly marginalized, repressed or exploited.

We defend the right to a sexuality without shame, without rejection, without violence.

In respecting each and everyone's differences, we, bisexuals, fight for the freedom of all people.