



THE FRENCH BISEXUAL AND PANSEXUAL MANIFESTO

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Work on this Manifesto started early after the creation of Bi'Cause in 1997. The first version was published in 2002 and overhauled in 2007. This version was updated in 2017 for the 20th anniversary of Bi'Cause, in order to better include pansexuality.

ABOUT OUR IDENTITIES

Our orientations have always existed. Our identities exist because we bi and pan people, in our diversity, claim them as ours.

They are a part of ourselves and of our relationship to the world, and not a lifestyle or a fad.

We are sexually and/or romantically attracted to people of all gender identities¹, or without regard for their gender identity², whether we have sexual practices or not, and we accept and claim it.

We only differ from monosexual persons – heterosexual and homosexual – by this multiple attraction.

We live our desires, pleasures and loves in succession or simultaneously. As for any other person, they can be ephemeral or long term.

We grant ourselves a wide range of sexual and/or romantic possibilities, from no relationship to multiple partners.

We live our identity and/or the diversity of our practices in the most absolute respect of the consent of all involved persons, and in observance of the relevant legislation.

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

¹ « Being attracted to people of all gender identities » has been the core definition of bisexuality proposed by Bi'Cause for a long time.

² « Being attracted to people regardless of their gender identity » is a definition of pansexuality.

ABOUT DIGNITY

Our identities are neither more nor less worthy than heterosexual and homosexual identities. We remind that the European Council considers heterosexuality, homosexuality and bisexuality on an equal footing in their work³, although it could be even more inclusive.

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 deep personality.

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 and stereotypes, which imposes marginality on homo, bi, pan, asexual, transgender, intersex, nonbinary, queer, etc. people.

We proudly stand for a sexual and/or romantic orientation that allows everyone to live their desires without being stigmatized.

To this end, we promote our visibility and valorize different figures of bisexual and pansexual identification.

We fight biphobia, panphobia and other discriminations against sexual orientations, romantic orientations or gender identities, including by supporting discriminated people in their daily life. We work to eradicate the many harms those discriminations cause in all spheres of our lives : societal, familial, economic, health, etc.

To achieve this goal, we rise against the hierarchization of sexual and emotional behaviours decreed or supported by various (religious, medical, legal, scientific, media-related...) institutions and authorities.

ABOUT OUR RIGHTS

We demand:

- to be recognized as bi or pan regardless of our past or present situation;
- to be free to live our sexual or emotional attractions without having to justify them;
- to be allowed to establish a family of our choice (regardless of if we are in no, one or multiple relationships), without having to sacrifice our orientation, and 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 bi and pan people;
- that the media be aware of and account for all sexual orientations, and not only heterosexuality and bisexuality;

³Resolution 1728 (2010) about discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity:
<http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-EN.asp?fileid=17853&lang=en>

- homosexuals;
- that educational policies as well as public health initiatives, especially those concerning sexually transmitted diseases, address bisexuality and pansexuality with the same respect and sense of importance as other accepted sexual orientations.

ABOUT OUR DUTIES

We are fully responsible to our families and friends, as well as the society as a whole. Explicit and prior consent of our partner(s) shall be our fundamental rule.

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(s) that we create.

CONCLUSION

Through this manifesto, we also pledge to help persons questioning their orientation, and declare our ourselves part of the struggle of all those who are marginalized, discriminated, repressed, exploited or brutalized because of their sexual or romantic orientation or gender identity.

We defend the right to claim those identities without shame, without rejection, without discrimination, without power games, without violence. We proudly claim them, in a spirit of self-fulfillment and well-being for everyone.

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



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