

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!



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

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

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Is it normal for another student's sexu-  
ality to make us uncomfortable?

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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.