



Behavior:

What to say:

<p>Rejecting: The family member(s) completely reject the youth's SOGIE</p>	<p>Name calling, Threats of or actual physical harm, abandoning the youth or threatening to kick them out, vehement religious based concerns about the youth going to hell, shaming the youth for their SOGIE, excluding them from family activities</p>	<p>Do not chastise the family member, remember that there is fear or grief underlying the behavior. Acknowledge that it must be difficult for them to go through this. Ask them to meet with Mary and let them know that they will be given an opportunity to express their concerns</p>
<p>Accepting: The family member(s) might somewhat accept the youth's SOGIE</p>	<p>May use inappropriate statements to the youth or use negative words to describe the youth's SOGIE. May let the youth dress in gender expansive clothes at home but not anywhere else, have religious beliefs that conflict with the youth's SOGIE, have a don't ask don't tell mentality, inconsistent behavior, accepting some things about the youth's SOGIE to a point, or placing limits on that level of acceptance</p>	<p>Acknowledge for the family member this can be difficult to understand and can be at times scary for them as they may be worried about their child. There is a program that may be able to support them with tools and just a place to share your feelings openly and honestly. Mention that sometimes there are areas of moving through this that can be challenging and that this program can give them tools to be more informed and to find peer and community supports to help them grow and learn together. Praise their current progress and mention that this service is meant to enhance their relationship.</p>
<p>Affirming: The family member is positive about the youth's SOGIE but has questions about what the future holds for the youth</p>	<p>The caregiver and the youth hold positive feelings about the youth's SOGIE, their outlook for the future, if the youth is transgender or gender expansive and the parent isn't quite sure about medical needs but wants to support them. The caregiver does not limit the youth in expressing their SOGIE and may need some support in what is needed for school or medical appointments.</p>	<p>Congratulate them on being open and nurturing for their youth. If there are no concerns with access to support for the youth or caregiver, we can team up to provide some community resources or to help get them to the next step as it relates to their family and or medical needs.</p>

Thank you for your help in supporting our work with LGBTQ+ youth