

HISTORY OF THE LCWR LGBTQI+ WORKING GROUP Spring Region Meetings 2024

- Did you know that a statement regarding LGBT was approved and promulgated by the LCWR Board in 1993, titled: *National Board Statement Concerning the Rights of Gay and Lesbian Persons*?
- Sisters committed to focusing on LGBTQI+ matters met yearly at LCWR Assemblies for impromptu brown-bag-lunches.
- At LCWR Assemblies, members advocated that LCWR take a public stand due to the waves of church and school worker LGBTQI+ related firings that were receiving national attention.
- Carol Zinn SSJ, upon becoming Executive Director of LCWR, was approached in 2019 by LCWR members with the request to bring LGBTQI+ issues to the Regions and begin a conversation across LCWR.
- That formal proposal eventually led to the current LGBTQ Working Group in 2020, which has included Board representation.
- Lynn Levo, CSJ, PhD, was invited to advise LCWR in these matters. It became apparent that educational opportunities across the whole of LCWR might be a helpful way to begin.
- The LGBTQI+ Working Group has hosted the following events, available on the member's section of the LCWR website: [Made in God's Image: Human, Relational and Sexual | LCWR](#)
 - *Sexuality: An Evolving Understanding* with Lynn Levo CSJ PhD (April, 2020)
 - *Accepting and Embracing Sexual Diversity* with Lynn Levo CSJ PhD (February, 2021)
 - *God's Transgender People* with Luisa Derouen OP, Jamison Green PhD, Stephania Battaglino (January, 2022)
 - *The Centrality of Relationship with all God's People* with Margaret Farley RSM (March, 2022)
 - *Conscience: Pursuing the Good in Our Individual and Communal Living (2 Parts)* with Elizabeth Sweeney Block PhD (March & May, 2023)
- This working group has adopted the title: *Made in God's Image: Human, Relational, and Sexual (LGBTQI+ Working Group)*.
- The Working Group is transitioning to become an LCWR Committee.