# Sexual Citizenship, Romantic Relationships, and Bi Identities: Global Gender Perspectives

Sexual citizenship is a term that refers to the rights and responsibilities of individuals in relation to their sexuality. It encompasses a range of issues, including access to healthcare, education, employment, and housing. Sexual citizenship also recognizes the importance of consent, autonomy, and bodily integrity.



### Bisexuality in Europe: Sexual Citizenship, Romantic Relationships, and Bi+ Identities (Global Gender)

by Geoff Hohwald

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Romantic relationships are a central part of many people's lives. They can provide companionship, intimacy, and support. However, romantic relationships can also be a source of conflict and stress. For bi individuals, romantic relationships can be particularly challenging. This is due to the fact that bi individuals often experience discrimination and prejudice from both the heterosexual and LGBTQ communities.

Bi identities are complex and varied. There is no one right way to be bi. Some bi individuals identify as being both gay and straight, while others identify as being somewhere in between. Bi identities can also change over time.

The intersection of sexual citizenship, romantic relationships, and bi identities is a complex and ever-evolving one. As societies become more accepting of diversity, bi individuals are increasingly able to live open and authentic lives. However, there is still much work to be done to achieve full equality for bi people.

#### **Romantic Relationships and Bi Identities**

Romantic relationships are a central part of many people's lives. They can provide companionship, intimacy, and support. However, romantic relationships can also be a source of conflict and stress. For bi individuals, romantic relationships can be particularly challenging. This is due to the fact that bi individuals often experience discrimination and prejudice from both the heterosexual and LGBTQ communities.

One of the biggest challenges that bi individuals face in romantic relationships is the lack of visibility. In many societies, bisexuality is still seen as a taboo topic. As a result, bi individuals may feel pressure to hide their sexuality from their partners. This can lead to feelings of isolation and loneliness.

Another challenge that bi individuals face in romantic relationships is the issue of biphobia. Biphobia is the prejudice and discrimination that bi individuals experience. Biphobia can come from both the heterosexual and LGBTQ communities. Heterosexual biphobia often stems from the belief

that bisexuality is a "phase" or that bi individuals are not "real" LGBTQ people. LGBTQ biphobia, on the other hand, often stems from the belief that bi individuals are not "queer" enough.

Biphobia can have a devastating impact on bi individuals. It can lead to feelings of shame, guilt, and low self-esteem. Biphobia can also make it difficult for bi individuals to find and maintain healthy romantic relationships.

Despite the challenges that bi individuals face in romantic relationships, there are many resources available to help them. There are support groups, counseling services, and online communities that can provide bi individuals with the support and information they need to navigate the complexities of romantic relationships.

#### **Bi Identities and Global Gender Perspectives**

Bi identities are complex and varied. There is no one right way to be bi. Some bi individuals identify as being both gay and straight, while others identify as being somewhere in between. Bi identities can also change over time.

The way that bi identities are understood and experienced varies from culture to culture. In some cultures, bisexuality is seen as a natural and accepted part of human sexuality. In other cultures, bisexuality is seen as a taboo topic or even a mental illness.

The global gender perspectives on bi identities are also varied. In some countries, bi individuals are more likely to experience discrimination and prejudice. In other countries, bi individuals are more likely to be accepted and even celebrated.

The following are some of the challenges that bi individuals face in different parts of the world:

- In many parts of Africa, bisexuality is taboo and often illegal. Bi individuals in Africa may face violence, harassment, and discrimination.
- In many parts of Asia, bisexuality is seen as a mental illness. Bi
   individuals in Asia may face involuntary hospitalization and treatment.
- In many parts of Europe, bisexuality is more accepted than in other parts of the world. However, bi individuals in Europe still face discrimination and prejudice.
- In North America, bisexuality is legal and generally accepted. However, bi individuals in North America still face biphobia and other forms of discrimination.

Despite the challenges that bi individuals face around the world, there is a growing movement for bi rights. Bi activists are working to raise awareness of bisexuality and to challenge biphobia. Bi activists are also working to create more inclusive and supportive communities for bi individuals.

The intersection of sexual citizenship, romantic relationships, and bi identities is a complex and ever-evolving one. As societies become more accepting of diversity, bi individuals are increasingly able to live open and authentic lives. However, there is still much work to be done to achieve full equality for bi people.

The following are some ways that we can create a more inclusive and just world for bi individuals:

- Educate ourselves about bisexuality. The more we know about bisexuality, the better we can understand and support bi individuals.
- Challenge biphobia. When we hear someone making biphobic comments, we should speak up and challenge them.
- Support bi organizations. There are many organizations that work to support bi individuals. We can support these organizations by donating our time or money.
- Be inclusive. We should make an effort to be inclusive of bi people in our language and our actions. We should use inclusive language, such as "partner" instead of "boyfriend" or "girlfriend." We should also make an effort to include bi people in our social circles.



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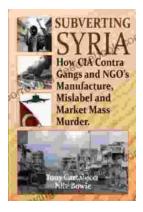
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