



# SPOTTED LGBTIQ+ DISINFO?

## ✚ Here's your game plan!

### ✓ DOS

#### **Do Check Sources and Evidence:**

Always verify where information comes from. Trustworthy sources are transparent about their research and provide statistics, studies, or expert quotes. If a source is obscure or has a history of rumours, or if claims lack solid evidence, they may not be reliable.

#### **Do Report:**

If you spot it – report it, both online and offline. Use your voice to defend the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons and other targeted groups. Keep our communities safe.

#### **Do Educate Yourself:**

Understand some basic facts about LGBTIQ+ communities and challenge stereotypes. Knowing the basics will help you spot when something doesn't add up. There are many reputable sites and organizations that offer educational resources to help you get started.

#### **Do Share Accurate Information:**

Encourage and share positive, accurate stories and facts about LGBTIQ+ individuals and communities. Stand in solidarity with those targeted. Positive reinforcement can help counterbalance the negative impact of misinformation.

#### **Do Empower:**

Share knowledge with more local actors on the impact of disinformation on the individuals and societies. Empower them with tools to resist and respond effectively and build coalitions. Countering disinformation is more effective when we respond collectively.

### ✗ DON'TS

#### **Don't Spread:**

If you're unsure about the information, don't share it without verifying. Reposting falsehoods and malicious hashtags, even with an intent to warn others, can inadvertently spread disinformation further.

#### **Don't Assume Intent:**

It's easy to assume that all misleading information is malicious, but sometimes people share incorrect information without realizing it. Focus on correcting it rather than blaming the person who shared it.

#### **Don't Rely on Viral Headlines:**

Sometimes, headlines are designed to grab attention, generate clicks and may not accurately represent the story's content. Always read beyond the headline to understand the full context.

#### **Don't Engage in Heated Arguments:**

When you encounter someone spreading disinformation, it can be tempting to argue passionately. However, heated arguments can often entrench beliefs further. Approach conversations with calmness and facts.

#### **Don't Get Swept Up in Emotional Traps:**

Be wary of content that stirs strong emotions or seems overly sensational—it's often crafted to provoke and spread negativity. Trust your instincts to discern between genuine information and manipulative exaggerations designed to fuel hate.

**Remember:** It is not just about setting the record straight—it is about defending human rights and strengthening them for everyone.