Sexuality Assignment

1. Explain how sexuality is a biological issue and how it is a cultural issue.
   * Sexuality is influenced by both biological and cultural factors. Biologically it’s shaped by genetics, hormones, and neurological factors which impact sexual orientation, development, and how we mate. Culturally, social norms, values, gender roles, and societal expectations influence how we express and experience sexuality. Laws, media representation, and education reflect our attitudes towards sexuality as well.
2. In global context, do you think the United States is a relatively restrictive or relatively permissive society when it comes to sexuality? Has this country been more restrictive at some times and more permissive at others? Explain.
   * The US has been through historical shifts from more restrictive to more permissive views on sexuality. For example, the Comstock Laws of the 19th century reflected an era of censorship and conservatism. However significant progress has been made since then. Now we see great progress with LGBTQ+ rights and sexual freedom in our era. However, there are still areas of contention that reflect a mix of restrictive and permissive approaches to sexuality within the US.
3. What does transgender mean? How is this concept related to the gay and lesbian rights movement?
   * Transgender refers to people whose gender identity doesn’t align with their assigned sex at birth. It’s aligned with the gay and lesbian rights movement through their shared goals of challenging discrimination, advocating for civil rights, and building a more inclusive and accepting society for all individuals regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.
4. Have you noticed change in the way access to public bathrooms is defined? The traditional binary system that divided humanity into "men" and "women" is giving way to "all gender", "gender neutral", or "gender-inclusive" restrooms. What do you think this trend signifies about how society understands sexuality?
   * Yes, the trend towards all-gender inclusive restrooms signifies a large societal shift in acknowledging the diversity of gender identities and sexualities. It reflects respect for individual identities, and a willingness to challenge traditional norms surrounding gender and sexuality.