

PROUD SPONSOR OF



Wedding Themes. Don't assume that because a couple identifies as LGBTQ that they will have a "rainbow wedding," but definitely **be ready with great ideas on how to incorporate pride into wedding elements.**

Ask for Gender Pronouns and always state your own. Do this upon the first meeting with your couple and let them know what your pronouns are. Sharing your pronouns creates a safer and more welcoming space for everyone to share. When cisgendered people publicly share their pronouns, it helps reduce the othering felt by trans and nonbinary people sharing their pronouns, and it encourages others to think about pronouns as well.

Be open and sensitive to a couple's approach to their wedding as it relates to wedding roles and rephrase questions to be more open. Have you ever worked with a couple that has recently lost a parent, or a grandparent? In times like these, as wedding professionals, we are always very conscientious of our wording so as not to trigger any pain points for the affected couple. We ask them **how they want to honor their lost loved one, we speak in lower tones and try to be a compassionate, comforting provider for them.**

What you need to know is that **more than one-third of gay couples do not have the support of their parents.** This is undoubtedly hurtful and a pain point. So you will want to change some of the approaches or language that you use to be conscientious of their potential circumstances and not assume one way or the other. For instance, instead of asking "Is your father walking you down the aisle?", you can ask, "Have you decided on your entrance into the ceremony?" to be more inclusive. This is just good practice for all couples don't you agree? Be ready with ideas on walking together, walking separately, or entering at the same time from different entrance points to meet together.