

Thursday

05 Aug 10

9.30am-2.00pm



**VENUE:**

**multicultural centre  
for women's health**

**telephone** 03 9418 0999

**visit** suite 207 level 2  
carringbush building  
134 cambridge street  
collingwood victoria

# Understanding Sexuality: Supporting Same-Sex Attracted Women from Immigrant and Refugee Communities



*Our culture and our cultural perspective and background is extremely important to us. It actually grounds us; it tells us who we are, where we come from. And that's the same for the other communities. (lesbian from immigrant background)*

Same-sex attracted people from ethnic communities have a strong need for culturally-appropriate support and understanding about their sexuality, both from the mainstream GLBTIQ (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer) community as well as from their own ethnic communities.

Based on extensive consultations with representatives from multicultural GLBTIQ groups, community workers and health professionals, the Multicultural Centre for Women's Health (MCWH) has developed the *Understanding Sexuality* training program for bilingual and bicultural community workers.

**This informative and culturally-relevant half-day program aims to:**

- ★ increase awareness in community workers of the issues facing their GLBTIQ members, women in particular;
- ★ build community worker capacity to support GLBTIQ members of their communities; and
- ★ enhance the ability of community workers, particularly those working closely with their communities on a range of issues, to break down stereotypes, address fears and offer people alternative discourses for their understanding of sexuality issues.

**The training program covers a number of topics such as:**

- ★ Diversity within sexuality;
- ★ Health issues of same-sex attracted women;
- ★ Disclosure (coming out);
- ★ Heterosexism and homophobia;
- ★ Supporting same sex-attracted women.

## Guest speakers!

★ **Carolyn Poljski**

is an MCWH Health Promotion and Research Project Officer who has worked on a wide range of projects at MCWH covering financial literacy, diabetes prevention, sexual health, sexuality, and the prevention of violence against women.

★ **Susan Chong**

has worked in the area of sexuality and sexual health for over 15 years, particularly in the area of HIV and AIDS. She has worked with diverse communities and in many countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Recently, she completed her postgraduate studies and has been awarded the Doctor of Public Health degree.

★ The training program is open to bilingual and bicultural workers working in and with immigrant and refugee communities.

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★ Register!

To enrol in the MCWH Understanding Sexuality Training Program, please fill in the form below and mail or fax to MCWH.

**Please note: registrations are due by Thursday 29 July 2010 and places are limited. Lunch will be provided.**

★ your contact details

name:

organisation:

occupation:

address:

state:                      postcode:

telephone:

email:

★ number of attendees:

mcwh

email [reception@mcwh.com.au](mailto:reception@mcwh.com.au)    telephone 03 9418 0999    fax 03 9417 7877  
mail suite 207 level 2 carringbush building 134 cambridge street collingwood vic 3066

Thank you, we look forward to meeting you at training!