



Family Diversity Projects

Family Diversity Projects is a non-profit organization devoted to educating the public about issues related to the diversity of family life. Family Diversity Projects creates photo-text exhibits and books in order to help eliminate prejudice, stereotyping, name-calling, and harassment of people who are discriminated against due to race, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, and mental or physical ability.

Family Diversity Projects currently distributes four photo-text exhibits: *Of Many Colors: Portraits of Multiracial Families*; *Love Makes a Family: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People and Their Families*; *Nothing to Hide: Mental Illness in the Family*; and *In Our Family: Portraits of All Kinds of Families*.

Founded by two of the artists who created these exhibits —photographer, Gigi Kaeser and interviewer/editor, Peggy Gillespie—Family Diversity Projects also provides speakers and workshop leaders for conferences and exhibit venues.

the human faces

"*In Our Family* presents the human faces behind news stories and statistics. People who have worked together for years at Apple Corporation talked about their own families for the first time when the exhibit was here."

—Rachel, *Apple Corporation*

behind news stories and statistics

increase awareness

"Diversity within emerging families is becoming more and more common. In order to increase awareness and acceptance, our Campus Environment Team at Penn State sponsored *In Our Family*. This exhibit is designed for people to learn to value difference instead of looking at it in a negative way."

—Christyne Berzsenyi, *faculty, Penn State University*

learn to value difference



In Our Family has been supported by generous grants from:
The Gill Foundation
Icarus Foundation
Massachusetts Cultural Council—a state agency
Tsunami Foundation
and other generous donors



see a vision realized

"Our vision was that *In Our Family* would strengthen our community and assure that everyone felt respected. It is a wonderful thing to see a vision realized. I would highly recommend that every school in the country have this exhibit as a way of opening communication and teaching respect for all."

—Tessa Gaddis, *school librarian, Corte Madera, CA*

teaching respect for all

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FAMILY DIVERSITY PROJECTS



IN OUR FAMILY: Portraits of All Kinds of Families

A Photo-Text Exhibit
You Can Bring to Your Community



What Is In Our Family?

In Our Family is a touring photo-text exhibit created by the award-winning Family Diversity Projects. With interviews edited by Peggy Gillespie and Rebekah Boyd and photos by Gigi Kaeser, this exhibit celebrates families of many kinds, including:

- Adoptive families
- Foster families
- Divorced families and stepfamilies
- Single-parent families
- Multiracial families
- Families dealing with illness
- Families living with physical challenges
- Families living with mental illness
- Families living with developmental disabilities
- Lesbian- and gay-parented families
- Interfaith families
- Multigenerational families
- Immigrant families

Each family photograph is accompanied by the words of parents and children in these families who speak candidly about life "**In Our Family.**" Together, the images and the text reveal the common thread present in this tapestry of families: *love.*

In Our Family is an easy-to-display exhibit consisting of twenty museum-quality framed photographs accompanied by interview text panels.

Use In Our Family...

- to help students of all ages and adults learn to understand and appreciate the full range of diversity
- to support diversity initiatives at your school, university, or corporation
- to present positive, realistic images of all kinds of households
- to respond to situations involving teasing, name-calling, bullying, stereotyping, racism, homophobia, etc.
- to help foster and facilitate discussions about all kinds of bias
- as a resource and catalyst for anti-bias curricula based on expanding the understanding of "family" in our complex and rapidly changing world



This exhibit invites audiences at every level, from early childhood to adult, to experience life in all kinds of families.

In Our Family Teaches Us...

- that every family should be appreciated and celebrated
- to value difference
- that children and adults are hurt by stereotyping, name-calling, and teasing
- the importance of actively challenging prejudice
- what families have in common with other families
- that there are happy and flourishing families of all kinds

feel safe, respected, and supported

"We displayed the *In Our Family* exhibit for an entire month. We believe that every child and family should feel safe, respected, and supported in our school. Exposing children at all ages to difference is an important way to combat prejudice, stereotyping, and discrimination. I would be happy to speak to anyone considering bringing this exhibit to their school."

—Gloria Fernandez-Tearte, *director of admission and diversity, Greenwich Academy, Greenwich, CT*

an important way to combat prejudice

You Can Bring This Exhibit To Your Community

In Our Family can travel nationwide to your school (K–12), university, workplace, corporate headquarters, house of worship, public library, community center, museum, or conference.

Family Diversity Projects circulates multiple copies of **In Our Family** and can work with you to have a highly successful exhibition experience.

For exhibit rental information, please contact:

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Visit our Website:

<http://www.familydiv.org>

For schools (K–12), Family Diversity Projects has produced a 200 page curriculum and resource guide to accompany the exhibit, with activities for all ages, as well as staff training modules. It includes many relevant articles by experts in the field of multicultural education, as well as many valuable resource lists and bibliographies for teachers and students. Written by teachers and edited by a multicultural diversity specialist, the guide will help make this exhibit an educational and enlightening event in your school community.

send a positive message

"I would like to express that fact that I was overjoyed when the *In Our Family* exhibit arrived. Everything was so well organized and easy to put up. *In Our Family* was a great way for the Diversity Committee to send a positive message to our employees about today's diverse family. It is very informational as well as a very sophisticated exhibit. I would encourage other companies to bring this exhibit to their workplaces."

—Coral Ten Fingers, *SAFECO Property and Casualty Insurance Companies*

about today's diverse families

