

# HOW TO COMBAT BIPHOBIA

Intellectual Ammunition from the Lesbian Avengers/San Francisco

## *Attack and Response*

**“Bisexual women just can’t admit they’re actually lesbians.”**

We need to respect how other people define their own identities. Anything else is arrogant, disempowering, and destructive.

**“Lesbians have fought for years for our rights. Now bisexuals are taking over.”**

Bisexual women have always been active in the movements for queer and dyke liberation, but bi contributions have been erased by historians who can only think in dualistic either/or terms.

**“Bisexuals exploit heterosexual privilege.”**

The real issue here is the closet, not bisexuality. Closeted lesbians benefit from heterosexual privilege, and out bisexuals are vulnerable to queer bashing, job discrimination, loss of family ...

**“Bisexual women can’t be true feminists.”**

Sexual orientation is not the same as political perspective. Lesbianism does not equal feminist consciousness, and bi identification does not automatically make you a male-identified dupe.

**“Bi women bring AIDS and other STDs into the lesbian community.”**

Unsafe behavior, not sexual identification, spreads HIV/AIDS and other STDs.

**“Bisexuals undermine lesbian groups.”**

Biphobia undermines our ability to fight the homophobia all dykes face.

**“Bisexual women are \_\_\_\_\_.”** (Fill in the blank with various gross generalizations.)

Bisexual-identified women are just as diverse as the population at large – culturally, racially, ideologically, economically, physically, behaviorally ...

Lesbian Avengers  
*We Recruit*