
AWARENESS CONCEPT QUEER DURCH BERLIN

What does "awareness" mean for us?

"Awareness" is a concept for action. The aim is to treat each other with respect. It is about working together on actively dealing with disregard for physical, psychological and personal boundaries in public spaces. It is important to support each other in this. If we see transgressive behavior, assaults and discrimination, we should address it and learn to change it. There are no absolutely safe spaces. There are only spaces that can be made safer (safer spaces). Discrimination also takes place in politicized and queer spaces. This is why structures are needed there as well to actively fight against that.

Our Team

To be recognizable as an awareness team we will wear vests/chain of lights. If you feel uncomfortable with anything and want to talk about it, please approach us directly. We can then go to a quiet place and find a solution together.

Collective Awareness

We see awareness as the responsibility of all participants, not just the awareness team. The awareness team rather takes an accompanying and supporting role. We would like the responsibility for awareness to be put into practice by all of us equally as a collective task. Every person should reflect on their own behavior towards others. Be aware of your boundaries and those of others! Ask rather once too much than once too little. Respect the personal space of your fellow human beings. Consent is the basis of everything and only YES means really YES!

We work with the power of definition.

By power of definition we mean that only the person concerned can define when violence begins, when boundaries are crossed and what is perceived as violence. Because: Experiences of violence are experienced and perceived individually. Therefore, we will not question what the affected person names as violence or boundary crossing.

We work with partiality.

By partiality we mean that we take sides with the person affected. We recognize any violation of boundaries as such and do not question the perspective of the person concerned. We will therefore not have a neutral point of view on the situation, but rather advocate for the view and demands of the person affected and show solidarity with them.

We do not work with absolute power to act.

A person defines what happened and how they experienced what happened. However, they do not determine what happens as a result, meaning how the awareness team will deal with it. Of course, our aim is to implement the needs and wishes of the person concerned. But it can also happen that we as an awareness team are not in a position to fulfill all the wishes.

Why do we come to that conclusion?

Of course, partiality with the affected person is the first priority of our awareness work. Nevertheless, our capacities as an awareness team are limited. Also important to mention is that our work is restricted to the location and period of the happening event. That means we take care of cases that arise at the event. Beyond that we have no capacity to do awareness work.