

To Disclose or not an LGBTI
Identity, or perhaps play the
Heterosexist game of
"I know they know, and they know
I know they know, but let's all
pretend nobody knows"

"What does it say about my lesbian/gay/bisexual identity that I deny it in order to make myself and others comfortable in heterosexual society? How much energy am I spending protecting myself that might be more fruitfully used elsewhere? How will mainstream attitudes change if the average person never knows an LGB individual because we all hide"1







*From a book about grieving# "I call these "refrigerator quotes" and ask grievers to put the quotation on a refrigerator door so they and members of the family, or friends, will see it. Some participants photocopy the quotes and pass them on. Others carry the quotes in a purse, notebook, or wallet for further reflection. The more they read and ponder a refrigerator quote, the more meaning it offers." (p.11.)

#Borrowed Narratives: Using Biographical and Historical Grief Narratives With the Bereaving by Harold Ivan Smith, published by Routledge Mental Health.

Downloadable from www.colinlongworth.com.au/Refrigerator-Quotes

¹ From Bohan, J. S., (1996, p. 96) *Psychology and sexual orientation: Coming to terms.* Cleveland OH Pilgrim Press, cited at p.299, *Breaking Out II: The Complete Guide to Building a Positive LGBTI Identity* (2012) by Dr Kevin Alderson (*Insomniac Press* – London, Ontario, Canada).