UCT FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES TRANSFORMATION PRESENTS

INTERNATIONAL PRIDE MONTH FAQS

1. WHY DO WE CELEBRATE LGBTQIA+ **PRIDE?**

LGBTQIA+ pride is a movement rooted in activism with the main purpose of advocating for better treatment of LGBTQIA+ people. Pride is multifaceted as it is also a time of celebration and commemoration. Pride is dedicated to supporting and uplifting LGBTQIA+ people, culture and history. The very expression of Pride by this community is a defiant response to the shame and stigma that has been and still is imposed on LGBTQIA+ communities.

2. WHAT IS

International Pride Month is commemorated in the month of June due to the Stonewall Uprising of 1969. This was one of the most pivotal protests in international gay liberation. This protest happened as a response to one of the many police raids of the Stonewall Inn (a gay bar in New York City) at a time where victimisation and homophobia by police was rife. In June of the very next year, the first ever Pride Parade was held.

INTERNATIONAL PRIDE MONTH?



3. WHAT **ABOUT SOUTH** AFRICAN **PRIDE?**

Within South Africa, it wasn't until October of 1990 that a Pride March was held in Johannesburg. This was also a first for the entire continent of Africa. Pride marches have since blossomed into various other South African cities throughout the years. However, Pride Month in South Africa is celebrated in October to mark this historic event.



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4. HOW IS PRIDE CELEBRATED? While Pride is more than an event to many LGBTQIA+ people, we typically see Pride Month marked by large and colourful parades, peaceful protests, vigils, memorials, drag performances, poetry readings, donating to LGBTQIA+ organisations, movie screenings, parties and anything else that makes you feel proud to be LGBTQIA+.

While allies are welcome to attend the majority of Pride events, it is important to be mindful in these spaces. This includes, but is not limited to, respecting all LGBTQIA+ identities and expression, being aware of your privilege and the space you take up, and knowing what Pride is actually about. Respecting pronouns and showing up for the community everyday and not just during Pride. Please consider volunteering for and donating to local LGBTQIA+ organisations and NGOs to support the vital work they do!

5. AS AN ALLY, HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

6. WHERE CAN I DONATE OR VOLUNTEER? A non-exhaustive list with links to South African organisations and NGOs doing meaningful and life-changing work for LGBTQIA+ people:

- <u>Gender Dynamix</u>
- <u>Triangle Project</u>
- <u>Pride Shelter Trust</u>
- OUT LGBT Well-being
- <u>Same Love Toti</u>

- Desmond Tutu Health Foundation
- Inclusive and Affirming Ministries
- <u>Be True 2 Me</u>
- <u>PASSOP</u>
- <u>Shemah Koleinu</u>





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