

Savannah Gomes

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Facing History

May 12, 2014

This year, one of the Facing History activities was on the use of the word “gay” and on homosexuality in general. There was a video the Facing History class presented about what it would be like if the “normal” way to be was gay instead of straight. I think that alone made people in the school uncomfortable. They didn’t want to be put into the weird position of being the group that was ridiculed. There was also a presentation by a current student who identifies as gay. She made many people cry because of the amount of energy and love she put into her short presentation, and how much courage it took her to talk about such a difficult topic. The whole thing was a nice experience because I think that, as a school, we learned that we have to be a little more careful about our language. We learned that the word “gay,” used as a term to mean “stupid” or “girly,” is a problem. It affects people in ways that we might not have understood before, even if they try to hide it and play it off like it doesn’t hurt them.