# Can gay men ever be friends with straight lads?



A recent discussion on the social media platform Threads has sparked extensive dialogue about the dynamics of friendships between gay men and their straight male peers. The conversation was initiated by user @justintycarey, who posed a question aimed at "straight men who are generally LGBTQ accepting". The inquiry sought to understand whether these men would feel opposed or disappointed upon discovering a friend's gay sexuality.

The query quickly gained traction, amassing over a thousand responses within 24 hours. Many of the replies highlighted an evolving attitude among straight men towards friendships with gay men. A significant portion of the respondents indicated that they prioritise shared interests and personal values over sexual orientation when forming friendships. One user commented, “Genuinely give zero f\*cks. If we were cool before I knew, we’re cool after I know.” This reflects a growing acceptance and a focus on shared human qualities rather than distinctions based on sexual identity.

Some respondents shared positive experiences of forming friendships with gay men and the enriching aspects of such connections. One participant, who has long worked in the theatre industry, stated that being around gay friends often provided more aligned worldviews compared to other straight peers. Another user highlighted the societal pressures influencing men's perceptions, such as the fear of being mistakenly perceived as gay by homophobes. This individual revealed personal experiences of violence due to standing by gay friends, underscoring the dangers that can sometimes accompany such alliances.

Other respondents tackled the potential awkwardness fostered by attraction. Experiences were shared where gay friends had developed romantic feelings, making some straight men uncomfortable. Yet, these situations often resolved amicably, reaffirming friendships post-discussion about boundaries. One man shared that although he felt awkward being the centre of attraction, frank communication helped maintain the friendship without discomfort.

The discourse also touched upon the issue of perceived awkwardness that may arise when straight men engage with gay friends. Some users argued that the social climate often places them in precarious positions, wary of saying something insensitive. A response suggested that a lot of the awkwardness emanates from a concern about offending, rather than discomfort with a friend's sexuality.

While the discussed comments reflect a largely positive perspective from straight men who identify as open-minded, the question also uncovered the reality that not all encounters are as seamless. Notably, many gay men have experienced challenges or negative reactions upon revealing their sexuality to straight friends, leading to caution in these disclosures.

The overarching narrative of the discussion celebrated the advancements in interpersonal relationships across sexual orientations, with many straight men acknowledging the vibrancy that gay friends bring to their lives. As one quipped, “Gay weddings are the best parties ever. This alone is a strong reason to have gay friends.”

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.threads.net/@bardellosport1/post/DBauBtYMtCS> - This link supports the discussion on Threads where straight men expressed their acceptance and lack of opposition to friendships with gay men, highlighting that shared interests and personal values are prioritized over sexual orientation.
* <https://www.threads.net/@kozad86/post/DBb-s0tSIjl> - This link corroborates the aspect where users mentioned that gay men often align better with their worldviews compared to straight men, leading to more enriching friendships.
* <https://www.threads.net/@omikesantanna/post/DBaOH2QOtSz> - This link supports the idea that many users find gay friends to be more aligned with their worldviews and are happy to have such friendships.
* <https://hubpages.com/relationships/forum/90391/is-it-truly-truly-possible-for-two-gay-men-to-be-friends> - This link provides context on the possibility and dynamics of friendships between gay men, which can be applied to understanding the broader acceptance and inclusivity discussed in the Threads conversation.
* <https://www.reddit.com/r/gaybros/comments/1apf9os/strange_friendship_dynamics_with_gay_men/> - This link touches on the strange dynamics in friendships between gay men and can be related to the discussions on potential awkwardness and societal pressures mentioned in the Threads conversation.
* <https://www.threads.net/@bardellosport1/post/DBauBtYMtCS> - This link highlights the concern about offending gay friends and the awkwardness that can arise from this concern, rather than discomfort with their sexuality.
* <https://hubpages.com/relationships/forum/90391/is-it-truly-truly-possible-for-two-gay-men-to-be-friends> - This link supports the idea that frank communication can help maintain friendships even when romantic feelings or attraction are involved, aligning with the resolution of awkward situations discussed in the Threads conversation.
* <https://www.threads.net/@kozad86/post/DBb-s0tSIjl> - This link underscores the personal experiences of violence or negative reactions that some gay men face when revealing their sexuality to straight friends, reflecting the caution mentioned in the discussion.
* <https://www.threads.net/@omikesantanna/post/DBaOH2QOtSz> - This link celebrates the advancements in interpersonal relationships and the vibrancy that gay friends bring to the lives of straight men, aligning with the positive perspective highlighted in the discussion.
* <https://hubpages.com/relationships/forum/90391/is-it-truly-truly-possible-for-two-gay-men-to-be-friends> - This link reinforces the notion that friendships between individuals of different sexual orientations can be strong and meaningful, similar to the insights from the Threads conversation.