

ALEX SANGHA

Author, Speaker, Social Worker
and Change Agent

Press Kit

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THE BOOK: **CATALYST**

CATALYST

Press Release

Vancouver, B.C. – An awareness of the problems around us isn't enough.

Understanding the issues – how they connect and affect and ripple out to the edges of our lives – is the only hope for a better tomorrow. *Catalyst: A Collection of Commentaries to Get Us Talking* is a tool to encourage conversation about subjects that are sometimes hard to talk about.

Alex Sangha has produced a critical, yet positive, book that covers a range of table topics from environmental conservation to reconciling religion and sexuality, to depression and arranged marriage.

What sets Sangha apart is that he doesn't just want readers to agree blindly with everything he says; he encourages critical thinking and debate by posing a question at the end of each article.

Catalyst is a great conversation starter and social discussion book designed for the informed citizen, as well as for parents and teachers who want to get young adults thinking and talking about the world around them.

Catalyst is a companion to *The Modern Thinker*, Sangha's well-received book of 2011. All the articles in *The Modern Thinker* have been revised and 10 new articles have been added.

Book Details

- 184 pages
- Release Date: June 2013
- Publisher: AuthorHouse – A Penguin Company
- E-book: \$3.99 – ISBN 9781481754903
- Softcover: \$16.95 – ISBN 9781481754880
- Hardcover: \$27.99 – ISBN 9781481754897
- Available worldwide: <http://amazon.com> or at discounted rates direct from the publisher: <http://www.authorhouse.com/>

ABOUT THE BOOK

Alex Sangha writes about hard-hitting subjects affecting all Canadians. He shares his views and discusses events that have shaped his life.

What sets Sangha apart is that he doesn't just want readers to absorb and agree blindly with everything he says; he encourages thought, engagement, and conversation.

To aid in this process, he poses a question at the end of each article:

- *“Do you think each neighborhood having an elected member on city council is important in local government?”*
- *“Do you think the government should make the rich pay more taxes?”*
- *“How would you improve our prison system?”*
- *“Would you employ someone with a mental illness?”*
- *“How would you feel about having your parents find a spouse for you?”*

Tell someone what you think.

Start a conversation.

There is no question about it: The world is changing faster than ever. What's not so clear is where all this change is taking us. Thanks to globalization and the Internet, we see news as it happens but we are also bombarded with more information than we could ever hope to process. How much of it is true? How much of it matters?

Alex Sangha believes it's up to all of us to separate the wheat from the chaff. He wants each of us – young, old and in-between – to think critically, to see past the epidemic of disinformation and hidden agendas streaming at us daily in this multi-media world.

Sangha encourages each of us to play a part in shaping our future. He promotes change in the world, but also deeper thinking right here at home. He believes making choices that are good for us, for the environment, and for others can only happen when we are truly informed and have a real understanding of the issues at hand.

The world needs critical thinkers and go-getters. Canada needs them. Our schools need them. An awareness of the problems around us isn't enough. Understanding the issues – how they connect and affect and ripple out to the edges of our lives – is the only hope for a better tomorrow. *Catalyst: A Collection of Commentaries to Get Us Talking* is a tool to encourage conversation about subjects that are sometimes hard to talk about.

Alex Sangha may not have all the answers, but he knows how to get us thinking and talking.

BOOK TESTIMONIALS

“Alex Sangha has an impressively broad range of knowledge on issues that affect the world, and challenges problems that most people have come to accept.

Sangha doesn’t just point out the troubles in this world, but thinks of bold solutions for them.”

Jenny Uechi, Managing Editor, *Vancouver Observer*

“Alex writes clearly, concisely and with a non-judgmental view point. Alex is clearly a world citizen who disseminates on a wide variety of issues with amazing clarity. His refreshing view on a wide range of subjects are written with elegance and a light touch that does not cloud the issues.”

Veeno Dewan, Former Editor, *Voice Newspaper*

MEDIA INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Catalyst is a collection of 40 short commentaries and an introduction and conclusion. Each topic is introduced with a quote, often humorous, and a photo and ends with a question for further discussion.

There are five central themes in Catalyst:

- Economic Transformation
- Political Action
- Environmental Impact
- Social Affairs
- Spiritual Awakening

You'll want to ask Alex:

- Why all of humanity is connected at a physical and spiritual level?
- Why it's important to reduce the inequities between the rich and the poor?
- Why we must change our consumption patterns to protect the environment and ourselves?
- How to reform the social welfare system to ensure all families receive a basic quality of life?
- Why is it important to achieve electoral reform at the local level?
- Why Aboriginal people could benefit from their own Parliament?
- Why Senate reform is essential in Canada?
- Why the need to push for the rights of women and minorities including persons with disabilities?
- What was it like growing up gay and brown in the suburbs?

NEWS ARTICLE

Alex Sangha's coming out story was published in *Trikone Magazine* out of San Francisco, California in January 2009. A modified version of this coming out story is published in *Catalyst*.

COMING OUT STORIES

Lionheart



Amar Sangha is the Founder and Moderator of Sher Vancouver. Sher is a social and support group for gay and lesbian Punjabi and South Asian people and their friends, families, and allies. Sher has over 150 members on its Facebook and Yahoo groups and the vast majority of these members are from Greater Vancouver. Sher is strategic partners with the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society, or PICS, which is a South-Asian social service agency based in Surrey, Canada.

People often ask me when I knew I was gay. I knew I was different when I was in preschool and kindergarten. I used to play with the girls down the street and with doll houses. I never had interest in boys' things. I was a sensitive child. I dealt with a lot of inner turmoil and struggle. There was a lot of alienation from being the only "gay kid" in the neighbourhood. There was no place for me to make gay friends.

I wrote a suicide note, but I did not have the courage to follow through with my plan. I kept silent about my problem with my family. I only managed to stay alive because I did not want to hurt my mother, who had sacrificed everything just to raise me. This was the only barrier separating me from heaven or hell. The scary thought of being "outed" took up an exhausting amount of my time and energy. The mere mention of the words "faggot" or "homo" or any other slur that is commonly used in high school would ruin my entire day or get me thinking about what life would be like after death. The name-calling and rumours would make me depressed and take their toll on my self esteem and self confidence. I remember one horrible day when someone scratched "fag" into my locker. I was being taught in high school to hate myself.

When I reached puberty, I secretly went to see a child psychiatrist in the hopes of becoming straight. The psychiatrist never

judged me. He listened to my concerns and tried to help me. He allowed me the freedom to make my own decisions. It was next to impossible for me to change my sexuality. No matter what I did, I would still have thoughts of men. My psychiatrist was there for me when no one else was.

After high school, I went to London, England, to live with my grandfather and escape my misery. I wanted to live a secret gay life in a new city. I had a nervous breakdown instead and had to go to the hospital. My mom came to visit and asked if I was gay. I said I was bisexual, thinking it would make her feel better. My mom accepted me immediately. I think she always knew. I did not have to worry about what my father thought as my mom was divorced.

I returned to Canada and most of my family was supportive. Some family members thought it was wrong and a choice. Not surprisingly they were also the ones who beat me up as a kid and called me fag or homo.

I managed to slowly overcome my internalised homophobia at college and university. I learned to embrace my sexuality and feel inner peace and happiness. At college, I started to meet men and women, many of them straight, who, to my surprise, were gay-positive! They did not judge me for whom I found attractive. It was a breath of fresh air and a whole new world.

At university, I became interested in classical art and literature. I was amazed to discover that some of the most brilliant and greatest men in history, such as Michelangelo and Oscar Wilde, were gay or bisexual. I never learned this in Western Civilization. I always thought it was kind of odd that Michelangelo would spend hours sculpting the statue of David or painting muscular figures on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

I started to feel good about my sexuality and myself. I discovered that gay people contribute an enormous amount to humanity despite the marginalisation, prejudice, and homophobia they experience. At university, I eventually became Co-Chair of Pride UBC. I raised \$10,000 in grants to put on the 20th Anniversary of Pride UBC's Out Week when students celebrate coming out of the closet.

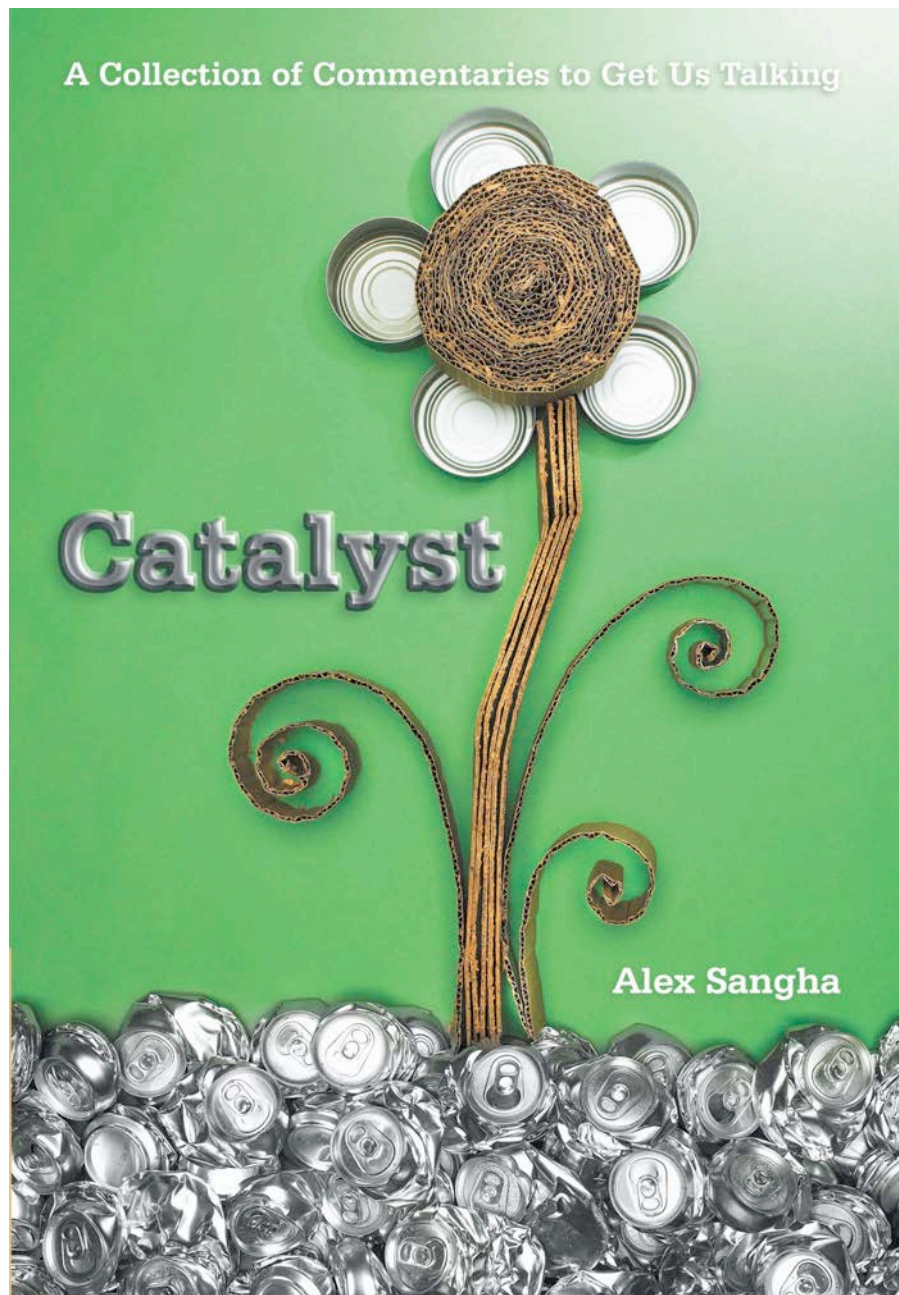
As South Asians, we have to deal with double discrimination as members of a visible minority and a sexual minority. There is a lot of pressure from our families to get married and have children. Some members of Sher tell me their families have told them that if you're gay, there is nothing we can do, but just don't tell anyone. It is my personal belief that this silence does not help anyone or make it easier for the next generation that is trying to come out of the closet. The silence makes it seem like there are no gay or lesbian South Asians. ●

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BOOK COVER



PREVIOUS BOOKS: **THE MODERN THINKER**

THE MODERN THINKER

Timeless Ideas, Inspiration, and Hope for the 21st Century

If you could adopt a single step and make a small difference, what would it be?

What if you could cultivate multiple small steps that lead to a bigger, better, and brighter future?

In this one of a kind social discussion guide, Vancouver visionary Alex Sangha delivers straight-talk on socio-economic, environmental, political, and spiritual issues that anyone can put to use. His mission? Getting people to think for themselves. His tools? The hard hitting articles he pens which call it like he sees it.

This valuable volume is a collection of frank and insightful essays on the world in the 21st Century, through the eyes of a social activist immersed in it.

- 152 pages
- Release Date: December 2011
- Publisher: AuthorHouse – A Penguin Company
- E-book: \$3.99
- Softcover: \$16.95
- Hardcover: \$27.99
- Available worldwide: <http://amazon.com> or at discounted rates direct from the publisher: <http://www.authorhouse.com/>

PREVIOUS BOOKS: IMAGINE

IMAGINE

Ideas that Challenge the Status Quo

Imagine places ideas in society and gets readers thinking critically about their most cherished beliefs and values. The topics are vast and varied: abortion, immigration, gay rights, love, mentorship, and sustainable development.

There is no right answer. We must come to our own conclusions.

If we can listen and learn from each other, we can accept our differences. Everyone has ideas on how to make the world a better place and fill humankind with hope. Imagine espouses humanitarian and egalitarian ideals such as every citizen deserves to reach their potential and contribute to society. Imagine is written from the perspective of protecting the people and the planet for current and future generations. You will learn of thought-provoking issues.

The book proposes that we are all one and connected by spiritual energy. This will help us look for what we have in common and bring about social peace, social progress, and social change that light our souls and lift humanity in one colossal embrace.

- 112 pages
- Release Date: April 2010
- Publisher: AuthorHouse – A Penguin Company
- E-book: \$3.95
- Softcover: \$9.95
- Hardcover: \$14.95
- Available worldwide: <http://amazon.com> or at discounted rates direct from the publisher: <http://www.authorhouse.com/>

THE SPEAKING TOUR: THE DOSTI PROJECT

THE DOSTI PROJECT

Press Release

Coming out as gay and South Asian: Combating racism, bullying, and homophobia in schools and the community.

Vancouver, B.C. - The DOSTI project was launched in April 2009 by social worker Alex Sangha for Sher Vancouver. Sher is a social, cultural, and support organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) South Asians and friends. DOSTI means “friendship” in Persian and many South Asian languages.

The purpose of the DOSTI project is to combat racism, bullying, and homophobia in high schools, colleges, universities, and the community. The goal is to reduce hatred and build more friendships through increased acceptance and cross-cultural understanding via education and information and the sharing of personal stories and experiences.

The DOSTI project is designed to be culturally sensitive but its message cuts across all boundaries and backgrounds. Anyone can be a victim of racism, bullying, and homophobia.

The DOSTI project mission is to reduce stereotypes, especially homophobic discrimination within the South Asian and mainstream community. A teacher at a Surrey high school who runs a gay straight alliance stated that in the 8 years that he has been involved in the program only 2 South Asian students have entered the program although 80% of the school is South Asian. This demonstrates how difficult it is for youth from minority communities to come out especially during high school. This will require a cultural change through increased education and awareness.

THE WORKSHOP

Target Audience: High school students (Grade 10 to 12), young adults, teachers, health and social service professionals, and the community-at-large

Length: 60 to 90 minutes

Composition of the Workshop

Introduction and History

- About Alex Sangha, The DOSTI Project, and Sher Vancouver

Agree, Disagree, or Undecided and Discuss

- I will totally accept my best friend if he came out to me as LGBT?
- My school is a safe place for LGBT people to be openly gay at?
- Is it more difficult to be an LGBT person in some countries around the world as compared to Canada?

The Celebrity Game

- How many LGBT people can you name who are a celebrity and Caucasian?
- How many LGBT people can you name who are a celebrity and a person of colour?
- Discuss the results with an emphasis on the similarities and differences.

That's so Gay!

- Why it's important to stop using the phrase "That's so Gay!"

Coming Out Story

- Alex Sangha's personal coming out story from a LGBT and South Asian perspective as published by TriKone Magazine of San Francisco, California and in his latest book *Catalyst*.

Stereotypes

- Discussion about positive and negative stereotypes of LGBT people and whether or not they help or hinder the LGBT movement and human rights for sexual and gender minorities.

Closing Round

- What are you capable of doing to make sure no one feels like an outsider in your school?
- What specific things can you do to end racism, bullying, and homophobia at the individual, community, and society level?
- Professional Resources and Evaluation of the Workshop

WORKSHOP TESTIMONIALS

- ***“I really liked the presentation because it removed the taboo of gays in the South Asian community.”*** Social Justice 12 student, 2009.
- ***“First ever gay presentation and was very interesting to see and learn new things.”*** Punjabi 12 student, 2009.
- ***“I respect the fact you guys were willing to be open and share your stories.”*** Punjabi 11 student, 2009.
- ***“The speaker’s stories about their lives and how they dealt with their sexuality and homophobia was really interesting.”*** Social Justice 12 student, 2009.
- ***“I would really like to work with you again through the school’s GSA program.”*** Social Justice 12 student, 2009.
- ***“I thought this was an interesting presentation. I feel it opens people’s eyes to what homophobia and bullying is and what people say.”*** Social Justice 12 student, 2011.
- ***“I really enjoyed this presentation. It makes people really think about people around them and how were all so similar.”*** Social Justice 12 student, 2009.
- ***“A good presentation overall. It really made me think about how some people in our school get treated, and how life must be like for them.”*** Social Justice 12 student, 2011.
- ***“I think that this presentation needs to be shown to larger audiences and to more schools.”*** Social Justice 12 student, 2009.
- ***“It was really interesting hearing it from a gay person’s perspective.”*** Social Justice 12 student, 2011.

MEDIA INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- Why was Sher Vancouver created and how did the organization evolve?
- Who designed the DOSTI project?
- Who has funded the DOSTI project in the past?
- Are LGBT youth who are also ethnic minorities at a higher risk of racism, bullying, and homophobia?
- Who was January Marie Lapuz?

NEWS ARTICLE

South Asian gay group brings workshops to schools

Rob Easton / Vancouver / Thursday, June 04, 2009/ Xtra

REACHING OUT TO YOUTH

Alex Sangha wants to see a day when all queer people can feel safe and secure about their sexuality and their culture. But as a queer person who comes from a South Asian culture, it's not always easy being out, he says.

"Sexuality and gender issues are not discussed in our community," explains Sangha. "Queer youth are very isolated and fearful."

A year ago, the social worker and master's student started a group called Sher Vancouver, a gay social and support group for South Asian people and their friends, families and allies.

"It's very difficult to come out, get information and resources. We provide peer support, information, and referrals," he says.

Sangha often gets calls from families who feel they can relate more easily to another South Asian person who understands the culture.

"They're afraid they might be labelled or it won't be confidential or the community might find out they might be gay."

Sangha says he likes supporting people on an individual basis. But more needed to be done.

So now he, along with Sher's youth outreach worker Ashley Wolfe, are broadening the discussion and addressing homophobia directly through a new series of school workshops they're calling the Dosti Project.

Dosti means "friendship" in many South Asian languages. "We decided," says Sangha, "it would be a positive title for the project to empower people and create a positive space."

Based on the model created by Out in Schools, the idea behind the Dosti Project is to have at least one South Asian person go along with others into classes to talk about coming out.

The workshops begin by depicting coming out scenarios, and then open the floor to students so they can talk about their feelings if they or someone they know is queer.

Sangha then tells his coming out story as a gay South Asian.

“It’s an important time of forming your identity,” says Wolfe, who is straight but knows what it’s like to be part of a cultural minority. “Youth need empowerment and support. They just need a friend to talk to. Coming from a counselling background, I know they struggle.”

“Also,” Sangha chimes in, “I want her [Wolfe] to speak from a straight perspective as well because the majority of our audience is going to be straight.”

In the workshops, they talk about stereotypes like “all gay men are stylish” or “all lesbians are butchy” and they explain the implications of saying “that’s so gay” about something that really isn’t gay at all.

The workshops are geared towards challenging the students to be aware of how they make people feel like outsiders with a lot of the terminology they use.

The idea is to put it all on the table and talk about what those words mean to people.

“There’s a certain element of fear that you’re going to be bullied or tormented in your own group,” says Wolfe. “We can clear the misconceptions, answer the difficult questions and then there shouldn’t be so much fear.”

Sangha has already made one presentation at Van Tech Secondary School, but the real prize for him is Surrey schools where the South Asian population is as much as 25 percent.

With Surrey’s history of banning gay-friendly books in the past, Sangha was a little worried the board would not accept his group. But he says the district’s associate manager of safe schools, Rob Rae, has been very open to it.

“That [the Dosti Project] is something we would look at,” says Rae. “We’re

going through the process of seeing how we could work with one another and if it's a possibility."

Rae is quick to point out that several Surrey high schools now have gay-straight alliances and thinks the Dosti Project would work well with one of those programs.

But with the school year quickly coming to an end, Sangha is looking towards the fall for a launch south of the Fraser.

The Dosti workshops were designed with feedback from BC's first gay-straight alliance founder Romi Chandra, James Chamberlain of the BC Teachers' Federation, and Steve Mulligan of the Vancouver School Board.

The project is funded by the CORSA (South Asian) Foundation, the Gay and Lesbian Educators of BC, and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (Victim Services and Crime Prevention Division).

With plans to bring the Dosti Project into schools across the Lower Mainland well underway, Sangha is hoping more people will help volunteer. "If they want to volunteer," says Sangha, "they can email me. They can talk to their teacher or principal to get a presentation in their school."



Alex Sangha (right, with co-presenter Ashley Wolfe) wants to bring his Dosti workshops to Surrey schools this fall, where the South Asian population is as much as 25 percent. (Christine McAvoy photo)



TAMANAWIS SECONDARY SCHOOL

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23 May 2013

To Whom It May Concern—

This letter serves as a reference for Amar (Alex) Sangha and his DOSTI project. I have known Amar for four years in my capacity as a teacher of Social Justice 12 at Tamanawis Secondary School, where I have taught for the past fifteen years.

Amar has presented his DOSTI story and activities in my classroom for the past four years. The presentation typically includes Amar's own story, and then moves into a discussion of LGBTQ people of colour, and ends with a Q&A session about his experiences. The presentation has also included Amar's mother, who lends a unique perspective to the story: as a woman brought up in a traditional (and in her view somewhat sexist) environment, she clearly sees how sexism and homophobia intersect.

Amar's presentation—especially at Tamanawis, where there are many South Asian students—is fascinating and thought-provoking. Students from diverse backgrounds get to see a visible-minority person who is out (and proud, and articulate) share his story, and the student reaction typically is something along the lines of “wow—respect—Mr Sangha has overcome some serious challenges, and his presentation has been really interesting.”

I am hoping Amar can keep coming back to Tamanawis with his presentation, which ties in perfectly with the Social Justice 12 curriculum's LGBTQ unit. He's an articulate and thoughtful presenter, and I highly recommend him for any training or educational activities that involve homophobia, racism and South Asian-specific issues.

Chris Stolz

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English, Spanish, Social Justice

Gay/Straight Alliance and Slam Club sponsor, Staff Committee

S.T.A. Representative



NORTH DELTA SECONDARY

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28 May 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing as the Social Justice 12 teacher and Social Studies Department Head at North Delta Secondary School. I contacted Alex and his organization several years ago and have had him and his representatives present to my His work with the DOSTI project has become an integral part of the Social Justice 12 course at our school. I have had the pleasure of witnessing the effectiveness of his presentation on many occasions. His ability to make students feel comfortable in asking him questions that they admit they were previously nervous about stems from his honest and open sharing of his story. Without fail, after Alex leaves my classes he is the talk of the school with the twelfth grade students for the rest of the day.

As educators we seldom know what impacts our daily classroom lessons have on our students. Over the past few years I have had many of my students who have gone off to jobs, colleges, and universities come back and talk about how the LGBTQ unit of Social Justice changed their perspectives for the better. I credit Alex with much of the impact on my students in that unit. He can do in an hour what I cannot in weeks. Young people, no differently than the rest of us, can put up walls and barriers when confronted when having to learn about what makes them uncomfortable or nervous. Alex has a disarming quality about him that allows the students to foster accepting attitudes.

I am thankful for the work Alex and his DOSTI project has done in our school community so far. My hope is that his project grows and includes even more students than it has. I would not hesitate in having Alex present to my students for years to come.

Regards,

Gurpaul Sohal, Department Head of Social Studies, Social Justice 12,
North Delta Secondary School

FACT SHEET

The DOSTI Project

Geographic Regions Reached (to date): Surrey, Delta, and Vancouver.

High School Classes Reached: Social Justice 12, Punjabi 12, Punjabi 11, Planning 10, and Links Program.

Community Organizations Reached: PFLAG Vancouver, Surrey Youth Alliance, BC Nurses Union, Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society (PICS), Rainbow Refugee Committee at Qmunity, Fraser Health – Geriatric Team in Surrey, and the BC Association of Social Workers (Anti-Racism and Multiculturalism Committee).

Evaluations Received: 312. 14% of students reached provided evaluations. This is because evaluations were only started to be distributed intermittently prior to January 2012 and regularly afterwards.

Results: Over 90% of the evaluations received a score of 4.0/5 or higher.

The Social, Systemic, and Policy Change

A major aim of the DOSTI project is to create a safer and more tolerant educational environment in high schools. The 1999 McCreary Centre Study of Queer Youth in B.C. found that 34% of queer youth have been threatened with violence at school; 17% have been physically assaulted; and 71% have seriously considered suicide while 45% claim to have actually attempted suicide. In May 2008, Equality for Gays and Lesbians Everywhere (EGALE), in a nationwide survey, found that 41% of queer youth had been sexually harassed compared to 19% of straight youth.

The report found that homophobia and transphobia is linked to poor performance in school, dropout rates, and teen suicides.

Furthermore, almost half (49%) of queer youth had mean rumours spread about them at school. Fewer than half felt comfortable talking to their parents about queer issues.

Almost 40% of straight participants reported they made homophobic remarks sometimes or frequently compared to 19% for queer youth. 54% of straight participants and 61% of queer participants reported they had not been taught about queer issues in any school classes or assemblies over the past year.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: **ALEX SANGHA**

ABOUT ALEX SANGHA

Biography

Alex Sangha is an award winning social worker and human rights activist who lives and works in the Metro Vancouver area of BC.

Sangha has advocated for marginalized people including those with mental illness, South Asian immigrants, and gays and lesbians.

Sangha is always interested in meeting new people, developing new friendships and relationships, and learning new things. He believes anyone can help bring about social change and make a difference in someone's life; all it takes is effort.

Sangha was born in England, raised in Canada, and is of Indian descent. It is therefore no surprise that he feels like a product of the British Empire. Sangha completed a Bachelor of Social Work at the University of British Columbia, an MSc in Public Administration and Public Policy from the London School of Economics, as well as a Master of Social Work from Dalhousie University. Sangha is currently the driving force behind the Dignity House project, which aims to provide affordable housing for vulnerable seniors in Vancouver.



Author photo of Alex Sangha courtesy of Sandra Minarik Photography

AWARDS



Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal
Presented for community service and social work by MP Jinny Sims
January 2013



Surrey North Delta Leader Readers' Choice Award
Second Place in the Social Activist Category
November 2012



Royal Bank Top 25 Canadian Immigrants Award
A National People's Choice Award
May 2011



Georgia Straight Best of Vancouver Issue
Vancouver's bright lights challenge the status quo
September 2008

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Alex Sangha has been interviewed or mentioned by the following media outlets as a social worker, social activist, and/or writer.

Radio

CBC Radio
CKNW – Morning News with Philip Till
Radio India

Television

CBC News
CTV News
OMNI News

Magazine

Canadian Family
Canadian Immigrant

Online

Canadian Press
Delta Free Press
Maclean's On Campus
Queeristan
Times of India
Vancouver Observer

Newspapers

Georgia Straight
Globe and Mail
Indo-Canadian Voice Newspaper
Metro News - Vancouver
South Asian Post
Surrey Leader
The Province
Toronto Star
Ubysey
Vancouver Sun
Xtra

TOP FIVE REASONS TO BOOK AN AUTHOR READING OR THE DOSTI PROJECT

Author Reading

1. Learn about new and different ideas, interests, and issues that impact our modern world.
2. Select from any of forty different topics for discussion divided over five themes: economic transformation, political action, environmental impact, social affairs, and spiritual awakening.
3. Ask questions about Catalyst directly to the author.
4. Purchase Catalyst at a wholesale author discount.
5. Receive a signed copy of Catalyst.

The DOSTI Project

1. Learn about the impact of racism, bullying, and homophobia in your school and community.
2. Interact and engage with the workshop facilitator.
3. Learn to appreciate the human rights and freedoms we enjoy in Canada, in comparison to many other parts of the world.
4. Learn what it is like to grow up gay and brown in the suburbs and come out in a traditional community.
5. Learn how you can make a difference in your school, community, and broader society to end discrimination and help marginalized and vulnerable people.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Photo of Alex Sangha courtesy of Sandra Minarik Photography