

INTERSECTIONALITY & ME

From BBC's DNA Family Secrets to Finding Identity

I Am
MATTHEW

The Why: The Power of the Whole Person

Identity is never a single-track story. This workshop explores the "why" behind our search for belonging, moving from the screen to the heart of the workplace. By sharing my journey on BBC's *DNA Family Secrets*—where I discovered my Seychellois heritage—and my life as a queer person who navigated the care system, we humanise the concept of intersectionality. We examine why it is vital for organisations to move beyond labels and see the complex, overlapping layers that make us who we are.

The How: Expertise through Experience

We don't teach from a textbook; we lead through lived reality:

- **Experts by Experience:** We centre the insights of **experts by experience** to ground every conversation. My roles as a Trustee at The Fostering Network and an identity consultant allow me to bridge the gap between high-level governance and the real, often messy, human experience.
- **Narrative-Led Discovery:** Using my story of finding identity, we explore **how** race, sexuality, and heritage intersect, and the impact these layers have on professional environments.
- **Accessible Dialogue:** We strip away the academic jargon, using simple, clear language to create a safe space for honest questions and authentic engagement.

The Outcomes: Real-World Change

- **Cross-ERG Collaboration:** Bridging groups including LGBTQ+, Race & Heritage, and Disability to identify shared goals and break down silos.
- **Intersectional Allyship:** Understanding how to support colleagues who hold multiple marginalised identities.
- **Psychological Safety:** Teams develop the confidence to foster an environment where everyone's whole self is seen and respected.

Perfect For Awareness Months

This workshop provides a highly engaging focal point for key calendar events, ensuring organisations offer deep, meaningful conversations that go far beyond surface-level awareness. Ideal for:

- **Pride Month**
- **National Inclusion Week**
- **LGBTQ+ History Month**
- **Care Leavers' Week**
- **Black History Month**
- **Foster Care Fortnight**



CREDENTIALS

Trustee: The Fostering Network

Global Leader: Consultant for NatWest, NHS, and TfL.

Panellist: Black Care Experience and myGwork.

NHS

NatWest

"For anyone looking for someone to lead the conversation on intersectionality, Matthew is an incredible fit."

— **NatWest**

"Intersectionality is not just about adding identities together, but about understanding the unique experiences created at their crossroads."

You Can't Say That!

Workshop

YOU
CAN'T
SAY THAT!

Breaking Down Fear Around Identity Based Language

Most people want to get identity conversations right, but fear often gets in the way. Worries about saying the wrong thing, being judged, or not keeping up with evolving language can shut dialogue down before it starts. This silence costs organisations trust, connection and inclusion.

This 60-minute interactive session, led by Danielle Brown MBE and Matthew Page, tackles those fears head-on. Using lived experience, real-world examples and audience interaction, we create a safe space to practise language with confidence, curiosity and respect. Participants don't leave with a script of "right" words, but with practical tools to listen well, ask questions openly and respond constructively when mistakes happen.



Outcomes

Participants gain:

- Confidence to engage in identity conversations without fear
- Tools to listen, ask and respond in ways that build trust
- Insight into how intersecting identities shape experience
- Strategies to build cultures where inclusion is an everyday practice

For organisations, this means reduced risk, stronger relationships and teams that communicate with care.



What you'll learn

- Understand why people fear identity conversations and how to move past it.
- Recognise how language evolves, and why it can feel hard to keep up.
- Practice simple, actionable tools for inclusive conversations:
 - Openness to Learn
 - Active Listening
 - Asking Instead of Assuming
 - Responding Calmly When Mistakes Happen
- Discover how to create safe, inclusive cultures where trust is built through practice, not perfection.



Who should attend

Anyone who wants to:

- Build confidence talking about identity.
- Support more inclusive and trusting workplaces.
- Understand the nuances of evolving language.
- Perfect to support employee networks and resource groups

Contact us: matthewmichaelpage@gmail.com



Matthew Page

Identity and Intersectionality Consultant, Matthew is a trustee of The Fostering Network and a Black Legacy Award honouree. Drawing on lived experience, including BBC DNA Family Secrets, he helps organisations explore identity, belonging and inclusion.



Danielle Brown MBE

2 x Paralympic gold medallist, award-winning author and internationally recognised speaker, Danielle uses storytelling to connect with audiences, challenge perceptions and inspire change.