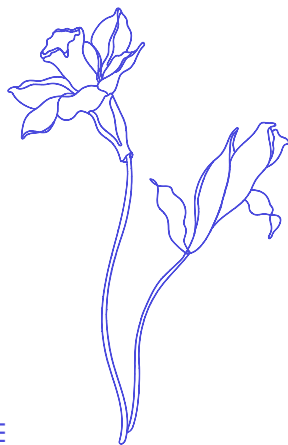


FULL GUIDE AVAILABLE HERE



"Beloved community is formed not by the eradication of difference but by its affirmation, by each of us claiming the identities and cultural legacies that shape who we are and how we live in the world."

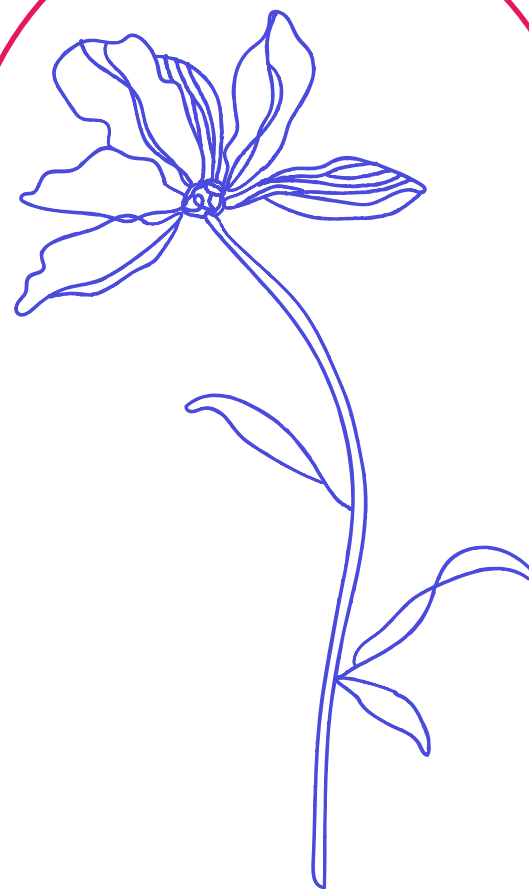
—bell hooks, Killing Rage: Ending Racism

This project is supported in part by a grant from the National Lawyers Guild Foundation at www.nlg.org/nlgf.

Many thanks to The Campaign for Southern Equality for their input on this project and their work on behalf of educators and trans youth across the South. southernequality.org/sb49/

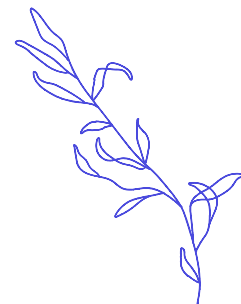
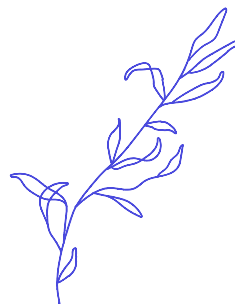
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TEACHING FOR BELONGING



**Strategies for Resisting
Legalized Discrimination
in Classrooms & Beyond**

**SAY GAY
TEACH TRUTH**



WHO WE ARE



By using the law to sow fear and confusion instead of compassion and protection, a small minority is attempting to erase decades of progress made by people of color, disabled, and queer folks in achieving civil liberties, public leadership roles, legal equality, and proud visibility. It is because of public schools' power to instill "basic values that will guide our nations' youth throughout their lives," that the right wing has targeted our schools. As individuals who celebrate our nation's progress towards the promises of our constitution, we are committed to creating schools and communities where all people are safe, welcomed, and accepted. This guide offers strategies to support queer students, educators and allies that take advantage of the vagueness and exemptions in state laws attempting to legalize discrimination, circumvent the protections of federal law, and nullify the support of the broader community. Our goals are to maintain inclusivity in public schools, foster supportive classrooms, uphold affirming campuses, and guarantee diverse representation in books and curriculum.

WHY

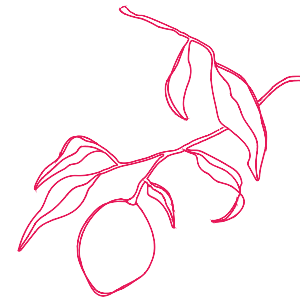


This is a confusing and scary time for queer students, educators, and allies, as they attempt to navigate confusing and discriminatory state and local so-called Parents' Bill of Rights laws. These laws are actively enabling bans on diversity and inclusion policies, critical race theory education, queer literature, gender affirming bathrooms, and transgender sports participation in public schools across the country. We hope these guides will empower educators to follow Federal Title IX law, while adhering to their ethical obligations to protect students, as well as their moral commitment to inclusive communities.

HOW TO USE



Under each overview of restrictions that have been passed or proposed, we offer strategies for resistance. None of the current restrictions impose individual civil or criminal liability on educators. Instead, they are rooted in fear and have little to no enforcement mechanisms. Most, in fact, conflict with federal law and teachers' ethics guidelines to protect their students. Schools and districts can be subject to civil liability for noncompliance, but teachers will, at worst, face disciplinary action from their administrators. The QR code links to an overview of the restrictions and resources and strategies for resistance. Later in the fall we will update this link to provide a detailed 'Know Your Risk Manual' explaining the current landscape and legal basis for protecting teacher action. In the manual we included personal stories from educators living in states with some of the worst restrictions to provide guidance and inspiration for all educators as they perform their duties in this precarious time.



The manual is not legal advice. If you need legal advice, please contact a lawyer. Email queercaucus@nlg.org to be connected with a nationwide network of queer, progressive lawyers.

In love and solidarity,

Erasure Resistance Project of the NLG Queer Caucus

A project supported in part by a grant from the National Lawyers Guild Foundation at www.nlg.org/nlgf