

It's a Mitzvah! Fight for LGBTQ+ Rights

As Jews, we know what it feels like to be treated as outsiders. When we retell our ancient story of being enslaved by Pharaoh and think of the many injustices that persist today, we call on ourselves and our communities to act for a world where no one is oppressed.

Jewish tradition teaches us to honor every single person. But today, some politicians in our country are pushing laws that target LGBTQ+ people and our families in order to whip up fear and secure power.

The politicians pushing these laws are denying all of us the basic rights, resources, and respect everyone deserves. They are working in opposition to what their constituents want and believe.

Most Americans support LGBTQ+ equality. 79% of Americans believe it should be illegal to discriminate against LGBTQ+ people in jobs, housing, and other public roles and spaces, including 89% of Democrats, 82% of Independents, 65% of Republicans, 69% of people who identify as “religious,” and 85% of Jews (PRRI, 2022).

Jewish voices matter. Today, a small but vocal group of right-wing Christians claim that their “religious freedom” means legalizing discrimination and restricting the freedoms of LGBTQ+ folks, Jewish people, and everyone who does not follow their narrow beliefs. But the overwhelming majority of American Jews believe in honoring what is holy and unique in every person, and treating others as we would like to be treated. When we speak out for LGBTQ+ equality as Jews, we change the narrative that “religious” means anti-LGBTQ+.

Our elected officials should be working for an America where everyone has the freedom to be our full selves, pursue our dreams, and have a decent life — no exceptions. Are your representatives sitting on the sidelines, or worse, targeting LGBTQ+ people? YOU can contact your local, state, and federal representatives and urge them to step up and fight for LGBTQ+ equality.

We invite you and your Jewish community or organization to take action with Keshet:

- Take action for LGBTQ+ rights: bit.ly/39R3vXo
- Email us at cm@keshetonline.org to bring a Keshet event to you, or to start connecting
- Join us at our next event: bit.ly/3xNRQAQ
- Learn more about LGBTQ+ rights and Jewish values in our resource center: bit.ly/3tQG9Z2
- Donate to Keshet: keshetonline.org/donate