

# PRIDE is JOY PROTEST POWER

## Tips for Talking About Pride in 2023

### Balance the good and the bad

Because of the real threat to LGBTQ+ lives, this year is not all rainbows and glitter. But we also don't want people to be demoralized by how dire things are—we want to give them a sense of hope.

- Keshet has been using language like “joy and resistance”, “strength and resilience”, and “celebration and protest”.
- Name the truth: that nearly 500 anti-LGBTQ+ bills have been proposed or passed in 2023 alone, and that there are concrete and small actions that people can take to help.

### Provide clear action items

People want to do something to help, but they often aren't sure what to do.

- If people do one thing, they can take action by contacting their state legislators to [take action in support of LGBTQ+ rights](#).
- Another place to start is by visiting Keshet's Pride resources at [keshetonline.org/pride](https://keshetonline.org/pride)

### Draw on our legacy and values

As Jews, we are well aware that we are the inheritors of strength and resilience, and that no matter how bleak things seem, our community is resilient.

- Pull from [Keshet's 7 Jewish Values for Taking Action](#) to share why our tradition calls upon us to take action in support of LGBTQ+ rights this Pride and all year round.
- Talk to your loved ones about why [anti-trans legislation is anti-Jewish](#).

### Share more information about YOU!

Your personal narrative, story, and connection to LGBTQ+ rights is powerful than any talking point. Share with your community about why this matters to you.

## Examples

### From a Keshet website resource

Pride feels different this year. Nearly 500 anti-LGBTQ+ bills have been proposed or passed in the United States. As queer and trans Jews, our lives, communities, and families are being attacked. Our humanity is being debated in the public sphere, our care is being taken away, and some of us are questioning if we can even continue to live in our communities.

And yet, Pride is a time to celebrate our resistance and resilience. We stand on the shoulders of our queer and trans Jewish ancestors who survived so that we could thrive. And one of the ways to not give in to harmful rhetoric is to show those who don't believe we should exist that we are here, we aren't going anywhere, and that our communities are beautiful, joyous, generative spaces of love and belonging.

The news is overwhelming and unending. But we know the truth: queer people have always been here and will always be here. We are your friends, family, and neighbors. We need your support.

### From a rapid response email

As Keshet staff who live and work every day in Florida, we knew that this was coming. And yet, we held out hope that love would prevail against hate and that decency and respect would ring louder than fear and discrimination. We are watching the state sanction the erasure of our community.

We, and all of us at Keshet, want Floridians and all those across the country facing similar legislation to know that we see you. We love you. We support you. We are actively working to create a more just society and a hate-free world. We also want you to know that we are working with dozens of Florida Jewish communities – synagogues, Jewish Community Centers, federations, social justice organizations, and more – who have joined with us and are fighting for us.

The news feels overwhelming at times, but we know that people cannot be legislated out of existence: queer people have always been here and will always be here. We are your friends, family, and neighbors. We are fighting for our lives and we need you to join us.

### From the Thrive Coalition overview

As Jews, we have an ethical imperative to treat each person as holy and deserving of respect and dignity. When we speak out for LGBTQ+ equality as Jews, we change the narrative that “religious” means anti-LGBTQ+. It's a mitzvah, a religious obligation, to fight for the freedom and dignity of all people.