

Trans Youth Prom at the Capitol

A Call to Action For Trans Youth

We come together today, May 22nd, 2023, at a time when over 500 anti-trans bills have been introduced in state legislatures across the country.

In April, the House of Representatives in Congress passed a bill that would amend Title IX of the Civil Rights Act to *require discrimination* against trans women and girls. Every day we wake up to new public debates about our lives. These attacks can sometimes be hurtful. They can make us feel alone. But the reality is that we aren't going anywhere. As our lives and bodies are being used for political gain, **we ask that you join us in our fight for trans liberation.**

Here is what you can do:

1. **Don't be a bystander to our dehumanization.** Challenge the lies and misinformation you hear about us. Push back on the debates over our health care, our bodies, our autonomy. Don't let your coworkers, your families, your communities, demean us with misinformation.
2. **Stay engaged.** There are political fights happening across the country, at every level of government. From school boards to district attorneys to state legislators to governors to Members of Congress to the President. Watch what people do and say and hold them accountable. Don't know who represents you in government? Check here:
 - State Legislator Lookup
 - Member of Congress Lookup
3. **Support trans leadership.** With so many attacks on trans people and spaces, we need to invest in grassroots organizations that support and care for us. Find organizations near you through the Trans Justice Funding Project. Or donate directly to TJFP to support their grantmaking to local trans-led work.
4. **Challenge your assumptions and be okay with discomfort.** Our world is organized around the sex binary. We have all been told that sex is determined at birth, that it is binary, and that it is simple. But our lives and bodies are so much more beautiful and complex than that. We—as trans and non-binary youth— have recognized this and are punished for it. Challenge your own assumptions about what it means to be a man, woman, boy, girl and be okay with the world changing around you.
5. **Act in solidarity.** The same people attacking trans people are working to: undermine gun control, stop access to abortion, prevent us from learning history in schools and accessing books in public libraries, and block the right to vote. ***There is no liberation for any of us without liberation for all of us. Let's work together!***
6. **Listen to us.** As young trans people, we are spoken for and not listened to. We are complex, dynamic, and full human beings. Just because *you* don't understand us, doesn't mean we don't understand ourselves. Don't let your confusion or fear get in the way of your support and love.
7. **Share in our joy.** Today is about joy, about reclaiming our space, our stories, our bodies, and our vision. We invite you to join our fight alongside us. Share the stories, videos and images you witness from today. And help us dream up a more beautiful future.