

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

AS AN LGBTQ STUDENT
IN MISSISSIPPI



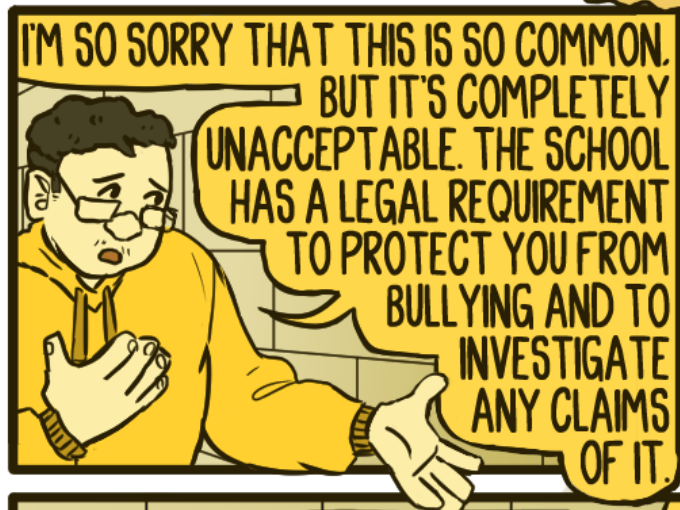
PRESENTED BY THE ACLU OF MS

MISSISSIPPIANS WHO IDENTIFY AS LGBTQ+ REPRESENT ABOUT 100,000 PEOPLE OR 3.5% OF THE STATE'S POPULATION. AMONG YOUTH, ABOUT 5-7% IDENTIFY AS LGBTQ+. MANY OF THESE STUDENTS ARE LEFT ALONE ATTEMPTING TO STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN FAMILIAL BELIEFS AND THEIR PERSONAL IDENTITIES. LGBTQ+ STUDENTS ARE OFTEN HARASSED, DISCRIMINATED AGAINST AND ISOLATED. HOWEVER, LGBTQ+ CHILDREN ARE OUR CHILDREN. LIKE EVERY OTHER CHILD, THESE CHILDREN MUST BE MADE TO FEEL SAFE.

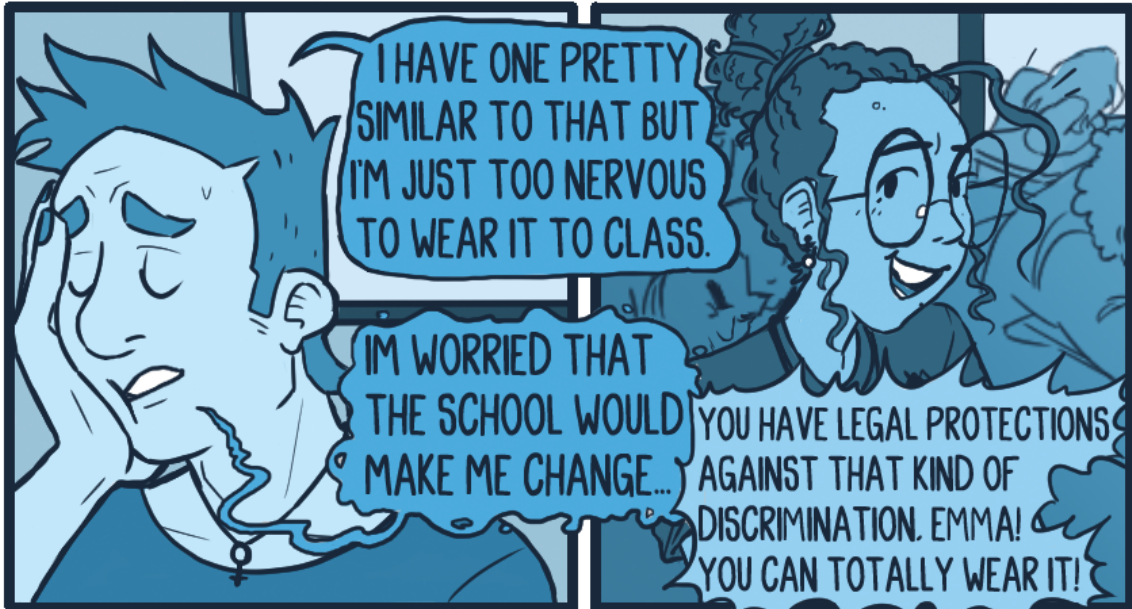
WHETHER YOU ARE A LGBTQ+ IDENTIFIED STUDENT, SCHOOL FACULTY OR JUST SOMEONE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE, THIS GUIDE IS INTENDED TO BE USED AS A REFERENCE FOR STUDENT RIGHTS AND TO ENCOURAGE HEALTHY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS. TOO OFTEN, LGBTQ+ STUDENTS ARE SUBJECTED TO DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT, ESPECIALLY AT SCHOOL. WITHOUT A WELCOMING LEARNING ENVIRONMENT, THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT CONSEQUENCES TO A STUDENT'S SENSE OF SAFETY AND ABILITY TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL.

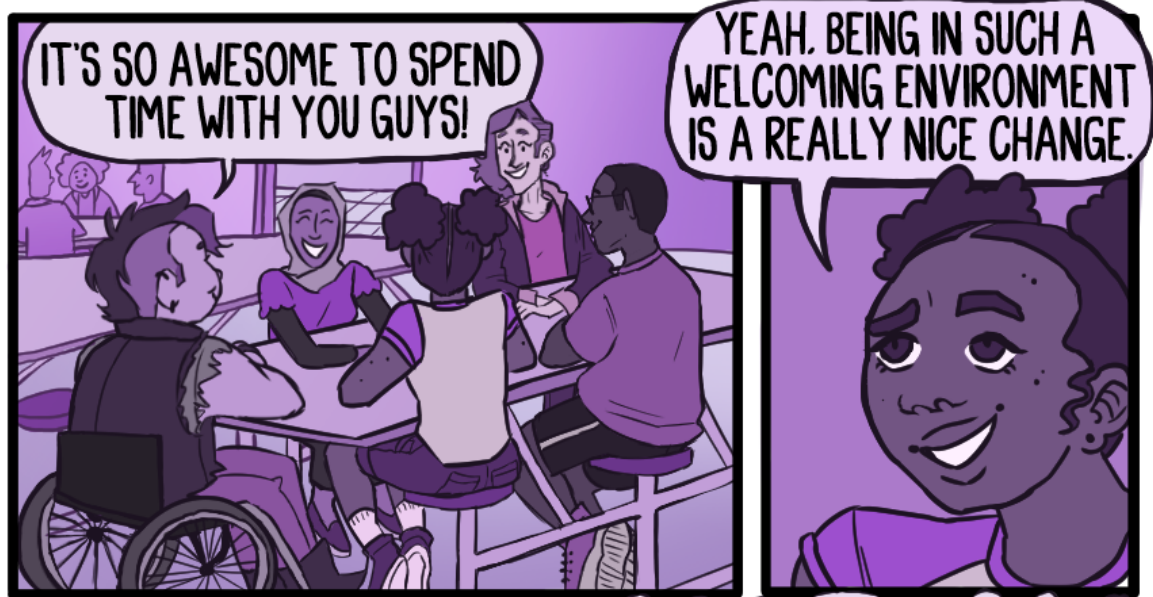
Enjoy











School faculty and administrators often aren't very aware about how the law requires LGBTQ students be treated. As a student in your district, you know your environment best.

We encourage you to use your best judgment when making decisions about your personal safety and academic future.

Table of Contents

Every page covers a specific topic relevant to LGBTQ students:

- Orange – dance attire and dates
 - Yellow – harassment
 - Green – protests
 - Blue – freedom of expression
 - Purple – GSA clubs
-

If you believe you have been discriminated against based on your sexual orientation or gender identity, contact the ACLU of Mississippi to discuss your rights as a student in public school.



**Scan to learn more about the
LGBTQ Justice Project &
ACLU of Mississippi!**

Art by Vaughn Oeth

ACLU
Mississippi

