

# Dear Catholic Schools, **Go Purple!**

Your LGBT Students ***Need*** Your Support!



presents

# #SPIRITDAY

10.20.2016 [GLAAD.ORG/SPIRITDAY](http://GLAAD.ORG/SPIRITDAY)

## Thursday

## October 20th, 2016

*Stop bullying and save lives!*



@NewWaysMinistry



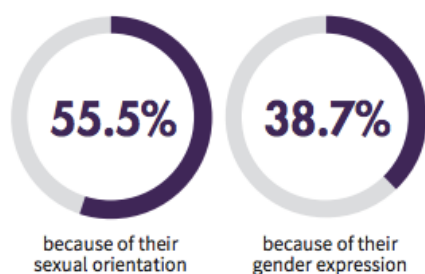
[newwaysministryblog.wordpress.com](http://newwaysministryblog.wordpress.com)

# The Facts

LGBT youth of all ages suffer from discrimination perpetuated by students and even teachers. LGBT students have high rates of bullying while having low rates of school intervention.

GLAAD's research has found:

## LGBTQ students who feel unsafe at school



## LGBTQ students who were verbally harassed



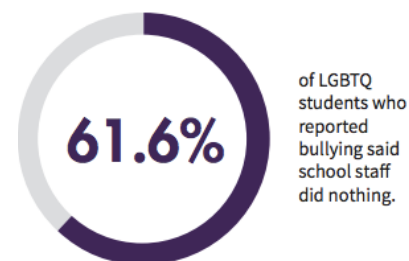
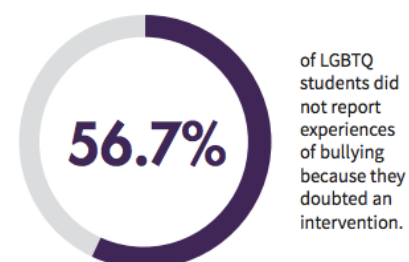
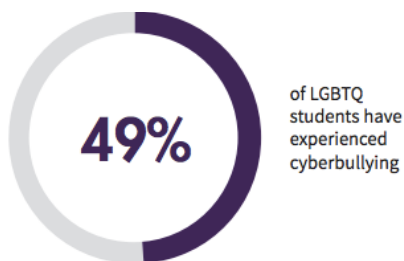
## LGBTQ students who heard homophobic remarks from teachers and/or school staff



## LGBTQ students who were physically harassed



## LGBTQ students who were physically assaulted



*These visuals are from GLAAD's 2016 Spirit Day Resource Kit, available at <http://www.glaad.org/spiritday/resourcekit>.*

These statistics challenge all of us to confront anti-LGBT bullying and bias in our schools and to show support for LGBT students. Go to [GLAAD.org/spiritday](http://GLAAD.org/spiritday) for more information and resources on how to make your school a safe and inclusive space for LGBT students.



# Why wear purple?

Most educators do not know the extent of anti-LGBT bullying and bias in their schools. Wearing purple on October 20, 2016, communicates that you are aware of your students' needs and committed to making your school safe for LGBT students.

## But I'm Catholic...

## Can I Wear Purple?

# YES!

*Actually, we are called—as Catholics—to stop anti-LGBT bullying!*

The Catechism clearly instructs Catholics to treat LGBT people with, "respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2358).

We are called to be Christ's witness to the world. This includes, as Pope Francis instructed, accompanying LGBT people. We cannot harden our hearts to the needs of our LGBT students.

# Resources



## GLAAD's Spirit Day

Main Website: [glaad.org/spiritday](http://glaad.org/spiritday)

Images, App, Print Shop: [glaad.org/spiritday/spreadtheword](http://glaad.org/spiritday/spreadtheword)

Resource Kit: [glaad.org/spiritday/resourcekit](http://glaad.org/spiritday/resourcekit)



## New Ways Ministry

New Ways Ministry has been educating Catholics on LGBT realities since 1977 to inform hierarchy and reform church teachings.

We teach Catholic organizations and leaders to be more LGBT-inclusive, host retreats for LGBT and ally Catholics, lead LGBT-affirming pilgrimages abroad, host symposiums on how to reform the church, and honor Catholics who have worked for LGBT justice with our Bridge Building Award.

To see our programs in detail, visit [newwaysministry.org](http://newwaysministry.org).

To read our daily online journal on Catholic LGBT news and opinion, visit [newwaysministryblog.wordpress.com](http://newwaysministryblog.wordpress.com).

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