This Day of Silence (DOS) Zine was created by LGBTQ+ high school students across the country who are members of GLSEN’s 2021-2022 National Student Council. The Day of Silence is a national student-led silent protest that aims to combat harassment and discrimination against LGBTQ+ students. Currently, LGBTQ+ students across the country are being directly targeted by legislation that would decrease representation, criminalize supportive adults, and limit student access to safety, education, and sports.

This year’s DOS theme is *My Silence, My Action*. DOS is an activation call and empowering protest for students to engage in activism and advocacy. Let DOS be a starting point, not a stopping point.

In this Zine there are poems, artwork, and stories written by LGBTQ+ youth. Please let this inspire you to make your own zine to share your story!
WARNING: THIS VIDEO CONTAINS FLASHING IMAGES AND LIGHTS

This short film by Mia Moeller tackles prominent recent media events and attacks against LGBTQ+ individuals in legislation framed through a glitching TV. While we cannot mute bigotry or hope that it will glitch away, the Day of Silence is an action we can take, showing that through silent protest, we can turn down the volume of hate and create change.

HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?v=LJ074JB6WWW
THE POEM “STARS” BY JORDYN PRUITT DEPICTS THE MOVEMENT FOR THOSE IN THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY TO FIGHT FOR THE ‘LOST STARS’: those who were faced with oppression and lost their lives whether at the hands of the public or their own. We fight for those who were silenced and unable to fight for their own rights. We fight for those who are silenced today, and we fight against stigma, discrimination, and systematic oppression itself.

Some nights, I lie awake and look at the stars just for them to look back at me.

out of touch out of reach all gone never to be seen

only the darkest of nights do I think could that have been me.

all the voices wiped clean all the memories down the drain and all we have are stars to remember their names.

And yet, here I stand tears come & gone a fist on my left a sign on my right.

“Justice for the silence justice for who’s gone” and justice for those still here because we, too, belong.

no matter what they’ll say or what they’ll do it’s me & you in this fight, for lost stars.

by &© Jordyn Pruitt

Stars
Let our silence be a symbol of our strength
strength does not come from physical capacity. it comes from indomitable will.

Mahatma Gandhi
queer friendship is everything

since moving away from a small and rural conservative town

I have been lucky enough to make friends who truly understand me,

who know who I am,

who support me with words and with actions,

who are family to me.

with them, silence is a gift.

we can sit together, in each other’s presence,

and it is right.

more often than that, though, we are loud.

earsplittingly loud; we sing and cheer and talk about everything and nothing, the past and the future,

and it is good to be loud.

and our actions are best of all.

we hug each other, sit together, share it all:

conversations, meals, secrets,

and we plan and plot and scheme:

games and trips, dances and parties, but through it all we are together.

our silence, our actions, our choices and our voices.

they are all connected,

and we are proud.
SELF CARE ACTION GUIDE

Call a friend to gossip about something that has nothing to do with your worries!

Nap and dream of a world were fantastical things are true, and no one is silent unless they want to be!

* ABOVE ALL - know you are loved.

read/sister/watch something that is affirming makes you happy about your place in the world!

would have known, when the sun known about the sun, known about the sun, known about the sun known about the sun.

Lucía Salazar-Davidson • She/They • Grade 12
glsen.org/DayOfSilence
Meet the NSC
2021-2022 National Student Council Cohort

Sarah Moore • She/Her • Grade 12

Anaiya
She/They/He

Loralei
She/Her

Lucía
They/She

Jayanti
She/Her

Esperanza
She/Her

Mia
She/Her

Maria
She/Her

Elliott
All

Yasmeen
She/Her

Dillon
He/Him

Jennifer
She/Her

Jordyn
They/He

Nic
They/He

Lily
She/Her

Sarah
She/Her

Tyler
They/He

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