

Op-Ed Writing for LGBTQ+ Youth

WRITE THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT

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WANTED: LGBTQ+ YOUTH VOICES



With over 600 anti-LGBTQ+ bills introduced in 2024, aiming to censor, silence, and erase LGBTQ+ youth, your voice is needed now more than ever. Politicians and lawmakers are making decisions that directly impact the lives of queer youth, but one critical perspective is glaringly absent from these debates: the voices of LGBTQ+ youth themselves.

You have the lived experience that can shift the narrative. While others may talk about you, an op-ed allows you to speak for yourself—to share your story, advocate for your community, and make sure your perspective is heard. Now is the time to show the world that LGBTQ+ youth are more than just headlines or talking points.

Op-eds give you the platform to challenge harmful rhetoric, highlight the real impact of anti-LGBTQ+ policies, and propose solutions. Writing an op-ed not only allows you to counter misinformation but also empowers others to stand in solidarity with you and your community.

IN A TIME WHEN SO MANY ARE WORKING TO ERASE LGBTQ+ STORIES, SPEAKING OUT IS AN ACT OF RESISTANCE—AND YOUR WORDS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

GLSEN®
YOUTH PROGRAMS

Creator: nelle mills
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WHAT IS AN OP-ED?

Op-eds, or “opinion editorials,” are a powerful way to speak up, raise awareness, and advocate for what matters to you. An op-ed is a piece of writing where you share your opinion on current events or issues, and it’s your chance to add your voice to important conversations.

Unlike news articles, which try to be objective, op-eds are all about your perspective. They’re meant to be subjective and personal, and that’s what makes them different. While some op-eds may include multiple sides, your main job is to clearly express your point of view and make an argument for why it matters.

Op-eds have traditionally been published in newspapers or magazines, but today you can also find them on websites, blogs, and social media platforms.

Great op-eds are able to spark conversations around important issues by presenting new ideas and strong arguments. The best op-eds advocate for change by suggesting solutions or calling people to action.

HOW TO USE THIS TOOL

This resource will take you through every step of writing an op-ed, from selecting a topic to publishing it in a media outlet. Use this packet as a way to organize the steps of writing an op-ed and certify that each major checkpoint in the writing process gets accomplished.

When the writing process gets overwhelming, sometimes it is easy to give up on your piece or lose focus of what the next steps are. This tool will help you stay organized and keep sight of the end goal, as well as outlining the most efficient way to get there,

Feel free to use the advice provided in this document for any type of opinion writing you would like to create, from an essay convincing your parents and friends of a perspective that is meaningful to you, to college essay personal statements, to traditional op-ed pieces you intend to publish in local, state, or national media outlets.



We wish you so much luck in your op-ed journey!

Growing up in Alabama, the birthplace of the Civil Rights Movement, has its challenges. It is the place where Black people and other people of color were silenced just for existing in the same room as white people. Collective action, organizing, and using their voices was the only way any legislation passed protecting the rights of all races equally — and I take so much inspiration from this as a Black student advocate. Every protest, every sign, every word of support, and every action taken advanced the Civil Rights Movement. I hope to gather people, in the same way, to fight for the actively dwindling rights of LGBTQ+ people. -- Eris Robinson, [Day of Silence: GLSEN and LGBTQ Youth Call on Adults to Take a Vow of No Silence](#). Teen Vogue, April 14, 2023.

CHOOSING A TOPIC

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TOPIC IS THE FOUNDATION OF A GREAT OP-ED.

MAKE IT TIMELY

In addition to being something you care about, your topic should also be timely. The best op-eds tie into current events, so if there's a conversation happening right now that connects to your idea, don't wait—start drafting!

KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

Think about who you're writing for. Your audience will shape the angle of your op-ed.

For example: If you're writing about supporting trans youth in sports, are you addressing coaches and community members with advice on creating inclusive teams? Or are you speaking to lawmakers or school leaders who make policies about trans youth in sports?

Tailoring your message to the right audience ensures your argument resonates with the people you most want to reach.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

When deciding on a topic for your op-ed, the most important advice is to choose something you're genuinely passionate about. Writing about an issue that matters to you will make your piece more authentic and compelling. Focus on what moves you, connect it to the moment, and trust your voice—you've got this!

Your topic should reflect your unique perspective or experience. For example, if you're not a trans student and don't play sports, writing about trans inclusion in athletics might not feel authentic. Instead, think about issues that directly connect to your life or passions. Remember: you are an expert in your own experience, and everyone has a unique perspective to share. What's yours?

ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS

Am I passionate about this topic?

Is it timely and relevant?

Do I know who my audience is and what message I want to share with them?

Can I bring a unique, personal angle to the issue?

Can I write 600–800 words on this topic?



Sometimes, our choices can be massive, like choosing what college to attend. But other times, the most significant choice in our lives is choosing to get out of bed in the morning. Still, every choice we make is powerful.

My fellow graduates, I ask you to reflect on your high school experience. How have your choices shaped you? How have others shaped you? Most importantly, how have your actions affected others?

-- Scar Rulien, "This nonbinary student activist has some powerful words as equalpride's 2024 valedictorian." OUT, June 17, 2024

ELEMENTS OF AN OP-ED

WHILE YOUR OP-ED DOESN'T HAVE TO FOLLOW THESE CONVENTIONS EXACTLY, MOST SUCCESSFUL OP-EDS INCLUDE THESE FOUR MAIN PARTS:



CLEAR THESIS

Your thesis is the heart of your op-ed. Introduce it early—ideally in the first paragraph or two—so readers know exactly what your piece is about. **A strong thesis is clear, concise, and tells the audience what you're arguing or exploring.** Think of it as your roadmap: if readers understand your thesis, they'll know where the rest of your op-ed is headed.

HOOK

Your hook grabs the reader's attention and makes them want to keep reading. This should also come early in your op-ed, ideally within the first 2–3 paragraphs. **Your hook sets the tone** for the rest of your op-ed, so make it engaging, relevant, and true to your voice.

Great hooks can include:

- A personal story that connects you to the topic.
- A shocking statistic that highlights the urgency of the issue.
- A bold or provocative statement that challenges the reader to think.

SUPPORTING POINTS

Once you've introduced your thesis and hooked your reader, it's time to back up your argument. This is where you provide the facts, research, and examples that support your perspective. While your personal experiences are invaluable, adding external sources makes your argument stronger and more credible. Examples: Relevant statistics, studies, or reports. News stories or current events. Quotes from experts, activists, or others with firsthand knowledge of the issue.

A mix of personal insight and external evidence makes your op-ed both authentic and persuasive.

CALL TO ACTION

No op-ed is complete without a powerful conclusion. End with a clear and actionable message that ties back to your thesis or hook. This is where you tell readers what they can do about the issue you've discussed. A strong call to action inspires readers to make a difference. Your conclusion is your last chance to leave an impression, so make it clear, confident, and empowering.

A cursory glance at celebrity red carpets or high fashion runway collections provides evidence of this increasing popularity of androgynous and non-conforming styles. As Fashion Dive points out, 94% of respondents in a Highsnobiety report said that they would "consider mixing masculine and feminine styles." And even as the State of Fashion 2023 report by the Business of Fashion and McKinsey shows, half of Gen Zers worldwide have "purchased clothing outside their gender identity." This shift is symbolic of a broader cultural movement toward dismantling restrictive gender expectations, especially by blurring the lines between masculine and feminine fashion. But as society embraces a spectrum of gender identities and diverse fashion tastes, the question remains: shouldn't workplace dress codes also evolve to reflect this era of transformation and inclusion? - Nathaniel George, [Professional Dress Codes Exclude Nonbinary, Gender Non-Confirming Employees](#), Teen Vogue, June 10, 2024.

OP-ED OUTLINE EXAMPLE

Topic – How Coaches and School Officials Can Make Sports More Inclusive for All Athletes, Especially Trans Athletes

Audience – Youth Coaches and School Officials

I. Hook

- Personal narrative about the time coach saw me for the first time
 - “I’ll never forget the first time I felt truly seen on the field. After weeks of worrying if I’d even be allowed to play because I’m trans, my coach pulled me aside and said, ‘You’re part of this team, no matter what.’ That moment changed everything for me.”
- Share a brief snapshot of the time the rival team misgendered me and my coach and team had my back.

II. Thesis

- Frame the argument personally and directly:
- “Sports are about teamwork and belonging, but for many trans athletes like me, the rules and attitudes can feel like a message that we don’t belong. Coaches and schools have the power to change that and make sports truly inclusive for everyone.”

III. Supporting Points

1. Why Inclusion Matters

- Being on a team helped me grow as a person
- Mention a case study about the mental health benefits of sports for all youth, especially LGBTQ+ kids who often face higher levels of isolation.

2. What Coaches Can Do

- Use my story to illustrate simple but powerful actions coaches can take:
- “When my coach started using my correct name and pronouns, it set an example for my teammates. Small things like this matter more than you know.”
- Suggest practical steps like creating team rules about respect and Zero tolerance for bullying.

3. Success Stories

Include a positive example:

“I’ve seen teams where everyone, no matter their identity, feels welcome—and those teams aren’t just stronger; they’re happier. Inclusion makes the whole team better.”

IV. Possible Call to Action:

- Use the correct names and pronouns for all athletes.
- Update your school’s policies to explicitly include and protect trans athletes.
- Be an ally—stand up for inclusion and make sure every athlete feels safe.

DRAFTING YOUR OP-ED

WHEN IT'S TIME TO START DRAFTING YOUR OP-ED, REMEMBER THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE YOUR STORY AND PERSPECTIVE IN YOUR OWN WAY. HERE'S HOW TO MAKE YOUR WRITING FLOW AND STAND OUT!

KEEP IT CONNECTED

- Each body paragraph should tie back to your main topic in some way.
- Your paragraphs should flow smoothly into one another. As you proofread, look out for sections that feel disconnected or out of place—those are opportunities to tighten your writing.



MAKE IT YOUR OWN

- Op-eds don't have to follow the formal rules you may have learned in school. Forget the "5 paragraphs with 5 sentences each" formula! Instead, focus on organizing your ideas in a way that feels natural and impactful.
- There's no specific number of paragraphs you need—just stick to the overall word count and make every paragraph count.
- The tone is completely up to you. Want to be snarky, bold, conversational, or heartfelt? Go for it! The key is to stay consistent with your tone throughout the piece so your voice shines through.

OWN YOUR EXPERTISE

- Editors love op-eds from people who are subject-matter experts—and guess what? That includes you. Your personal experiences are your qualifications. If you're writing about trans inclusion in sports, your story as a trans athlete makes you the expert on this issue.
- Mention your qualifications naturally within your op-ed. For example: "As a trans athlete, I've seen how powerful it is when coaches make an effort to create inclusive teams. It's not just about policies—it's about the way you make players feel."
- Don't overdo it—this isn't a resume. Focus on weaving your experiences into the narrative where they make sense.

MAKE IT FLOW

- Your body paragraphs should connect to your thesis and build on one another, guiding the reader through your argument.
- Use transitions to help your op-ed feel seamless and keep the reader engaged.
- Your draft is where your ideas take shape. Don't worry about perfection right away—just get your thoughts down. You can polish and refine as you revise.

Negative assumptions about trans people are embedded in our society. Our identities are medicalized through the label of gender dysphoria, as described by the American Psychiatric Association. Many medical institutions require this diagnosis to access gender-affirming care. Because of this, I believed all trans people had intense gender dysphoria to be taken seriously.

- Scar Rulien, "I'm A Trans Teen, Not A Mental Illness." <https://www.pride.com/voices/scar-rulien-trans-teen>, August 2, 2024.

WRITING STYLE & TONE

YOUR WRITING STYLE IS HOW YOU CONNECT WITH READERS, SO MAKE IT YOURS!
HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO ENSURE YOUR TONE IS CONSISTENT AND IMPACTFUL

BE YOURSELF

- Write in your authentic voice. Whether you're bold, conversational, or heartfelt, let your personality come through.
- You can be satirical and humorous, just make sure it doesn't read like an angry rant!
- Avoid making your op-ed sound like a research paper—this is about sharing your story and your perspective. Striking the right tone helps you build trust with readers, even if they don't initially agree with you.

KEEP IT SIMPLE

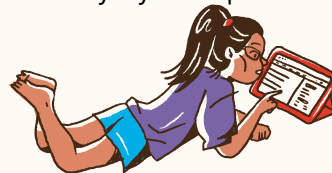
- Use clear, straightforward language so readers can easily follow your points.
- Assume the average reader isn't an expert on your topic. For example:
- "Legislators passed SB 49" won't mean much unless you explain what the bill does.
- Avoid jargon and spell out acronyms the first time you use them.
- Cut unnecessary words or sentences to keep your op-ed within the word count.
- Use active voice whenever possible (e.g., "Coaches can create inclusive teams" instead of "Inclusive teams can be created by coaches").

SUPPORT YOUR CLAIMS

- Cite reliable statistics or research to back up your arguments, using hyperlinks to credible sources.
- Double-check your sources for accuracy and reliability—your op-ed is stronger when it's rooted in facts.

EDITING CHECKLIST

- Is your thesis clear and introduced early?
- Does your hook grab the reader's attention and make them want to keep reading?
- Did you include facts, research, or personal stories to back up your argument?
- Do your paragraphs connect naturally, with no ideas feeling out of place?
- Is your tone consistent and appropriate for your audience?
- Does your conclusion inspire readers to think, feel, or take action?
- Did you stay true to your voice and maintain a consistent tone throughout



In current Florida public schools, you are made to fear being queer. You are different, and you are punished for that. You cannot see yourself in the faculty around you, as they cannot speak about being queer for fear of being fired. You are mocked and ridiculed by your peers because your peers have been told you are different and deserve to be treated with disgust and loathing. Are we not a minority worth protecting? Diversity is a beautiful thing and should be treated as such; yet, we see signs, stickers, and people telling us, "You are not equal. You do not deserve dignity or respect. You do not deserve humanity." Queer people, especially children, do deserve dignity and respect, and do deserve to see themselves in their schools. -- <https://glsencollier.org/ndn-op-ed-queer-youth-speak-out/>

WRITING TIPS FROM SCAR

Scar Rulien, a member of the '23-24 National Student Council and current National Leadership Council Member, has written several op-eds, including a graduation speech as equalpride's 2024 valedictorian (published in *AdvocatE*, 2024) and a powerful statement on Boise State's Silence on the issue of trans athletes (*Outsports*, 2024). Here, he gives some words of advice for writing Effective pieces.



MESSY BRAINSTORMS ARE A GOOD THING

It's important not to crush or pass judgement on your initial ideas. You can't spend an hour writing the first two sentences because your initial ideas weren't perfect. Get the words onto the page in their full messy glory then perfect and delete things later. As you write, you are synthesizing our own ideas in real time. Sometimes the perfect opening will come to you when you've almost finished the rough draft. It doesn't need to be perfect on the first pass.

BOUNCE IDEAS OFF OF YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Talk to someone about what you're writing about. Having conversations and debates makes articulating ideas on a topic easier. If it's something that I can rant about for hours then I can probably write an op-ed about it.

KEEP OP-EDS CONCISE

Sometimes the most beautiful flavor text you've ever written is probably better saved for a different context. Take those things and putting them on a notes app if you think you can reuse them.

PITCHING YOUR OP-ED

PITCHING IS HOW YOU INTRODUCE YOUR IDEA FOR AN OP-ED TO A PUBLICATION, EXPLAINING WHY YOUR STORY OR PERSPECTIVE MATTERS. GETTING YOUR OP-ED PUBLISHED STARTS WITH FINDING THE RIGHT PLACE TO PITCH.

A STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO PITCHING



IDENTIFY TARGET OUTLETS

- Research outlets that accept op-eds. Your favorite publications are a good place to start. Check out the resources section for ideas of places to pitch.
- Vet the outlet to make sure they report on LGBTQ+ issues ethically and align with your goals. However, you don't have to pitch to specifically LGBTQ+ outlets. Think about other identities, themes, and topics in your op-ed that intersect.
- If you can't find information on submissions on the publication's website, a Google search like "[publication name] op-ed submission guidelines," will take you to the right place!

TAILOR YOUR OP-ED

- Check the outlet's submission guidelines for word count, formatting, and topic preferences.
- Most op-eds are 600–800 words.
- Review previously published op-eds to understand the outlet's tone and style.
- If responding to a recent event, submit your op-ed within 5 days to stay timely.


WRITE YOUR PITCH

- Most submissions are via email.
- Keep the email short and sweet!

Pitch Email Template

FOLLOW UP

- If you don't hear back within 5 business days (or 3 days for time-sensitive topics), send a polite follow-up email.
- Rejection is common—don't take it personally! Thank the editor for their time and consider pitching to another outlet.



New Message

To

Subject PITCH: How Inclusive Teams Can Change Lives

Hi [Editor Name],

My name is Susie Smith (she/her), and I'm a student in [City/State]. As a trans athlete, I've seen firsthand how inclusive teams can transform lives, and I've written an op-ed about what coaches and schools can do to support LGBTQ+ youth in sports. It is copied in the email below per your submission guidelines.

I'd love for it to be considered for publication in [Outlet Name]. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions. Thank you for your time!

Best,
Susie Smith
[Contact Info]

Send

Tip If you're having a hard time getting traction with your op-ed, don't hesitate to reach out to your network for help. If you're part of an organization—like your school's GSA, a local LGBTQ+ advocacy group, or a national organization—ask if they would consider supporting you in pitching your piece. Organizations often have established relationships with editors or media outlets, and their endorsement can lend credibility to your op-ed. A well-known or respected group backing your submission might make an editor take a second look.

NEXT STEPS

WHETHER YOUR OP-ED IS PICKED UP OR NOT, YOUR VOICE DESERVES TO BE HEARD. IF YOUR OP-ED GETS PUBLISHED, CONGRATULATIONS! IF IT DOESN'T, DON'T WORRY—THERE ARE STILL PLENTY OF WAYS TO SHARE YOUR MESSAGE.

WHAT IF YOUR OP-ED DOESN'T GET PUBLISHED?



PITCH IT TO YOUR SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

- Tip: Connect your op-ed to something happening at your school or in your local area to make it even more compelling to your peers and educators.

CREATE AND DISTRIBUTE A ZINE

- A zine (short for magazine) is a DIY publication that allows you to creatively present your op-ed alongside artwork, poetry, or additional commentary.
- How to Distribute: Print copies to share at school, GSAs, or community events, or make a digital version to share on social media or email. Check out Zines at the POC Zine Project

PUBLISH IT ON A PERSONAL BLOG OR WEBSITE

- If you have a blog or website, consider publishing your op-ed there. Use platforms like [Medium](#) or [Substack](#) to reach a wider audience if you don't already have your own site.

LEVERAGE SOCIAL MEDIA

- Turn your op-ed into a series of posts or a thread on platforms like Instagram, Blue Sky, or TikTok. Use visuals to summarize your argument and engage your followers. Tag relevant organizations, activists, or community leaders to amplify your message.



WHAT IF IT DOES GET PUBLISHED?

SHARE YOUR WORK

- Post your op-ed on social media and share it with your community.
- If your topic aligns with GLSEN's work, reach out to see if we can share it on our platforms!

RESIST THE COMMENTS SECTION

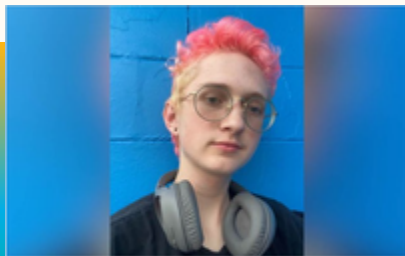
- As tempting as it is, avoid reading comments—they can sometimes be hurtful and unproductive.
- If you do read comments, resist responding to criticism. Instead, remind yourself that sparking dialogue means your op-ed is making an impact.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

- Writing about personal or sensitive topics can bring criticism, and that's hard. If you feel overwhelmed, reach out for support. Check out mental health resources like The Trevor Project, an incredible resource for LGBTQ+ youth.

NSC PUBLISHED OP-EDS

NEED INSPIRATION OR EXAMPLES? CHECK OUT THESE OP-EDS FROM PAST AND CURRENT NATIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS AND GLSEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!



NDN Op-Ed: Queer Youth Speak Out

This opinion article was published in the Naples Daily News and The News-Press on October 29, 2023. In current Florida public schools, you are made to fear being queer. You are different, and you are punished f...

GLSEN Collier County Oct 31, 2023

Kayak Sanchez

'23-24 National Student Council
'21-24 Collier County Shine Team
Left

Nathaniel George

'23-24 National Student Council
'24-25 Leadership Council
Right



Too Many Workplace Dress Codes Leave LGBTQ People Out

Fashion norms are changing. Dress codes should too.

Shawn Volante Sep 28, 2023



I'm a trans teen, not a mental illness

Overcoming societal misconceptions and the medicalization of trans identity, Scar Rulien writes that being a trans teen isn't defined by suffering or mental illness but by the joy of living authentically.

Gay Pride Oct 17, 2024

Scar Rulien

'23-24 National Student Council
'24-25 Leadership Council
R, L, Bottom R



This nonbinary student activist has some powerful words as equalpride's 2024 valedictorian

Scar Rulien is equalpride's Inaugural Valedictorian for the Class of 2024 and a Student Advocate for GLSEN, the nation's leading organization working to end discrimination, harassment, and bullying based on sexu...

Advocate.com Jun 14, 2024



What LGBTQ Students Are Asking for on This Day of Silence

In 2023, we're calling on adults.

Shawn Volante Apr 16, 2023

Eris Robinson

'21-23 National Student Council
'23-24 Alumni Ambassador
Left



Boise State silence on volleyball team's forfeits stings trans student

This Boise State student has an issue with their school's public statements about the women's volleyball team's forfeits against TSJU.

ourSports | Nov 30, 2023

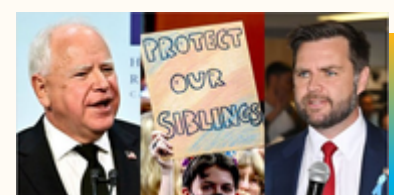


Choosing to Love and Protect Black LGBTQ+ Students

Censorship laws around the U.S. harm Black queer students, who are already among the most marginalized and excluded youth in the country.

Word in Black Oct 10, 2023

Melanie Willingham Jagers
GLSEN Executive Director
Left, Right



The fight for safe and inclusive schools: What teachers and students want answered in the VP debate

This debate offers an opportunity for candidates to speak directly to the future of our country—our students. Will they commit to protecting the rights of LGBTQ+ youth, writes GLSEN's Melanie Willingham-Jagers.

Advocate.com Sep 30, 2024

RESOURCES

SEARCHING FOR PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES WHEN DRAFTING YOUR OP-ED CAN BE OVERWHELMING, SO WE COMPILED A LIST SO THAT YOU CAN FOCUS ON WRITING!

GLSEN RESOURCES

NATIONAL SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY

Use the NSCS for firsthand data on student experiences and outcomes. The NSCS is the most comprehensive survey of its kind, providing critical data on the state of LGBTQ+ students in K-12 schools. By incorporating these figures into your op-ed, you can anchor your narrative in the lived experiences of students.

GLSEN STATE REPORT CARD

Use the Policy Maps to contextualize your op-ed within broader state and federal policy landscapes. The GLSEN State Report Card is an interactive tool that assesses each state's educational policies based on their alignment with GLSEN's Four Supports: inclusive curriculum, supportive educators, comprehensive anti-bullying policies, and affirming school environmentsTK. States are assigned letter grades that reflect their progress—or lack thereof—in advancing safe and inclusive schools. This resource provides a clear picture of how local and state policies shape the educational experiences of LGBTQ+ students.

OTHER RESOURCES

The Op-Ed Project, which was started in an effort to increase the number of women op-ed writers, has a wealth of resources, including sliding scale weekly ask-a-journalist office hours with editors to discuss ideas, live edit a few op-ed drafts submitted by participants (like you), offers strategic advice on pitching, and answers questions.

Check out Muck Rack's user friendly database that breaks down the most read newspapers by state or theme/subject matter including the top 50 LGBTQ+ publications in the United States.

GLAAD works through entertainment, news, and digital media to share stories from the LGBTQ community that accelerate acceptance. Their reports and resources provide critical data, insights, and media analysis that can add depth and authority to your op-ed.

Lambda Literary's goal is help LGBTQ+ writers at all stages of their writing journey. Visit their website for resources and information about their writing workshops!

Submission Guidelines for Teen Vogue, Out Magazine, and LGBTQ Nation.



GLOSSARY

KEY WORDS AND COMMONLY USED TERMS

OBJECTIVITY

Objectivity refers to information based on facts and evidence. Typically, objective information can be confirmed through research online or in books.

SUBJECTIVITY

Subjectivity concerns information based on personal understandings, feelings, and perspectives. This is unique to your own lived experience.

PITCH

A pitch can refer to the actual article idea or news story that you promote to an editor or journalist (noun form), or it can denote the action of proposing your piece (verb).

OUTLETS

Sources of news or other media for the public. This can include platforms such as newspapers, television stations, and websites.

TONE

Authors pay attention to tone in their writing as a method to develop their written voice. Tone conveys an attitude toward the subject matter and reader. It also develops personality in the writing and makes the style of the piece unique. Tone is created through word choice, sentence structure, and punctuation.



Learn more about:

- GLSEN's history, mission, and work
- The National Student Council
- KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:
LGBTQ+ youth
- Supporting Our Work

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?
EMAIL US!
STUDENTS@GLSEN.ORG

GLSEN[®]
YOUTH PROGRAMS

January 2025

