

UPSTANDERS ACADEMY



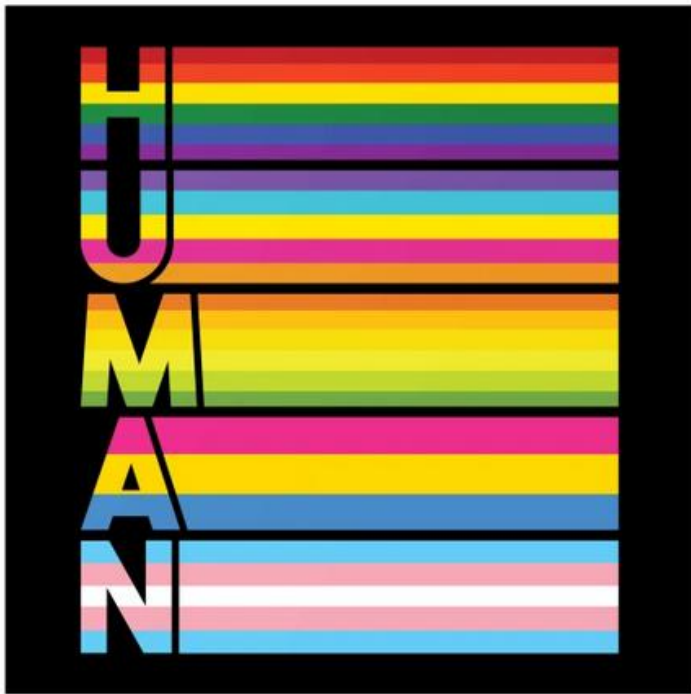
What We Learned About
LGBTQ+ Activism
October 2021



“My silences had not protected me. Your silence will not protect you.”

- Audre Lorde

Audre Lorde described herself as a “black, lesbian, mother, warrior, poet.” In her writing, she frequently expressed her anger at the treatment of people of color, women, and LGBTQ folk. In the above quotation, she calls for others to express their anger. To many in the queer community, staying silent and in the closet felt like a safety blanket. However, Lorde encouraged them to step out into the light, telling them that the only true safety is in making yourself known and demanding the acceptance and respect that is your right.



<https://www.teepublic.com/poster-and-art/7683071-rainbow-human-equality-lgbtq>

<https://www.humanrightscareers.com/issues/lgbt-quotes/>



Pridetimes
@iPridetimes

Parents marching for equality to support their LGBT+ kids in NYC 1975 🙄🌈



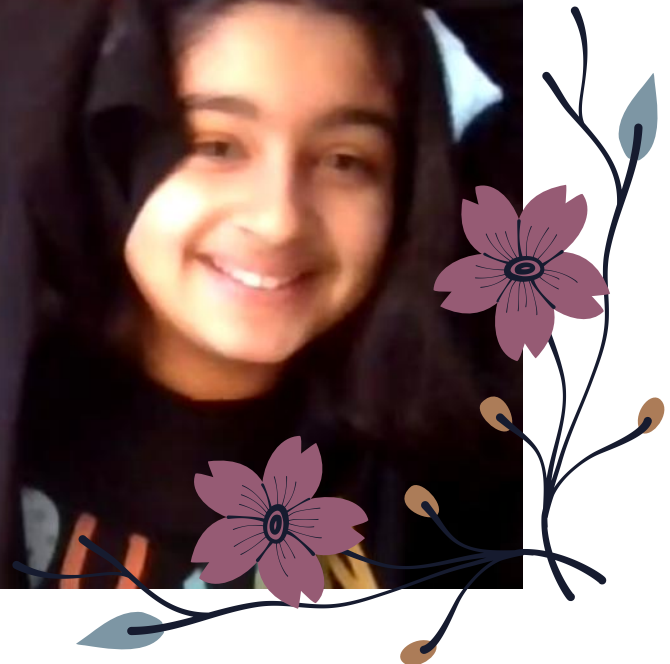
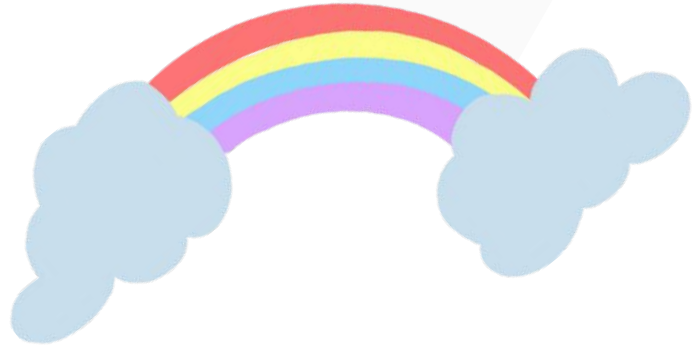
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On Tuesday, Oct 19, 2021, a man from BC showed up in Ottawa to protest against "gender ideology" in front of schools. He protested, alone, in front of one school in the morning, and in front of a few other schools in the afternoon.

Many more counter protestors showed up to block his hate with **love**.



We had our weekly Upstanders Academy meeting that same day. At that Oct 19 meeting, I read this article with the kids (ages 8 to 14) and we watched the attached videos:

<https://ottawa.ctvnews.ca/protesters-face-off-with-activist-outside-ottawa-school-1.5628931>

The kids in my Upstanders Academy had some things they would like to say to this man and some questions they would like to ask him.

These kids get it. They know that we are all equal and that everyone deserves respect and kindness. They will not stand for this kind of hate. We will be in good hands when they are running the world.



Why are you transphobic?

If you had any kids, and they came out as trans, what would you do?

Why did you drive all the way to Ottawa to protest your beliefs and not just do it back in BC?

Open your eyes and realise that being whoever you want is awesome.

My question is: why? And: who asked you?

How do you have time to do this? Is your life really that pathetic?



OTTAWA.CTVNEWS.CA

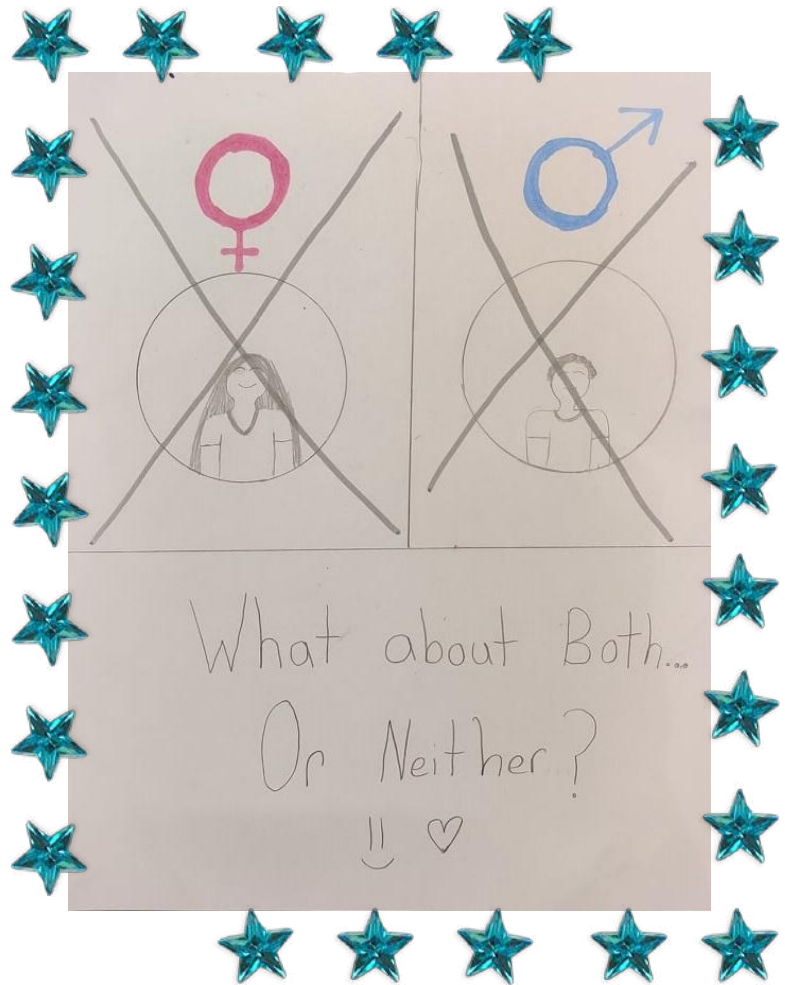
Protesters face off with anti-trans activist outside Ottawa school

Do you think that trans children should just bottle up their emotions? What do you think will happen to them if they do?

Who hurt you?

Why? Just why are you doing this?

Why don't you understand that kids are the future? Why are you trying to stop them from being who they are? You are hurting kids, of all people. You are trying to hurt our future.



“We deserve to experience love fully, equally, without shame, and without compromise.”
— Elliot Page



“This community has fought and continues to fight a war of acceptance, a war of tolerance and the most relentless bravery. You are the definition of courage, do you know that?”

– Lady Gaga

READ THIS BOOK!



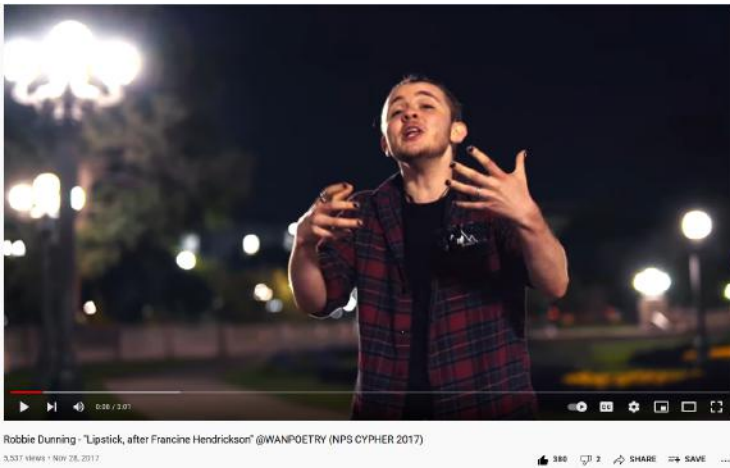
Awesome Videos to Watch To Learn More!



<https://youtu.be/2LU2daQ2exs>



<https://youtu.be/NCLoNwVJA-0>



<https://youtu.be/dn89RHDD474>



<https://youtu.be/FDZskzSLzPk>



<https://youtu.be/OITv8RYIHeQ>



<https://youtu.be/XFZCwOC6A0E>

Our Upstanders Academy Interview with Amanda Jetté Knox, otherwise known as the Maven of Mayhem.

TODAY'S GUEST EXPERT



Amanda Jetté Knox
LGBTQ+ Advocate,
Bestselling Author,
Speaker, Trauma Survivor

Part One



I still can't believe it, but the kids in my Upstanders Academy and I had the great honour of interviewing Amanda - Writer, Speaker and LGBTQ Advocate.

In this amazing conversation, we discuss what it is like to be transgender and non-binary; the truth that the gender binary is very white, Christian and colonial and that there is really so much more to humans than this narrow belief system would have us believe; the truth that shame and shaming people is a terrible teaching tool - shame causes people to shut down; the foster care system; making room for all the feelings and taking your own path in life; and being an ally and supporting all the awesome kids in our lives.

Remember, all of this is in conversation with kids who are ages 8 to 13 (and one even younger brother). There is no such thing as too young to start talking about these topics with kids.

Watch the first clip from this amazing interview here:
<https://youtu.be/AMtYe4AzBgM>



**This Zine was created by the following
amazing Upstanders:
Lilia, Evan, MGP, HaZeL, Sonya, Ayren, Jack,
Ryder, Owen, Kaaya, Isla and Vivian**