



MIDWEST RAINBOW NEWS



MARCH 2023

VOL. 3 ISSUE 3

"People get used to anything. The less you think about your oppression, the more your tolerance for it grows. After a while, people just think oppression is the normal state of things. But to become free, you have to be acutely aware of being a slave."

-Assata Shakur

HOUSEKEEPING

DISCLAIMER

The ideas and opinions in the Midwest Rainbow News are solely those of our contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Midwest Rainbow News.

The Midwest Rainbow News makes no representations as to the accuracy of statements made by individual authors, including but not limited to legal and medical information.

By sending submissions to the Midwest Rainbow News, you are agreeing to have your submission published. We may edit submissions to fit our anti-oppression values and/or our own editing guidelines.

Missing your copy?

Although things seem to be improving in terms of uniform delivery of the newsletter, please reach out if you do not receive your copy for more than one month in a row. Thank you!

Midwest Rainbow News
PO Box 81624
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

MAMA SAYS

On November 20th of each year, we remember all those transgender siblings we have lost, saying their names and remembering them in our own special ways. Honoring, remembering and healing take time. But on March 31st, we celebrate Transgender Day of Visibility. Our day of Visibility is a time to celebrate life and living, being able to live as your authentic and true self.

But we have to be careful. We cannot permit ourselves to become judgmental, passing judgment on others because we don't feel they walk, talk, act, or present in a way that you may think proper of a trans woman or trans man. There is no "right" way to be transgender, so give everyone a hug and let them know you SEE them for their authentic selves.

I don't say it enough, but I want to thank all those who make it possible for this newsletter to make it to our readers each month. I am blessed to have someone willing to work with me to help inform, educate, and advocate for all those we serve. Thank You! A big thank you also goes out to our newest partners at Liberation Lit. Liberation Lit has taken over the printing and distribution of the Midwest Rainbow News, helping enlarge our readership.

We are about to enter a new phase in our fight for treatment. There are those out there who hate simply for the sound bites on the nightly news. I will be telling you more about this in the coming months as well as passing along information as to what you can do to help. But for now, please be vigilant about what you say and what you do. Much more next month!

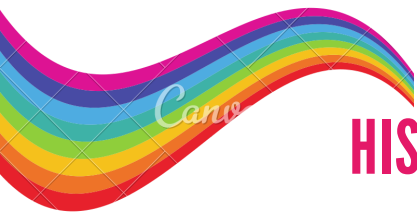
With a Mothers Love,
Patricia

THE PRISON JOURNALISM PROJECT

The Prison Journalism Project is a great place for any prisoner to express their views while working to establish themselves as a credible writer and journalist. Many first time authors have been published on the Prison Journalism website. It only takes imagination and willingness to write your story. It is 100% free, costs you only time and dedication. Ask about their writing program and upcoming correspondence-based classes. For more information on how to get started, contact them at:

Prison Journalism Project
2093 Philadelphia Pike #1054
Claymont, DE 19703





HISTORY OF TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY



Rachel Crandall-Crocker, the creator of International Transgender Day of Visibility, wanted people to have a moment of happiness. So she made a Facebook post encouraging people to organize festivities in their hometowns and started messaging accounts from all over the world — it was worth a shot.

“I’d been wanting there to be a special day for us for a long time,” she recalled. “And I was waiting and waiting for someone else to do it. And then finally I said, ‘I’m not waiting anymore. I’m going to do it.’”

It was 2009, and at the time, the only annual event that most transgender communities had was nothing to celebrate. In 1998, Rita Hester, a Black transgender woman in Boston, Massachusetts, was brutally stabbed in her own apartment. Transgender women were tired of being targets and done being dismissed by the press, which misgendered Hester. They marched through Hester’s Boston neighborhood, and Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), a day honoring transgender homicide victims, was born.

Crandall-Crocker sometimes attended the community funeral. She felt it was important. But when she did, it left her depressed for up to a week afterward.

“I wanted a day that we can celebrate the living, and I wanted a day that all over the world we could be all together,” she said.

So Crandall-Crocker, who had lost a marriage when she came out and a job as a psychotherapist when she transitioned, decided to create the day herself. March 31 would be International Transgender Day of Visibility.

The date wasn’t significant as much as it was convenient. It was far enough away from TDOR in November and Pride Month in June that it wouldn’t conflict with either. From her home in Michigan, she organized a panel just outside of Detroit. Maybe people would come or see the Facebook post and hold their own events, she thought.

Crandall-Crocker now talks about those early days with near disbelief. Millions of people now recognize March 31 as a day to celebrate transgender people worldwide. Every major LGBTQ+ rights organization recognizes Transgender Day of Visibility with community gatherings, panels and celebrations. Skyscrapers across the nation light up with light pink, blue and white — transgender pride colors — on the day.

“Transgender Day of Visibility is a spark of hope,” said Nia Clark, a Black trans woman. “It’s just signaling to others that we are here and there are more than just one of you ... that there are resources out there, that there are people in existence who also would just like you.”

Clark, 37, works as a child welfare consultant and is a Point Foundation scholar, a prestigious LGBTQ+ college program. Because she works with kids, she was nervous to be out as a trans. But two years ago on Transgender Day of Visibility, she posted about her own journey coming out as trans on social media.

“I just remember the outpouring of support from others who I’d never really talked to,” she said. “One thing about trans folks is sometimes we are so afraid to even talk about our gender identity with cisgender friends.”



Andrea Jenkins, vice president of the Minneapolis City Council and the first out Black trans elected official in the country, says those conversations about trans people living vibrant and full lives are critical, especially in this moment. Jenkins notes that 44 transgender people were murdered in 2020, the highest number ever recorded.

“We don’t want to just wallow in this,” Jenkins said. “We also want to acknowledge the reality that our lives are beautiful and matter. Then, the less people are able to say, ‘Oh, I don’t know a trans person or I don’t think people need to recognize the humanity of trans and gender non-conforming people.’”

This year’s Transgender Day of Visibility comes at a particularly trying moment for gender diverse people in the United States. More than 80 anti-trans bills are pending in state legislatures, according to the Human Rights Campaign. Most of those bills would limit trans youth from playing sports and accessing affirming medical care.

For many trans kids, their first introduction to transgender community had long been a day honoring transgender murder victims. While it was a time of gathering, it was also a stark reminder that living as trans often came with an expiration date.

“TDOR is always far more emotionally significant, more poignant, because so many trans women, especially Black trans women, succumb to violence, knowing that the life expectancy of a Black trans woman is 35,” Clark said.

But Transgender Day of Visibility gave kids another narrative to grow into, advocates say.

Esmée Silverman, 19, is a high school senior in southeastern Massachusetts, the same state where Hester’s murder inspired Transgender Day of Remembrance. Still, she learned about Transgender Day of Visibility before she knew of the day’s more somber cousin.

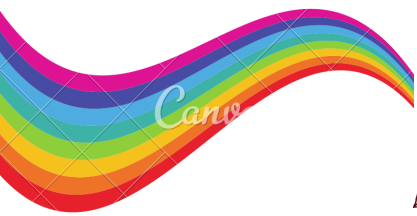
Silverman was 17 at the time, not fully out in her community, and her school’s Gay Straight Alliance was celebrating the day.

“I sort of was just like, ‘Wow, this is something that we need to uplift and celebrate more of because if there’s a day like this and if other trans people feel like the way I felt when I didn’t have any support, then this day needs to be uplifted,’” Silverman said. “Everybody deserves to be visible, including trans people.”

Source: 19th News by Kate Sosin

CELEBRATE TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY ON MARCH 31

WRITE IN TO LET US KNOW HOW YOU CELEBRATED!



SOME READERS WROTE IN WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE VARIOUS LGBTQ FLAGS. HERE'S SOME INFO!



MUST-READ SPRING BOOKS

Reading is one of my favorite pastimes, I love it more than sports, fried chicken, and music. Books, as my grandmother used to say, are "a terrible thing to waste." People who dare not to read "ain't worth the salt I put in my greens." As a young child, I learned to love to read. Reading can take you places that you would never imagine going. So let's take a trip, let's go somewhere beautiful, follow me. Here are a few of my favorite must-reads this spring.

Mama Day by Gloria Naylor, Ms.Naylor is one of America's greatest authors. Her book *Mama Day* is a beautiful masterpiece of literature full of spirit, sass, wisdom, and culture. The book is set on the Georgia sea island of Willow Springs, where people still use herbal medicine and honor their ancestors who were brought to America's coastal islands as slaves. This book is a suspenseful, touching, saga that spans generations. It's magically powerful and will leave you speechless. Gloria Naylor is a craftsman of storytelling, she puts together stories like none other. Many of you may remember her other works such as the book *The Women of Brewster Place*, which was made into a movie in which the legendary Oprah Winfrey played the lead character.

Another book I love is a page-turner and a tear-jerker. **No Ashes in the Fire** by Darnell L. Moore. This book will knock your socks off. Moore is a gay black author who writes of his life story in which he was bullied by three boys in his neighborhood who tried to set him on fire for being gay. He survived and now he is an accomplished award-winning writer and activist who shares this true journey of his life. His story is one of inspiration, beauty, and hope. This book is holistic and life-changing, and a must-read. Readers be warned your life will be so much better once you read this book, I promise.

Readers, do you love urban books? I love urban books and there is no better urban author to read and enjoy other than the great godfather of urban books **Mr. Donald Goines**. Tupac Shakur said this about him: "Machiavelli was my tutor, Donald Goines my father figure." His book **White Man's Justice, Blacks Man's Grief** is a vivid picture of the street jungles and their predators. Mr.Goines, who knows the dynamics of street life, understands that life on the streets can be a one-way ticket to jail or danger. In his book, he describes the harrowing circumstances urban people in everyday life face when they go up against the criminal justice system. This book is a must-read for those in the free world and those behind bars.

Here are a few of my favorite (nonfiction) Ebooks from the project Gutenberg ebooks I found on my Jpay tablet.

Tuskegee and Its People by Booker T. Washington (1906) this eBook describes the beautiful struggle that children of former slaves endured, these first-generation of freedmen worked hard to leave the world a better place than they found it. It's a beautiful masterpiece of American History.

Colonial Records of Virginia by Various Authors (first published in 1874 by R.F. Walker and Superintendent Public Printing) documents the first known settlements in the original 13 colonies, it's raw, it's real, and it's authentic if you like history straight with no chaser you will love this eBook.

Liberia by Frederick Starr is a historical account of the country's liberation and the former slaves who were sent back to Africa to settle their own country. It describes their success and their failures as they built a second country from the ground up. It's a must-read if you're a history buff. I hope you all enjoy these must-have must-read books. I assure you they will take you on a journey you don't want to miss, so be there or be square.

Summer Breeze

Gay Pride Flag



Gilbert Baker Pride Flag

Harvey Milk challenged Gilbert Baker to design a symbol of pride for the gay community. The flag flew at the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Parade on June 25, 1978. Each color represents an aspect of queer PRIDE.



Traditional Gay Pride Flag

The community landed on this six-color flag in 1979. The pink and turquoise colors were dropped because of the low demand in fabric. This flag is a world-wide symbol of the LGBTQ+ community.

Adaptions to the flag



Philadelphia People of Color Inclusive Flag

The city of Philadelphia added two lines- black and brown, to represent people of color in the queer community.



Progress Pride Flag

Daniel Quasar, who identifies as queer and nonbinary, designed this flag. He added the five-colored chevron to include the trans community, people of color and those lost to AIDS.

Flags in the community



Lesbian Flag

The colors of the flag represent butch lesbians (orange), femmes (pink) and trans and nonbinary lesbians (white). A lesbian is a woman who is sexually or romantically attracted to another woman.



Bisexual Flag

The Bisexual flag was created by Michael Page in 1998 to bring more visibility to the bisexual community. Pink= same-sex attraction, Blue= opposite-sex attraction and purple= attraction to both sexes.



Pansexual Flag

The Pansexual flag started showing up on the web in 2010. A pansexual person is attracted to all genders. Pink represents women, blue represents men and yellow represents non-binary and gender-non-conforming people.



Transgender Flag

Monica Helms, a transgender woman, designed this flag in 1999. "The light blue is the traditional color for baby boys, pink is for girls, and the white in the middle is for those who are transitioning, those who feel they have a neutral gender or no gender."



Asexual Flag

The Asexual flag was created in 2010 to help raise awareness. An asexual person is someone who has no sexual feelings or attraction towards others. The black stripe represents asexuality, grey stripe stands for grey-asexuality or demi-sexuality, white for allies and purple for the whole asexual community.



Intersex Flag

Designed in 2013 by Intersex International Australia, this flag intentionally features non-gendered color to celebrate those living outside the binary. An intersexual person has ambiguous sexual anatomy. The circle represents wholeness and completeness and our potentialities.

This flag was designed by JJ Poole as a symbol for genderfluidity. A genderfluid person does not have a fixed gender identity. Pink represents femininity, white represents all genders, purple is a combination of masculinity and femininity, black represents lack of gender and blue represents masculinity.



Genderfluid Pride Flag



ON OUR HEARTS AND MINDS



BANNING DRAG SHOWS IS A DANGER TO TRANSGENDER GIRLS

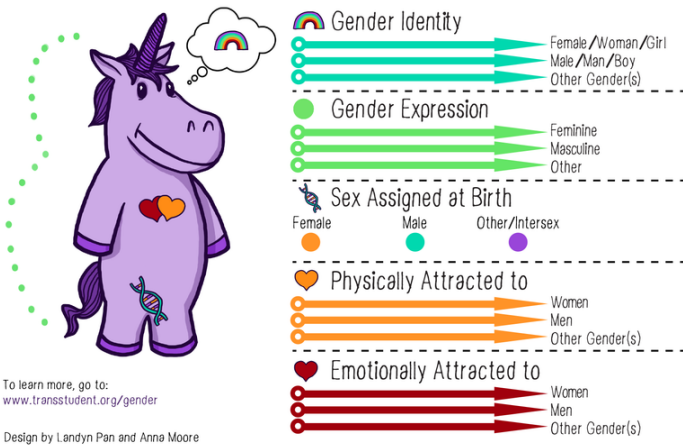
Missouri is one among many states which are bringing legislation to restrict or ban drag shows.

Our lawmakers don't realize or care that drag show restrictions are anti-transgender, as when we are forced to be "undercover," a drag show is often the only place where the "real us" can come out. It's also where our community gathers, and our chosen family has fun. Removing such a psychological release would increase the risk of suicidality in an already high-risk population. Again lawmakers are blind to the fact that the two most common causes of death of transgender people across all demographics are suicide and murder. So perhaps instead of banning drag shows, they should be protected by the very government that currently trying to get rid of them.

Jessica Blackwolf

The Gender Unicorn

Graphic by: **TSER**
Trans Student Educational Resources



To learn more, go to: www.transstudent.org/gender

Design by Landyn Pan and Anna Moore

MOURNING OUR SISTER

When I read the M.R.N. regarding our fallen sister, Amber McLaughlin, I was shaken to my core. I am also Amber, and I also dealt with abuse, neglect, and had to visit the foster system, albeit in California. Because of my antidepressants, I could not cry for her though my heart ached for her. The reason that Governor Parsons ignored the pleas and the petition for her to be commuted to life is that Parsons ignored the separation of Church and State.

When government officials fail to keep the separation of Church and State, Children of the Rainbow lose their civil rights, civil liberties, and in some cases their right to live. What's really strange is that the politicians that say an unborn child has the right to live are the same ones that say transgender children have the right to die.

Auntie Amber

ON TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY

I pray that everyone is healthy and happy and looking forward to spring and the warmer weather, I know I am.

I've been wracking my brain the last few days trying to come up with something for Transgender Day of Visibility and tonight it came to me. First I want to tell all my sisters and brothers that I SEE YOU. I see the hurt and pain that each one of you faces everyday. I see the struggles you face to just be you. To live your truth. I also see the joy and happiness that each of you embraces. The love that each of you gives to others.

On this year's TDV I want to remember all of those who we have lost in the past or those who have faced harm for just being alive. Today while reading the news on my tablet I came across a news article about a trans woman who was violently attacked in Minneapolis, MN. At this time it is unknown if the attack happened because she was transgender or if it was just a robbery as the two men who attacked her were found with her clutch and with other purses.

According to Human Rights Campaign, in 2022, 32 transgender and gender non-conforming people were killed in the U.S. 81% of those were trans women.

In 2021, 51 deaths of TG and GNC were reported. I would wager money that those numbers are low.

It's a sad day when any one of our brothers or sisters faces this type of violence for simply being alive. We have just as much right to be here and to be happy as any breeder does.

So on this TDV, take the time to remember those who have come before us. Take the time to SEE those who came before us. Take the time to really SEE each other. I love each and every one of you and I SEE you.

Last, of all I want to say hi to my son Kris. Keep your head up and live your best life. I love you Son and remember I see you too.

Bree

COUNT ON ME

Count on me when times get heavy and all you want to do is cry! Count on me! When you miss that someone and you, feel left out or lost, you, can count on me! When People let you, down and it seems like you can't get back up! count on me. when your Days get dark and you can't find that light, count on me to walk with you, to that light! Even when you feel like you have no one to count on or comfort you, count on me!! To take all your, stresses and pains and headaches, all you have to do is wait and listen for me, Let me Guide you, to the Promise of my Heart !!!!! Count on me whenever you, need me. ("HAPPY VALENTINES DAY")!!!!.

Mylowe

LIFE HACKS, MAKEUP TIPS, AND NAPPY HAIR TRICKS

I wear makeup every day and it's a struggle to "beat your face" daily, especially with your fingers and no other beautifying tools, but trust me, it can be done. If you use makeup remember to moisturize your skin. Moisturizing your face helps protect your skin and to keep it smooth, remember a boring and dry face is simply a waste! Purchase skin products that naturally enhance your beauty and strengthen your skin, #1348 the face wash or the ambi fade cream

Please don't try to make your own makeup, the results may not be great unless you have the right tools and you're uber chic and creative. So, if you can, buy the makeup from the transgender canteen list.

When applying your make-up. use the back of your left hand as a content holder. Put dabs of makeup on your hand and then use your fingers to gently dab it on your forehead, next, with gentle downward stroke, apply it broadly across. Repeat that process for your cheeks, nose, chin, and other regions of your face to get even coverage.

To enhance your look, make sure to pay close attention to your hairline, be sure your hairline is crispy and on point.

For those who love color and a little eye shadow/facial blush, purchase a little lipstick. I use the Berry and Wine. I rub Q-tips across the edges of the lipstick and then I use the Q-tip to color my eyelids. You can also apply glitter to the same Q-tip to spice it up a bit or you may want to then put a little on your cheeks and smooth it in to enhance your beauty.

Pluck or shave your eyebrows, use eyeliner for a brow pencil or use mascara to draw on your eyebrows. After you draw them on you can use a Q-tip to shape, fix or perfect your eyebrow design.

For girls with dreds, keep your hair crispy and invest in a blow dryer, it keeps down the smell that may come if your hair is not dried properly after washing.

Beauty expression helps us promote a clear gender and personal statement of who you are, so promote yourself accordingly, promotion is the way you externally communicate your gender and personal identity to others through your haircut, appearance, behaviors, voice, and other forms of presentation. So promote well. Happy New Day y'all keep yo heads and remember they can't break our souls, we the greatest! Special shot to my peoples at JCCC KJ "we all we got" Sincerely, Ms.Tee

THANK YOU

I just wanted to send a big shout-out and thank you to Midwest rainbow news. Just last week, I got a legal call with the most exciting news. My name change just went through! My buddy Dawson who lives upstairs for me has just begun his name change process. I'm so thankful that you guys have resources for us to embrace who we are despite the oppressive environment we're living in. A lot of people do not understand what gender dysphoria is like, even for the average free-world person. It's not easy to live in a body that makes you self-conscious. But this becomes seriously compounded when you're incarcerated. All the myriad of social cues free world people have access to—hair, clothing, hormone treatments—don't go very far for the incarcerated. In my prison, shorthair typically signals that you're a lesbian. Unless you state you are trans, people will not read "male" from a short haircut. If you jump through all the DOC hoops for hormones, it gets you a little further, but at the same time residing in a prison designated for one specific gender tends to negate any efforts of embodying your personal gender identity. You live in a women's prison, bam, you're a woman, end of discussion. The uniform is baggy and perfect for hiding curves, but the name tag on all your clothes is really what adds insult to injury. I've noticed a lot of people do not like to ask for your name. They'd rather read it off your ID or your clothing, and before you know it total strangers are calling you about your horrible birth name and have no idea of how much you hate it. How are they to know? It's on your clothes, your ID, your paper call-outs and mail. Getting a name change doesn't solve everything, but it goes a long way in helping others recognize what you actually want to be called and prevent a potential blow-up or misunderstanding. With much thanks,

Dylan

MORE TIPS FROM MS. TEE

You can write the Saint Louis Public Library 1415 Olive St. Louis Missouri 63103 and get beauty tips, hair design pics, and other pics and ask important questions.

Missouri State Treasurer P.O. Box 1004 Jefferson City Missouri 65101 c/o Unclaimed Assets--ask them to search the database for your name, provide all of your previous street addresses and write legal mail on the front of the envelope and seal it. I pray this piece of information changes your life, use it quickly and wisely.

WRITE FOR US!

We are actively seeking material from our readers to publish in future issues. We will no longer publish messages from one reader to another.

We are looking for:

- Articles with accurate information about relevant DOC policies, legal developments, and current affairs (cite your sources!)
- Tips, life-hacks, and how-to articles that our readers would find useful
- Media recommendations — books, authors, podcasts, tv, movies etc. Preference given to free things. Write a little bit about why you're recommending it and/or what you got from it.
- Personal essays on topics relevant to our community, including but not limited to: mental health, personal growth, what sucks about being LGBTQ in prison, what's cool about being LGBTQ in prison, pride, shame, self-acceptance, friendship, liberation from oppression, dealing with difficult family relationships, etc.
- Good news — if you have something to celebrate!
- Reports from your camp on conditions for LGBTQ prisoners
- Responses — If you have something constructive to add to a particular conversation, you can write a response to a previously published piece

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO OUR PO BOX OR THE BLACK-PINK GAZETTE TABLET CONTACT

IF YOU'RE A NEW SUBSCRIBER AND DON'T HAVE THE CONTACT ON YOUR TABLET YET, PLEASE BE PATIENT. IF YOU'RE STILL MISSING THE CONTACT AFTER A COUPLE WEEKS, WRITE TO OUR PO BOX.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE ON LGBTQ BILLS

MISSOURI



CURRENT AS OF 3/5/23

This is a scary time for LGBTQ people living in any of the many states where Republican lawmakers are stoking the flames of moral panic to target LGBTQ people, especially trans people. Unfortunately, there are too many anti-LGBTQ bills under consideration to list all of them here, so this list prioritizes those that seem to be moving through the legislative process the fastest.

There are also a number of positive bills that have been introduced to protect LGBTQ people from discrimination, but most have not moved beyond simply being introduced.

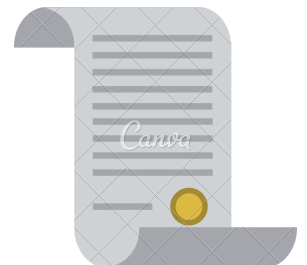
How a bill becomes a law in Missouri:

1. Bill is introduced in either the Senate or House
2. Bill is read twice.
3. Referred to a relevant committee
4. Committee hearing and vote -- the committee either votes to pass it, amend it, substitute it with another bill, return it without recommendation, or reject it.
5. If it passes, it goes on the perfection calendar and is debated and maybe amended. Then they vote to see if the bill moves on from this stage.
6. Third read
7. Final vote
8. Bill is sent to the other legislative body, where it starts in committee and goes through the same process.
9. If it passes both House and Senate, it goes to the Gov. to sign or veto.

The speaker of the house or president of the senate gets to decide whether a bill is referred to committee and where it goes on the perfection calendar if it passes committee, which is why those positions are so powerful. If they don't like a bill, they don't move it through the process. The speaker and the president always come from the majority party.

S.49 - Establishes the "Missouri Save Adolescents from Experimentation (SAFE) Act"	Bans gender affirming care for trans youth	On informal calendar for perfection - 3/6/2023
S.39/H.183 - Establishes guidelines for student participation in athletic contests organized by sex	Bans trans youth from participating in sports with their peers	Senate: On informal calendar for perfection - 3/6/2023 House: Referred to committee - 2/21/23
S.390/H.634 - classroom instruction on gender identity and sexual orientation in certain grade levels	Missouri's "Don't Say Gay" - No classroom discussion of sexuality or gender in public school	Senate: Referred to committee - 3/2/23 House: Committee had public hearing, no vote yet - 3/1/23
S. 410/H.489 - "Do No Harm Act" relating to diversity-equity-inclusion requirements	Bans "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" values in higher ed, esp. medical school	Senate: Referred to committee - 3/2/23 House: In committee, hearing 3/6/23
S.285 - Prohibiting certain mental health professionals from engaging in conversion therapy with minors	Bans conversion therapy	Referred to committee - 2/23/23
H.419 - provisions to gender transition procedures	Bans gender affirming care for minors and people in the custody of DOC	Passed one committee, referred to second committee - 2/21/23
S.14 - Modifies provisions relating to amending birth certificates	Bans minors from changing the sex on their birth certificate, requires adults to have had bottom surgery to change birth certificate	Passed committee - 2/20/23
H.494 -Creates the offense of engaging in an adult cabaret performance	Criminalizes drag performances	Committee hearing completed, no vote yet - 1/24/23
S.60/H.384 - Prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity	Missouri nondiscrimination act	Senate: referred to committee - 1/12/23 House: read twice - 1/5/23

LEGISLATIVE SESSION ENDS 5/12/23



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE ON LGBTQ BILLS

KANSAS



This is a scary time for LGBTQ people living in any of the many states where Republican lawmakers are stoking the flames of moral panic to target LGBTQ people, especially trans people. Unfortunately, there are too many anti-LGBTQ bills under consideration to list all of them here, so this list prioritizes those that seem to be moving through the legislative process the fastest.

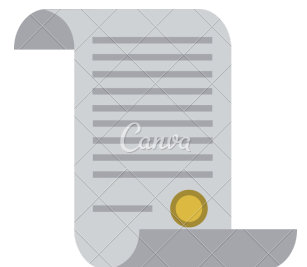
CURRENT AS OF 3/5/23

How a bill becomes a law in Kansas:

1. Bill is introduced in either the Senate or House
2. Referred to a relevant committee
3. Committee hearing and vote -- the committee either votes to pass it, amend it, substitute it with another bill, return it without recommendation, or reject it.
4. If it passes, it goes back to the whole body for discussion and possible amendment
5. Vote to pass or reject
6. If passes, bill is sent to the other legislative body, where it starts in committee and goes through the same process.
7. If the two bodies pass different versions of the same bill, they have to conference and reach an agreement.
8. If it passes both House and Senate, it goes to the Gov. to sign or veto.

The speaker of the house or president of the senate gets to decide whether a bill is referred to committee and committee chairs decide whether bills referred to them get hearings, which is why those positions are so powerful. If they don't like a bill, they don't move it through the process. The speaker and the president always come from the majority party.

H.2238 - Fairness in women's sports act	Bans trans girls from participating in school athletic teams with their peers	Passed the House, Senate hearing scheduled 3/6/23
S.180 - Establishing the women's bill of rights	gives non-scientific definition of sex designed explicitly to exclude transgender people across Kansas law	Passed the Senate, House hearing scheduled 3/6/23
S.233 - Banning trans care for minors	Bans gender-affirming care for minors	Passed the Senate, referred to House committee - 3/1/23
S.255/H.2427 - Separating students by sex	Requiring school districts to provide separate accommodations for students of each biological sex on overnight school sponsored trips.	Both in committee - 2/16/23
S.12 - Banning trans care for minors	Bans gender-affirming care for minors	Committee hearing completed 2/14/23, no vote yet
S.241 - related to juvenile justice	Requiring certain records and files to be automatically expunged from a juvenile's record.	Referred to committee - 2/13/23
H.2355 - removing consensual sodomy from criminal code	Removing sodomy between consenting members of the same sex from the crime of criminal sodomy.	Referred to committee - 2/8/23
H.2178 - Nondiscrimination act	Amending the Kansas act against discrimination to include sexual orientation, gender identity or expression and status as a veteran.	Referred to committee - 1/25/23





**Reach us at:
Midwest Rainbow News
PO Box 81624
Pittsburgh, PA 15217**

LEGAL/ADVOCACY

NEWSLETTER

RESEARCH

Lambda Legal
C/O Help Desk
4221 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Missouri Cure
P.O. Box 28931
St.Louis,MO 63132

Liberation Lit (inquire for free books)
P.O. Box 45071
Kansas City, MO 64171

ACLU
906 Olive St., Suite 1130
St. Louis, Mo. 63101

LAGAI (Ultraviolet)
3543 18th St #26
San Francisco,CA 94110

Library of Congress
101 Independence Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20540-4660

Missouri Protection and Advocacy Services
925 S. Country Club Dr.
Jeff City, Mo. 66109-4510

Black and Pink
6223 Maple St., #4600
Omaha NE 68104

Centurion
1400 Edgewood Drive
Jefferson City, Mo. 63109

Transgender Law Center
P.O. Box 70976
Oakland, CA 94612

Prison Health News
4722 Baltimore Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143



National Center for Transgender Equality
1032 15th St NW
Suite # 199
Washington, D.C. 20005

Slingshot (quarterly radical newspaper)
3124 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94705



GLAAD
18 Tremont St Suite # 950
Boston, MA 02108

Prisoner Express (twice a year)
Prisoner Express
PO Box #6556
Ithaca, NY 14851



TGI Justice Project
370 Turk St # 370
San Francisco, CA 94102

LEGAL/ADVOCACY



Southern Poverty Law Center
400 Washington Ave.
Montgomery, AL. 36104

The Midwest Innocence Project
3619 Broadway Blvd., Suite 2
Kansas City, MO 64111



MacArthur Justice Center
906 Olive Street, Suite 420
St. Louis, MO 63101

National Lawyers Guild
PO Box 1266
New York, NY 10009-8941

