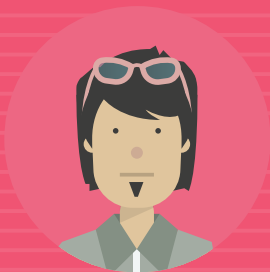


END BULLYING BE KIND ONLINE



Tackling LGBTQ abuse
online in partnership with
The Trevor Project,
GLSEN and Facebook



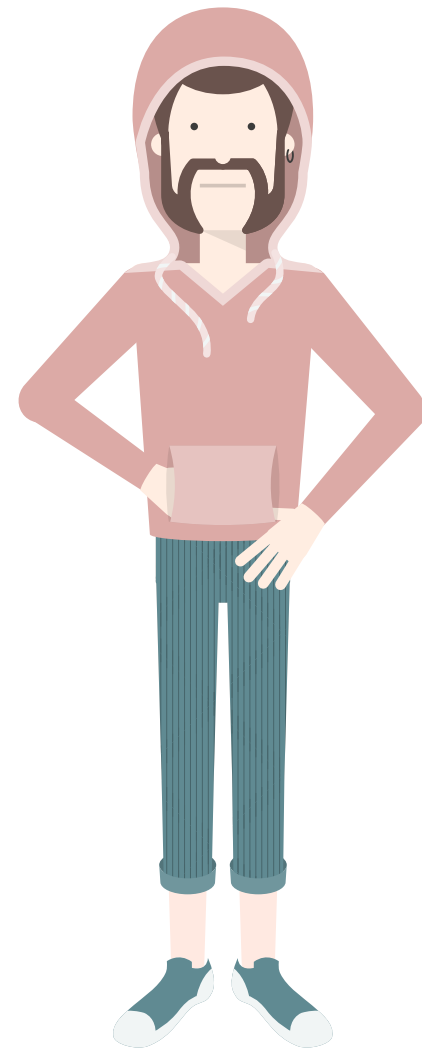


“The Trevor Project strives to create a world where all are safe, approached with respect and treated fairly regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. We are thrilled to have Facebook as our partner in this endeavor. The future is bright, indeed..”

Amit Paley, The Trevor Project

Facebook empowers us to connect with our friends and families and participate in a global community that stretches beyond our school halls or social circles to include those we would otherwise never encounter. However, just as in the offline world, not all behavior we witness or experience online is kind.

Sometimes the intolerance and prejudice we fight hard to keep out of our homes, schools, workplaces and friend groups surfaces online, and can take the form of homophobia, biphobia and transphobia - discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. These are real and worrying issues that have a damaging impact on all of us.



DID YOU KNOW?

→ In the US alone, **over 400,000 LGBTQ young people** will be bullied in a year just for who they are. **Half** of all LGBTQ young people will experience homophobic bullying online.

→ Trans people will experience **even higher levels of abuse and discrimination**.

→ Lots more people may be targeted with homophobia, biphobia or transphobia simply for being 'different', for example because of the way they look or dress, their interests or the things they talk about or share online.

We all have a role to play in tackling bullying, creating a kinder environment and staying safe online.

That's why Facebook has joined forces with the Trevor Project and GLSEN to:

→ **Give you the support and confidence** to report and challenge homophobia, biphobia and transphobia online.

→ **Provide information on Facebook's safety policies** and tools to help keep you safe.

Homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying and abuse can have a devastating impact on a person's self-esteem, achievements and mental health.

One in three lesbian, gay and bisexual young people have changed their future educational plans as a result of experiencing homophobic bullying.

Worryingly, YouGov polling into attitudes towards LGBTQ people shows that despite this, very few of us step in to challenge the slurs and abuse we hear or see.

Less than a third of people who had heard offensive remarks about LGBTQ people **intervened in some way**, with only **3 per cent offering support and assistance** to the victim.

This needs to change.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Homophobic, biphobic and transphobic language and abuse is as important to challenge online as it is anywhere else.

However, whether it's the casual use of the word gay to mean 'lame' written at the bottom of a photo, or a specific term of abuse, it's not always easy to know what role **we can or should play** in challenging it, or **how to go about it**.

Sometimes we have some doubts about what to do:

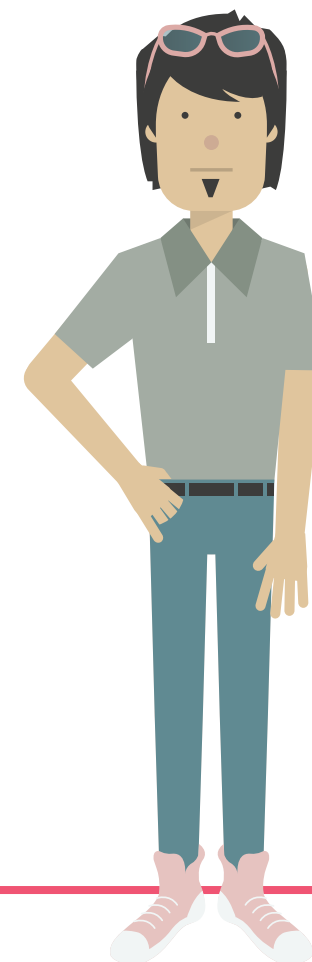
- Which words do I use to challenge what I've experienced or witnessed?
- Will I receive a negative response from others?
- Should I reach out to support this person? They might not have found it offensive. I don't know them very well.

Many of the tips and tools found below can be accessed, along with guides and advice, on [Facebook's Bullying Prevention Hub](#) and [Privacy Basics Center](#).

Remember it's not just about tackling abuse, but also about making online spaces safe and welcoming for everyone.

Remember others are tackling this too.

It's not just you. The police and many organizations are taking steps to make sure we have the confidence to speak up about negative things we see online and feel empowered to use the internet in a positive way. Many schools, universities and colleges across the US are training staff to tackle online bullying and talking to students about how to stay safe online.



HOW YOU CAN MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE ONLINE

HEAR IT, STOP IT, DON'T BE A BYSTANDER

Stand up for others if you see them being targeted online, don't be a bystander – support your friends, demonstrate that you're by their side.

KEEP IT POSITIVE

If you think a photo is nice, make sure to 'like' it, or leave a supportive comment or emoji if you like an article your friend has shared. Diffuse negative posts with positive language or images or humor. Why not post or share messages of support for LGBTQ friends, organizations and causes too?

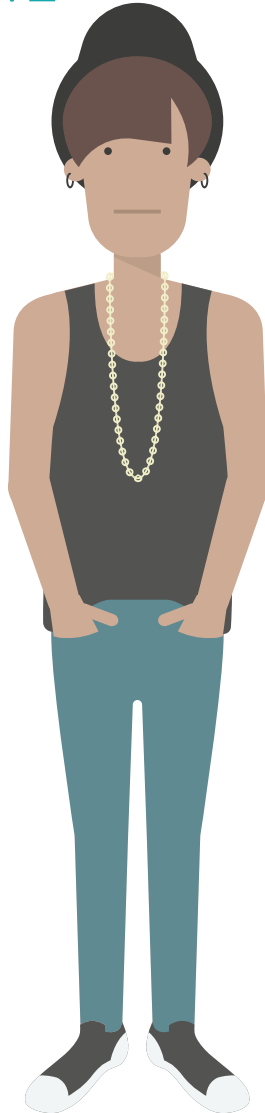
THINK TWICE

Think twice before posting and consider how your own behavior might harm others, even if unintentionally.

Before you post a comment or a photo, be mindful and ask yourself if it could embarrass or hurt someone. If in doubt, don't post it - be kind.

GET HELP

If you see a friend post something on Facebook and you are concerned they might harm themselves, reach out to Facebook for [help](#). You can report suicidal content directly to Facebook after you call 911 or your local law enforcement.



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT STAYING SAFE ON FACEBOOK?

REACH OUT AND REPORT

There is a report button on every piece of content on Facebook, meaning that you can report anything that makes you feel uncomfortable. When something gets reported to Facebook, a global team reviews it and removes anything that violates these terms. To learn how to report and what happens when you click report, click here fb.me/Reporting

KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

Facebook allows you to control exactly who sees what on your profile and who you share things with. The Privacy Basics and Privacy Checkup tools talk you through the steps to control the information you share on your profile, while the audience selector tool allows you to control who sees what you share. Use the custom option to be as specific as you want to be about who you're sharing with. Remember, when you post to another person's profile, that person controls what audience can view the post. Additionally, anyone who gets tagged in a post may see it, along with their friends. To learn more about selecting audiences, visit fb.me/AudienceSelector, fb.me/PrivacyCheckup, fb.me/SecurityCheckup

BE YOURSELF... AND EXPECT OTHERS TO BE THEMSELVES

Facebook is a place for connecting with people you know personally, like your friends, family and classmates. Facebook is based on authentic identities, where people represent who they are in the real world. This helps you know with whom you're connecting. Some individuals may set up fake profiles or impersonate friends but fake profiles will be quickly removed if reported. We also want you to use the name by which your friends and family know you. If you ever have trouble with your name, we want to hear about it. To learn more, visit www.facebook.com/help/names.

FRIEND AND CONNECT WITH PEOPLE YOU KNOW AND TRUST

If you receive a friend request from someone you are already friends with, ask if they sent the new request before accepting it. If they didn't send it, report the impersonating profile to Facebook. If you want to meet new people through Facebook, try connecting with Pages and groups that interest you. You can also choose to limit who can see your friend list if you are worried about your friends and family being contacted by someone.

To learn more about adding friends and friend requests, visit

fb.me/FriendRequests

UNFRIENDING

To unfriend someone, go to that person's profile, hover over the Friends button at the top of their profile and select Unfriend. If you choose to unfriend someone, Facebook will not notify the person but you'll be removed from that person's friends list. If you want to be friends with this person again, you'll need to send a new friend request. To learn more about removing friends, visit

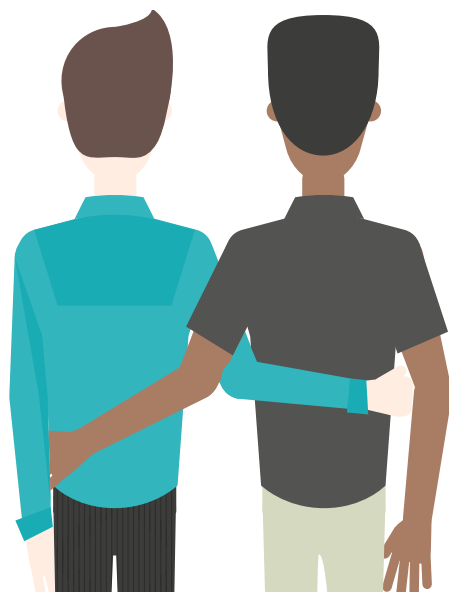
fb.me/Unfriending

BLOCKING

Blocking a person automatically unfriends them, and also blocks them so they can no longer see things you post on your profile, tag you, invite you to events or groups, start a conversation with you, or add you as a friend. Blocking is reciprocal, so you also won't be able to do things like start a conversation with them or add them as a friend. When you block someone, we do not notify them that you have blocked them. To learn more, visit

fb.me/Blocking

KNOW YOU'RE NEVER ALONE



KNOW WHERE YOU CAN GET HELP

Get help if you feel overwhelmed. Report to Facebook or speak to someone you trust — a friend, parent or guardian or teacher. Review your school's bullying and harassment policies to see if you are protected from cyberbullying. Remember that [The Trevor Project](#) provides free confidential advice and can connect you to other organizations that can help. In addition, [GLSEN](#) can connect you with a GSA or start one at your school.



facebook.com/safety



The Trevor Project is the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to LGBTQ young people ages 13-24. The Trevor Project offers a lifeline that people in the US can contact by calling 1-866-488-7386. The Trevor Project also offers resources for concerned friends and family members of LGBTQ youth.



GLSEN champions safe and inclusive schools for all students. GLSEN envisions a world in which every child learns to respect and accept all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.

STUDENT ACTION

WANT TO MAKE A LASTING DIFFERENCE IN YOUR SCHOOL?

GLSEN is proud to support student organizers in schools across the country. As a student, you have the power to make change in many ways in your school and community.

GLSEN's **Day of Silence** and **Ally Week** are designed to give you the tools that you need to move your school to address and help end anti-LGBTQ bullying.

Need some ideas for inspiring GSA meetings, some information to provide to teachers, or suggestions for events to engage the entire student body? GLSEN has resources to help make your GSA an awesome club and a safe space for LGBTQ youth and their allies. Check out GLSEN's **Jump-Start Guide** and other **GSA tools**, also make sure to connect with other student organizers on social media for support and ideas

