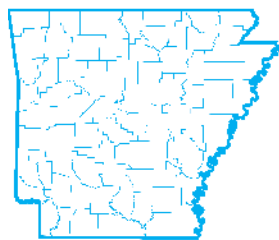




# This is our home.



We live here. We work here.  
We go to church here. Have children here.  
Pay taxes here. We serve in the armed forces.  
We volunteer in our communities. We are  
lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT).  
We are also straight allies.

## We are Arkansas.





## **We are Arkansans.**

Young and old, men and women, working, retired and studying. We are different races and religions. Urban, suburban and rural. We are your neighbors, co-workers, and family members. **And we are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT).** Today, Arkansas is home to tens of thousands of LGBT people.

**We stay here because we grew up here.** Our families live here. Our lifelong friends surround us. It might not surprise you to hear that it's not always easy to be an LGBT person in Arkansas. It's even harder to raise a family. But as Arkansans we know this state can make a positive change. **Everyone in this state deserves the same equal opportunities and respect of the law.**

# We are Arkansans

Almost **60%**  
of LGBT people  
who live here  
have called  
Arkansas  
home for  
more than  
20 years.



A third of LGBT people here in Arkansas are people of faith, including 44% of African-American LGBT people.

**50%**

More than half volunteer in their communities.

More than half of all LGBT people in the state are in committed relationships.

9% of LGBT Arkansans are currently serving or have served in the Armed Forces.

Arkansas has one of the highest percentages of LGBT people raising children of any state in the nation.



Nearly 60% of 18-to 25-year-old LGBT young people in Arkansas intend to have children someday.

## LGBT Arkansans have:

- No legal state recognition for their relationships or families.
- No state rights to jointly adopt children.
- No state protections from discrimination in employment, housing or public accommodations.
- No state protections from hate crimes.

## The goals are clear:

- Preventing harassment and violence against LGBT people.
- Reducing the stigma of HIV/AIDS and advancing awareness of treatment and prevention.
- Increasing workplace protections and opportunities.
- Supporting LGBT youth in schools and their communities.
- Ensuring LGBT families have the protections and dignity they deserve through marriage.

**"Right after I came out publicly, I was severely harassed and discriminated against in my church."**

**"Because we have no protections in Arkansas, I couldn't put [my wife] on my health insurance."**

**"My life was threatened in high school, and I was afraid to go to school."**

**"Trans people matter. Trans rights are human rights."**

**"I was refused service at a dentist's office due to my HIV status."**

Information provided is according to an online survey conducted for the Human Rights Campaign by Anzalone Liszt Grove, Feb. 6 – March 20, 2014.

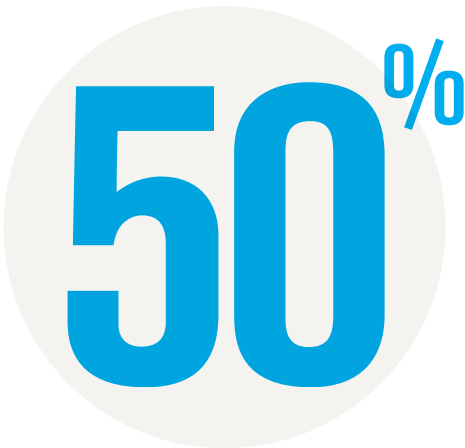
Percentage of LGBT people raising children.

Source: Census study by the Williams Institute (2010)

# Everyday Realities for LGBT Arkansans



One-third of LGBT students in rural areas experience harassment in school on a weekly basis.



Nearly Half don't consider their doctor LGBT friendly.

Almost Half experience harassment at school, mostly at the high school level.

Half experience harassment on the street.

A quarter experience employment discrimination.



Project One America is an unprecedented, multi-year effort to expand equality in the South by changing hearts and minds, advancing enduring legal protections, and building more inclusive institutions for LGBT people from the church pew to the workplace.



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