

QUEER PEOPLE MAKE AMERICA GREAT

Liv Hughes

I see a lot of people asking why queer people are so deeply saddened, upset, and angry about the results of the 2024 election. I could list countless reasons as to why. Why the face of the United States of America has been quoted to be against same-sex marriage multiple times, as well as gender affirming care for minors. Why Donald Trump considers appointing Supreme Court judges against same-sex marriage, and why his supporters will justify it everytime.

These kids are not confused. They need help, support and love.

How Trump and his Vice President, Vance, urges a “Don’t Say Gay” policy that targets LGBTQ+ youth in schools. An eradication plan to remove DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion). He will ALLOW businesses to refuse care to a person that identifies with the LGBTQ+ community. REFUSE.

There is no excuse for any of it, and there is no justification.

Let me ask a question. If you were given marriage rights not even ten years ago, would you be upset? Would you be upset if those rights were threatened? Even in speech. Would you be upset if you could not hold your partner’s hand in public? Friends and family judging you? Struggling to accept who you are? Hate speech?

My community has been made to feel like we need to take this every time. That every time our rights are threatened, we have to result back to a status-quo that conforms our individuality in a box. We have been beaten and shown by the majority that our love, uniqueness, and WHO WE ARE is wrong.

It is not wrong. America must stop justifying that it is. We need to stop ignoring, and we need to stop pretending that the ignorant people around us have power over who we are and our individuality.

To my fellow Queer people,

They may spread hate. They can make laws and change laws, and try to control the way we think. But no matter what they do, they will never EVER change us. The fight to accept myself and to finally be proud has been long, but it is one I will refuse to back down from. And it

is greater than anything they will take from me and that they will take from you. No erosion of love, acceptance, visibility, and truth can be broken.

I accept you, your community has accepted you, and you matter just as much as any other human. Never stop being proud, never feel like you need to give up or conform to who you aren't. Now is the time where we have to stay strong, where we have to support each other, and take care of ourselves. We have to advocate and be a voice for ourselves and for the future generation of LGBTQ+ kids who will look back at us in this moment, and see that we chose to fight.

Diversity scares people. We threaten everything that the patriarchy and system was built on. Every single thing.

Stay strong, stay safe, and stay proud. This community is my home—and it always will be my home.

Love will ALWAYS win.

The Trevor Project:

<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>

LGBT National Help Center:

<https://lgbthotline.org/>

LGBT Crisis and Support Resources:

<https://afsp.org/lgbtq-crisis-and-support-resources/>