

# Day of Silence

April 10th, 2026

**Glisten's Day of Silence is a national day of action pushing back against the silencing of intersectional LGBTQ+ youth and the erasure of their experiences.**

## About Glisten:

Glisten is the leading national education organization dedicated to creating safe and respectful learning environments for youth of all sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, race and abilities.. Glisten was founded in 1990 by educators seeking to make school a more safe and supportive space for LGBTQ+ students. Operating through 15 chapters across the country, Glisten catalyzes systemic change through educator training, policy advocacy, participatory research, youth leadership development, and community engagement.

## 30 Years of Day of Silence:

2026 marks the 30th year of the first Day of Silence. Originally held by Maria Pulzetti, Jessie Gilliam, and other students at the University of Virginia, in response to the bullying and harassment of LGBTQ+ students, it has grown to a national day of action pushing back against the silencing of intersectional LGBTQ+ youth and the erasure of their experiences.

In our deepening cultural and political divide, LGBTQ+ students are more directly targeted than ever before. From harmful legislation to erasing LGBTQ+ history from school curriculum, it is now more important than ever to take a step back and let our communities know what it feels like when we are stripped of our voices.

## Silent Protests as Resistance:

A silent protest is a form of demonstration where people express disagreement or demand change without speaking. The Day of Silence is one of many highly successful demonstrations throughout history. Silent protests have been used across movements successfully and are powerful demonstrations that in the case of Day of Silence highlight the importance of intersectional LGBTQ+ youth voice.

- *Examples of Silent Protest*
  - The Silent Parade: 1917
  - Kaepernick's Knee: 2016-2017
  - NOH8 Campaign: 2008-present
  - Day of Silence: 1996-present

## Join the Movement Today:

Visit [glisten.org/dayofsilence](https://glisten.org/dayofsilence) for actions you can take to Rise Up for intersectional LGBTQ+ youth in honor of Day of Silence 2026.



[glisten.org](https://glisten.org)

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