



## About | Faith for Pride

Faith groups and congregations across the country celebrate the dignity and worth of all people, including the many beloved LGBTQ+ members of their communities. But the Religious Right is working to distort the meaning of religious freedom to include the right to discriminate against those who identify or believe differently than they do.

Time and again, people on the Religious Right have argued that LGBTQ+ equality and religious freedom are contradictory values. But the truth is that the vast majority of religious Americans – 69 percent, according to a [recent poll](#) – support laws to protect LGBTQ+ people from discrimination. As people of faith, it is vital that we push back against false narratives and voice our support for LGBTQ+ rights.

### What is Faith for Pride?

This Pride Month, the Faith for Equality Coalition is launching Faith for Pride: a month-long effort to include the fight for LGBTQ+ rights in religious services and programs. Our goal is to demonstrate that people of faith support federal non-discrimination protections for LGBTQ+ folks, and we are asking these religious folks to urge their Senators to pass the Equality Act.

### What is the Equality Act?

The Equality Act is a bill that strengthens existing civil rights laws and provides consistent non-discrimination protections for LGBTQ+ people nationwide. These protections apply to employment, housing, credit, education, public spaces and services, jury service, and federally funded programs.

The bill ensures that LGBTQ+ people – including religious and non-religiously affiliated people – enjoy the same freedoms under the law as all Americans. This bill does not require any person to change their religious beliefs nor does it compel religious institutions to participate in activities that violate the tenets of their faith.

### How Can I Help?

By hosting a Faith for Pride event, you are raising your voice as part of the faithful majority. With your support and activism, we can continue to champion civil rights measures that benefit us all and beat back laws that enable discrimination under the guise of religious liberty.

*Interfaith Alliance is a national policy and advocacy organization that champions an inclusive vision of religious freedom, protecting people of all faiths and none. For more information, please contact [policy@interfaithalliance.org](mailto:policy@interfaithalliance.org).*

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## Talking Points | Faith for Pride

Interfaith Alliance, along with people of faith across the country, celebrates the inherent dignity and worth of all people, including the many beloved LGBTQ+ members of our faith communities.

- Since our nation's founding, people of faith have been at the forefront of movements to ensure that all of us have the freedom to be ourselves, to believe as we choose, and to live without fear. We strengthen our country's moral foundation by advancing policies that affirm our shared humanity and ensure that all people are treated equally under the law.
- But a small group of activists on the Religious Right are working to distort the meaning of religious freedom to include the right to discriminate against LGBTQ+ Americans. This is a radical departure from the established meaning of the First Amendment – and one that continues to cause harm in the name of faith.
- This small group does not represent the majority of Americans of faith. According to recent polling, 69% of religious Americans support nondiscrimination protections for LGBTQ+ people in jobs, public accommodations, and housing.
- Religion has been used throughout our history by the privileged and powerful as a license to cause harm to marginalized groups. But religious belief has also propelled activists to speak out against oppression and fight for the rights of all people.
- Today, as people of faith, we are called to carry on that legacy by supporting full and equal rights for LGBTQ+ Americans. We must speak out against rhetoric that stokes hate and fear for political gain and manipulates religious rhetoric to cause harm.
- We are the faithful majority. We reject efforts to turn neighbor against neighbor and friend against friend. By joining together, we can make this a place where we are all free to thrive.

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