



City of Pittsburgh

LGBTQIA+ Commission

The City of Pittsburgh's LGBTQIA+ Commission strongly condemns the recent actions of several universities that have removed inclusive language from their websites and resources, particularly language that acknowledges and affirms the identities of transgender and non-binary individuals. Such moves not only perpetuate harmful erasure, but they also send a damaging message to students, faculty, and staff that their identities are not valued or recognized.

Inclusive language is not just a matter of semantics; it is a critical step toward creating environments where all people, especially those from marginalized communities, feel seen, respected, and supported. Transgender and non-binary individuals, who already face significant barriers to acceptance and equity in many aspects of society, are especially vulnerable to the psychological and social harm that comes from being denied recognition of their identities.

By removing inclusive language, these institutions fail to uphold their responsibility to foster safe, supportive, and equitable learning environments. It is vital that universities not only embrace inclusive language but actively work to ensure that their policies, practices, and resources reflect the diversity of experiences and identities within the student body.

The LGBTQIA+ Commission stands firmly with transgender and non-binary students, as well as all those who seek a more inclusive academic environment. We call on these universities to take meaningful steps to support the rights and dignity of all students, regardless of gender identity. Our community deserves an education system that respects and uplifts all people, and we will continue to advocate for those who are too often left out of the conversation.