

Religion and LGBTQA+ Resource Guide

Content Warning: Some of the following resources contain discussions of violence and abuse (physical, emotional, psychological, spiritual); conversion therapy; depression and suicide; and anti-religious violence, including Islamophobia and anti-Semitism.

Looking for more information or resources about religion and LGBTQA+ identity?

["Coming Home: To Faith, To Spirit, To Self"](#) – HRC

["Religion and Coming Out Issues for African Americans"](#) – HRC

["Religion and Coming Out Issues for Latinas and Latinos"](#) – HRC

["Religion and Coming Out Issues for Asian Pacific Americans"](#) – HRC

["Exposing the Harm of 'Ex-Gay' Ministries and 'Conversion Therapy'"](#) – Isabel Williams

["Just As They Are: Protecting Our Children from Conversion Therapy"](#) – HRC

["Muslims, Jews, and Christians on Being LGBT and Believing In God"](#) – Kashmira Gander

["Take Action: How Non-Muslims Can Help End Islamophobia"](#) – Ally Beetham

Atheism and Agnosticism

Articles

["Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Humanism"](#) – HRC

["The Intersection of Queer Identity and Atheism"](#) – Camille Beredijick

Organizations

LGBTQ Humanist Alliance

"As an extension of the American Humanist Association, we operate at the intersection of humanism and social justice to advocate humanist education, LGBTQ cultural competency, and community outreach."

<http://lgbthumanists.org>

Sunday Assembly

"With the motto "Live Better, Help Often, Wonder More" and billed as "a secular congregation that celebrates life," the Sunday Assembly was founded by comedians Sanderson Jones and Pippa Evans. For those who want an atmosphere of fellowship without the supernatural trappings, the Sunday Assembly is a welcome alternative. Explicitly welcoming to all, they have 68 affiliates in eight countries."

<http://www.sundayassembly.com/story>

Bahá'í

Articles

[“Brokenhearted Bahá'is: LGBTs Rejected by Their Faith”](#) – Nicholas Snow

Organizations

Gay/Lesbian Baha'i Story Project

The purposes of the Gay/Lesbian Baha'i Story Project is to “To tell, listen to, and reflect upon stories of Gay/Lesbian Baha'is and their supportive friends/family.”

<http://gaybahai.net>

Buddhism

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Buddhism”](#) – HRC

[“Trans*Buddhism, an interview with the creators of transbuddhists.org”](#)

[“See Us Clearly: A Buddhist View of Transgender Visibility”](#) – Ray Buckner

[“The black queer Buddhist teacher who is smashing stereotypes and leading an awakening on the left”](#) – Jack Jenkins

Organizations

Gay Buddhist Fellowship

“The Gay Buddhist Fellowship supports Buddhist practice in the Gay men’s community. It is a forum that brings together the diverse Buddhist traditions to address the spiritual concerns of Gay men in the San Francisco Bay Area, the United States, and the world. GBF’s mission includes cultivating a social environment that is inclusive and caring.”

<http://gaybuddhist.org/v3-wp/>

Trans*Buddhists

“We are a small collective of Buddhist practitioners from different traditions who seek to address systemic exclusion of transgender and gender nonconforming people from Buddhist spaces.”

<https://transbuddhists.org/>

Christianity: Non-Denominational and Trans-Denominational

Articles and Videos

[“What Does the Bible Say About Homosexuality”](#) – HRC

[“How To Be Welcoming”](#) – Believe Out Loud

[“Coming Out to Your Conservative Christian Parents? Advice From An Evangelical Pastor”](#) – Mark Landry

[“I Am A Black, Gay Christian – And I Know God Loves Me”](#) – Ronald Moore

Films

[For The Bible Tells Me So](#) (2007, documentary)

“An exploration of the intersection between religion and homosexuality in the U.S. and how the religious right has used its interpretation of the Bible to stigmatize the gay community.”

[Fish Out of Water](#) (2009, documentary)

“A documentary that faces down the controversies between homosexuality and religion, examining Bible verses quoted as condemnatory and discussing alternative meanings.”

[Holler If You Hear Me: Black and Gay In The Church](#) (2015, documentary)

“Holler If You Hear Me: Black and Gay in the Church puts the narrative in the hands of Black LGBT people who are struggling with the intersections of sexuality, faith and race.”

Organizations

Believe Out Loud

“An online network that empowers Christians to work for LGBTQ equality.”

<http://www.believeoutloud.com>

The Evangelical Network

“An association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Straight affirming Evangelical ministries and individuals.”

<http://www.theevangelicalnetwork.net/>

The Fellowship

“A coalition of Christian Churches committed to radical inclusive ministry.”

<http://www.radicallyinclusive.com>

Gay Christian Network

“We equip churches, educate lay people, build supportive communities, influence key thought leaders, foster self-acceptance, and advocate on behalf of the marginalized and oppressed.”

<https://www.gaychristian.net>

continued on next page

Christianity: Non-Denominational and Trans-Denominational continued.

Organizations

Many Voices

“A Black church movement for gay and transgender justice, that embraces the diversity of the human family and ensures that all are treated with love, compassion, and justice.”

<http://www.manyvoices.org>

Unity Fellowship of Christ Church

“An African-American LGBTQ spiritual organization.”

<http://ufcmlife.org>

Christianity: African Methodist Episcopal Church

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: African Methodist Episcopal Church”](#) – HRC

Christianity: Baptist Church

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Alliance of Baptists”](#) – HRC

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: American Baptist Church”](#) – HRC

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: National Baptist Convention USA Inc.”](#) – HRC

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Southern Baptist Convention”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists (AWAB)

“An organization building the Welcoming and Affirming movement within the Baptist traditions.”

<http://www.awab.org>

Rainbow Baptists

“Rainbow Baptists is a website providing support, information and advocacy for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer identified Baptists, their family and friends. Rainbow Baptists is an outreach ministry of The Association of Welcoming & Affirming Baptists (AWAB).”

<http://www.rainbowbaptists.org>

Christianity: Catholicism

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: The Roman Catholic Church”](#) – HRC

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Old Catholics/Independent Catholics”](#) – HRC

[“Coming Home: To Catholicism and To Self”](#) – HRC

[“I Am Proud To Be a Transgender Catholic”](#) – Nick Stevens

[“Catholic Parents’ Story Reveals the Love, Struggles of Having a Transgender Child”](#) – Robert Shine

[“Bisexual With A Catholic Family”](#) – Everyone Is Gay

Organizations

Call To Action

“Educates, inspires and activates Catholics to act for justice and build inclusive communities through a lens of anti-racism and anti-oppression principles.”

<http://cta-usa.org/#>

Dignity USA

“An organization working for respect and justice for all people—especially LGBTQ persons—in the Catholic Church.”

<https://www.dignityusa.org>

Equally Blessed

An organization working for respect and justice for all people—especially LGBTQ persons—in the Catholic Church.

<http://www.equally-blessed.org>

Fortunate Families

“A resource and networking ministry with Catholic parents of LGBTQ children.”

<http://www.fortunatefamilies.com>

New Ways Ministry

“A ministry of advocacy and justice for LGBTQ Catholics, and reconciliation within the larger Christian and civil communities.”

<https://www.newwaysministry.org>

Christianity: Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance

“The Mission of the Open & Affirming Ministry Program is to build a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that welcomes persons of all gender expressions and sexual orientations to the table of Christ’s communion and to the full life and leadership of the Christian Church.”

<http://disciplesallianceq.org/open-affirming-ministries/>

Christianity: Christian Scientists

Organizations

Emergence (Christian Scientists)

“A community of Christian Scientists, their families and friends providing spiritual and educational support for LGBTQ people.”

<http://emergence-international.org>

Christianity: Church of God in Christ

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Church of God in Christ”](#) – HRC

Christianity: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormonism)

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints \(Mormons\)”](#) – HRC

[“Coming Home: To Mormonism and to Self”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Affirmations: LGBT Mormons, Families, and Friends

“Supports LGBTQ and same-sex attracted Mormons and their families, friends and church leaders.”

<https://affirmation.org/who-we-are/>

Christianity: Church of Nazarene

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Church of Nazarene”](#) – HRC

Christianity: Community of Christ

Organizations

GALA

“GALA has served the LGBTQIA+ community in Community of Christ for over 30 years. In this time, we have looked to the future with hopes and dreams to expand education in congregations about issues relating to the LGBTQIA+ community. Our defining goal has been inclusion and understanding, love and acceptance for all.”

<http://www.galaweb.org/>

Christianity: Eastern and Oriental Orthodox Churches

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Eastern Orthodox Church”](#) – HRC

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Oriental Orthodox Church”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Axios: Eastern and Orthodox Gay and Lesbian Christians

“AXIOS is an organization of Eastern & Near Eastern Orthodox, and Byzantine & Eastern-rite Catholic Gay & Lesbian Christians.”

https://www.facebook.com/pg/AXIOSEasternandOrthodoxLGBTChristians/about/?ref=page_internal

Christianity: Episcopal Church

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Episcopal Church”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Integrity USA

“An organization working for LGBTQ Episcopalians and their allies, families, and friends.”

<http://www.integrityusa.org/welcome>

Christianity: Jehovah's Witness

Organizations

A Common Bond

"A Common Bond is the worldwide support network for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals who were, or still are, associated with Jehovah's Witnesses."

<http://gayxjw.org/about/>

Christianity: Lutheran

Articles

["Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America"](#) – HRC

Organizations

ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation

"An organization advocating for the full inclusion of LGBTQ Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their church and congregations."

<http://www.reconcilingworks.org>

Christianity: Mennonite

Organizations

Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBTQ Interest

"Cultivating an inclusive church and caring for the Mennonite and Brethren LGBTQ/allied community."

<https://www.bmclgbt.org>

Pink Menno Campaign

"An organization working towards the inclusion and welcome of LGBTQ individuals and their supporters in the Mennonite Church."

<http://www.pinkmenno.org>

Christianity: Metropolitan Community Church

Articles

["Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Metropolitan Community Churches"](#) – HRC

Organizations

Metropolitan Community Churches

"A movement that faithfully proclaims God's inclusive love for all people and proudly bears witness to the holy integration of spirituality and sexuality."

<http://mccchurch.org>

Christianity: Pentecostals

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Pentecostals”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Reconciling Pentecostals International

“A network of Pentecostal ministers, churches, and ministries working towards an affirming and inclusive church.”

<http://www.rpifellowship.com>

Christianity: Presbyterian Church

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Presbyterian Church \(USA\)”](#) – HRC

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Presbyterian Church in America”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Covenant Network of Presbyterians

“A national group of Presbyterian clergy and lay leaders working towards a fully inclusive church.”

<https://covnetpres.org>

More Lights Presbyterians

“An organization working for LGBTQ Presbyterians and their allies, families, and friends.”

<https://mlp.org/our-story/>

Christianity: Reformed Church in America

Organizations

Room for All

“A community of Christ followers in the Reformed Church in America, committed to welcome and affirm LGBTQ people and their allies.”

<https://roomforall.com>

Christianity: Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Society of Friends \(Quakers\)”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Friends of LGBTQ Concerns (FLGBTQC)

“A Quaker faith community within the Religious Society of Friends that deeply honors, affirms, and upholds that of God in all people.”

<http://www.quaker.org/flgbtqc/whatis.html>

Christianity: Seventh-Day Adventist Church

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Seventh-day Adventist Church”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship International (Kinship)

“An organization providing a safe spiritual and social community for LGBTI current and former Seventh-day Adventists around the world.”

<http://www.sdakinship.org/en/about-us-en/about>

Christianity: United Church of Christ (UCC)

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: United Church of Christ”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Open and Affirming Coalition: United Church of Christ

“The Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ advocates for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in the UCC, and equips UCC congregations to become effective witnesses to Christ’s extravagant welcome.”

<https://openandaffirming.org>

UCC LGBTQ Ministries

“An organization that provides support and sanctuary to LGBTQ people, and their families and friends.”

<http://www.ucc.org/lbgt>

Christianity: United Methodist Church

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: The United Methodist Church”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Affirmation

An organization that challenges The United Methodist Church to be inclusive, and radically speaks out against injustice for LGBTQ people around the world.

<http://www.umaffirm.org/site/>

Reconciling Ministries Network

“Reconciling Ministries Network mobilizes United Methodists of all sexual orientations and gender identities to transform our Church and world into the full expression of Christ’s inclusive love.”

<https://rmnetwork.org/who-we-are/mission/>

Christianity: Unity Movement

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Unity”](#) – HRC

Hinduism

Articles

[“Stances of Faith on LGBT Issues: Hinduism”](#) – HRC

[“A Progressive Hindu Statement on National Coming Out Day”](#) – Sadhana

[“Sapna Pandya: On Faith, Tradition and Sexuality”](#) – Sarika D. Mehta

[“I am just the way he made me”](#) – Ankit

Organizations

Gay and Lesbian Vaishnava Association

“The Gay & Lesbian Vaishnava Association... [is] a nonprofit religious organization offering positive information and support to LGBTI Vaishnavas and Hindus, their friends, and other interested persons.”

<http://www.galva108.org/about-galva-108>

Interfaith and Multifaith

Organizations

Soulforce

“Soulforce's goal is to turn this world upside down and inside out in the name of justice and equity for folks across all marginalized racial, sexual, and gender identities. We seek to do the kind of collective activism that makes our souls burst as we free ourselves from spiritual violence.”

<http://www.soulforce.org/about-us>

Heartstrong

“The place for gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender students from religious educational institutions since 1996.”

<http://www.heartstrong.org>

Islam

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Sunni and Shia”](#) – HRC

[“Coming Home: To Islam and to Self”](#) – HRC

[“Recommended Resources for LGBT Muslims”](#) – HRC

[“Islamic Texts: A Source for Acceptances of Queer Individuals into Mainstream Muslim Society”](#) – Muhsin Hendricks

[“An Interview with Four LGBTQ Identified Muslim Individuals and/or Followers of Islam”](#) – Campus Pride

[“Blair Imani gets real about queer Muslim representation, shares exclusive ‘The Bold Type’ Clip”](#) – Blair Imani

[“How a transgender man tries to honor his Muslim faith”](#) – Garrett Therolf

[“What It’s Like to be a Transgender Muslim After the Orlando Shooting”](#) – Diane Tsai

[“Why The Idea That Islam Promotes Intolerance of the LGBTQIA+ Community Is A Lie”](#) – Andrew Hernández

Videos

[“Brown, trans, queer, Muslim and proud”](#) – Sabah Choudrey

Films

[A Jihad For Love](#) (2007, documentary)

“A documentary on gay, lesbian, and transgender Muslims across the Muslim and Western worlds.”

continued on next page

Islam continued

Films

[How Gay Is Pakistan](#) (2015, documentary)

“Mawaan Rizwan asks what life is really like for gay people in Pakistan, where homosexuality is illegal and considered by some as a disease. In this revealing journey to the country of his birth, Mawaan meets people living gay and transgender lives despite constant fear of persecution. He discovers a fascinating and shocking private world where sex between men is surprisingly common, but where LGBT rights are limited. During his time in the country he's also offered a miracle herbal cure for his own homosexuality.”

[Circumstance](#) (2011, film)

“A wealthy Iranian family struggles to contain a teenager's growing sexual rebellion and her brother's dangerous obsession.”

[Naz & Maalik](#) (2015, film)

“Two closeted Muslim teens hawk goods across Brooklyn and struggle to come clean about their sexuality, as their secretive behavior leads them unknowingly into the cross-hairs of the War on Terror.”

Organizations

American Islamic Congress

“The American Islamic Congress is a non-religious, civic society organization that provides an alternative Muslim voice for the promotion of civil and human rights through advocacy, engagement and education.”

<http://aicongress.org/who-we-are/about-us/>

MECCA Institute

“MECCA Institute is an inclusive and progressive online Islamic seminary, and serves as an online center of Islamic learning and contemporary Islamic research for those seeking more expansive and inclusive interpretations of Islamic texts”

<http://mecca-institute.org/about/>

Muslim Advocates

“Muslim Advocates is a national legal advocacy and educational organization that works on the frontlines of civil rights to guarantee freedom and justice for Americans of all faiths.”

<https://www.muslimadvocates.org/about/>

Muslim Alliance for Sexual and Gender Diversity

“The Muslim Alliance for Sexual and Gender Diversity (MASGD) works to support, empower and connect LGBTQ Muslims. We seek to challenge root causes of oppression, including misogyny and xenophobia. We aim to increase the acceptance of gender and sexual diversity within Muslim communities, and to promote a progressive understanding of Islam that is centered on inclusion, justice, and equality.”

<http://www.muslimalliance.org/aboutmasgd>

Muslims for Progressive Values

“Muslims for Progressive Values is an NPO founded in 2007 in the U.S. We are a grassroots, human rights organization that embodies and advocates for the traditional Qu'ranic values of social justice, an understanding that informs our positions on women's rights, LGBTQI inclusion, freedom of expression and freedom of and from belief.”

<http://www.mpvusa.org/who-we-are>

Judaism

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Orthodox Judaism”](#) – HRC

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Conservative Judaism”](#) – HRC

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Reconstructionist Judaism”](#) – HRC

[“Coming Home: To Judaism and to Self”](#) – HRC

[“I Am The Pink Triangle and Yellow Star”](#) – Lisa Warner

[“Understanding Community As A Gay Jewish Woman”](#) – Naomi Barnett

Videos

[“Abby Stein on HuffPost Live”](#) (former Hasidic trans woman discusses her relationship to Judaism)

Films

[Trembling Before G-d](#) (2001, documentary)

“A cinematic portrait of various gay Orthodox Jews who struggle to reconcile their faith and their sexual orientation.”

[Whose Going To Love Me Now?](#) (2016, documentary)

“At 21, Saar was expelled from his religious kibbutz and fled to the UK. There he created a new family with the London Gay Men's Chorus and now, after 19 years, Saar [an HIV+, gay man] reaches out to his old family in the hope of a reconciliation.”

Organizations

Eshel

“An organization working towards creating a community and acceptance for LGBTQ Jews and their families in Orthodox communities.”

<http://www.eshelonline.org>

Institute for Judaism and Sexuality

“An organization working towards a complete inclusion and welcoming of LGBTQ Jews in communities and congregations.”

<http://ijso.huc.edu/>

Keshet

“Keshet is a national organization that works for full LGBTQ equality and inclusion in Jewish life.”

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

Twice Blessed: The Jewish GLBT Archives Online

<http://www.onearchives.org/twiceblessed/>

continued on next page

Judaism continued

Organizations

The World Congress

The World Congress aims to be a networking resource for LGBTQIA+ Jews from around the world to connect, engage, and support on local, national, continental and global levels.

<http://gltjews.org>

Paganism and Wicca

Articles

[“How Witchcraft Is Empowering Queer and Trans Young People”](#) – Moira Donovan

[“It’s All About Sex: Feminism, Paganism, and Trans Exclusion”](#) – Sophia Burns

Sikhism

Articles

[“I tried to brainwash myself not to be gay’: One Sikh man’s struggle to come out”](#) – Tanveer Mann

[“We Are One: LGBT Rights and Guru Nanak’s Legacy of Inclusion”](#) – Sonny Singh

[“Sikh Family Comes Out In Support of Gay Son”](#) – Michael Toumayan

[“Ravina: I’m a Sikh lesbian, but I’m so much more than my sexuality”](#)

[“A Sikh Trans Man’s Story of Transition and Community Transformation”](#) – Manpreet Singh Virk

Organizations

Sarbat

“Sarbat is a social and support group for LGBT Sikhs. We offer a platform for like-minded Sikhs from all walks of life and aim to promote the LGBT Sikh cause in a fair and courteous manner.”

<http://www.sarbat.net/faqs/>

Unitarian Universalists

Articles

[“Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Unitarian Universalist Association”](#) – HRC

Organizations

Unitarian Universalist Association

<https://www.uua.org/offices/staff/mgw/lgbtq-ministries>