

# THE TREVOR PROJECT



## TrevorSpace Toolkit

The world's leading online community for LGBTQ young people, ages 13-24 years old, to find peer support, affirmation, and community.

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# Meet TrevorSpace

As part of The Trevor Project's mission to end suicide among LGBTQ young people, **TrevorSpace** exists as a community of peer support through an international social networking site.

## Why It's Needed

The Trevor Project's [2022 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health](#) found that **45% of LGBTQ youth** seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year, including **more than half of transgender and nonbinary youth**.

With TrevorSpace, young people ages 13-24 can explore their identities, get peer advice, find peer support, and make friends in a community designed for them.

Within our platform, users can:

- Meet friends and express themselves.
- Explore forums and get advice.
- Join some of the over 500 clubs.
- Customize their profiles and share their art and thoughts.
- Connect with other LGBTQ young people in more than 100 countries, across 6 continents.

**All in a safe, moderated space available 24/7/365.**



**“ ”**

**It's reassuring to know that there are so many queer people out there. That we share experiences, and it's not just me anymore.**

- TrevorSpace User



# Our Mission

The Trevor Project estimates that more than 1.8 million LGBTQ young people in the United States seriously consider suicide each year.<sup>1</sup> Suicide is the second leading cause of death among young people and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQ) youth are more than four times more likely to attempt suicide than their peers.<sup>2</sup> What's more, as many as half of all transgender people have made a suicide attempt<sup>3</sup> – many before the age of 25.<sup>4</sup> In an increasingly connected and conflicted world, our culture propagates new mental health stressors every day for LGBTQ young people – a demographic that already faces disproportionate hardships.

*But there is hope.*

**Having at least one accepting adult in an LGBTQ young person's life can decrease their risk of attempting suicide by as much as 40%.<sup>5</sup>** Trevor aims to be that one accepting adult – whenever and wherever LGBTQ youth need them. Let's work together to ensure every young person feels valued, loved, and respected for who they are.

# Our Impact

With over **400,000 accounts across 180 countries**, we provide a safe, and affirming online space for users to explore their identities, have access to mental health resources, and connect with others like them.

TrevorSpace is the world's largest safe space social networking community for LGBTQ young people, ages 13-24. Here, users have the freedom to explore their identities, seek and receive peer advice, find peer support, and make friends within a safe, international community intentionally designed for LGBTQ young people to thrive – worldwide.

With nearly half of the site activity originating from outside the U.S., TrevorSpace continues to prove valuable and relevant among youth abroad who may live in cultures or countries that are unaccepting of LGBTQ people.

<sup>1</sup> National Estimate of LGBTQ Young People Considering Suicide, The Trevor Project, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Youth Risk Behaviours Survey, Center for Disease Control, 2017.

<sup>3</sup> The Report of the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey, National Center for Transgender Equality, 2015.

<sup>4</sup> Transgender Adolescent Suicide Behaviors, Official Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, 2018

<sup>5</sup> Accepting Adults Reduce Suicide Attempts Among LGBTQ Youth, The Trevor Project





# Getting Involved

Our research shows that **having at least one accepting adult in an LGBTQ young person's life can decrease their risk of attempting suicide by as much as 40%.<sup>1</sup>**

*Here's where you come in.*

As a community partner to TrevorSpace, our goal is for you to pass along our resources to those who may be in search of a safe space to express themselves – *fully and freely*. Whether that's individuals, families, or both, our utmost hope is for a world where LGBTQ young people not only see themselves, but see themselves **living and thriving**.

Don't worry, we'll equip you with all the tools you'll need in order to pass along the good word. From outreach email templates and videos about our platform, to printable posters and bookmarks, we want to set you up for complete success as one of our community partners.

Additionally, The Trevor Project currently offers **two trainings** – Ally and CARE – designed for youth-serving professionals that offer tools to help prevent suicide amongst LGBTQ young people. Learn more about those trainings here: <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/public-education/>.

<sup>1</sup>Accepting Adults Reduce Suicide Attempts Among LGBTQ Youth, The Trevor Project

# Our Focus on Safety

## Keeping Young People Safe on TrevorSpace

TrevorSpace is the world's leading online community for LGBTQ young people, ages 13-24 years old, to find peer support and connect with others while exploring their identities. We believe that everyone deserves a place where they can find belonging and peer support, comfortably be themselves, and be treated with patience and kindness.

Through personal profile creation, social networking, mental health and LGBTQ-related resources, we exist as an always-on hub for users to find community – no matter where they are in the world. For crisis services, our U.S. and Mexico-based users can access crisis counselors 24/7, and for our international users, we recommend the resources [Befrienders Worldwide](#) and [International Suicide Hotlines](#).

Here, safety is of the utmost importance for creating – and *sustaining* – a welcoming, resourceful, and affirming online space for LGBTQ young people. While maintaining online safety is always an evolving journey, we wanted to share the safeguards we've implemented to maintain, above all else, a community that exists to protect its members.

In order to be a member of TrevorSpace, users must agree to our [Terms of Service](#), [Community Guidelines](#), and [Privacy Policy](#). Our guidelines are intended to help users have a safe, welcoming, and supportive experience.

## Our Moderation Team

To keep TrevorSpace a safe place, we have invested in a 24/7/365 full-time moderation team. Our trained moderators help review reported content to ensure that users are adhering to all of our community guidelines.

## Protecting Our Youngest Members

Keeping our youngest TrevorSpace users safe is a top priority for us. We ask new users for their birthdays to determine if they fall within the required age range of 13-24 at the time of their account creation. Users who fall outside of this age range are not eligible to register for a TrevorSpace account. This practice is consistent with other social media platforms.

Once registered, TrevorSpace displays whether a user is under or over 18 to all other users. As such, users cannot augment or adjust the display of their age range, nor can users over 18 message users under 18, and vice versa.

## Using Advanced Technology To Help Us Identify & Respond To Crisis

TrevorSpace is meant to create connections, provide a free space to explore topics of interest, and facilitate new friendships; it is not a crisis services platform (our 24/7 crisis services can be accessed [here](#)). That said, we've partnered with Google to build an AI tool to monitor public posts for content that suggests self-injury or attempting suicide is a risk. Once raised to our attention, our moderation team reviews the content to determine if we need to take specific action to de-escalate a crisis.

With continued investment in technology solutions, our team is excited to explore new functions to help enhance user trust and safety on our platform. We recently released an image-screening tool that will work to block users from uploading certain types of inappropriate content to the site. If a user tries to upload an unsafe image that violates our guidelines, TrevorSpace will work to prevent the user from uploading it in the first place.

As we look to the future, our team continues to invest in new safety learnings and products to help keep all users safe.

**“ ”**

**The Trevor Project saved my life a few years ago. I joined TrevorSpace because I found it was the most caring and compassionate community. I can feel safe to speak my mind, knowing that there’s always someone on TrevorSpace who’s willing to listen.**

- TrevorSpace User





# Printouts



# Find Your Community at TrevorSpace.

**Meet friends just like you** - With more than 450,000 accounts on TrevorSpace, it's easy to start a discussion, get peer advice, and find peer support from other members in similar situations. With 500+ existing clubs on TrevorSpace, you can quickly find and connect with new friends who share your interests and hobbies anytime, anywhere.

**Explore your identities** - TrevorSpace offers online discussion forums, clubs, and access to resources to help you explore your identities, find support, and feel like you belong at every phase in your journey.

- Be accepted for who you are
- Find peer support
- Meet new friends
- Start a discussion with new friends
- Feel safe with our moderators nearby

**Get the help you need, when you need it** - Whether you want to come out, talk about a family challenge, discuss relationships, share your art, post the latest meme, or tell others what's on your mind, TrevorSpace can help you start a conversation with someone who understands.

**Safely talk to others in our moderated community** - Our team of online moderators and AI-technology help enable a secure, members-only safe space where you can be yourself. With a focus on safety, you can securely and discreetly access the resources you need, when you need them.



TrevorSpace is an affirming, international community for LGBTQ young people ages 13-24. Sign up and start a conversation now.

Sign up today at [www.trevorspace.org](http://www.trevorspace.org)

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- **Be accepted for who you are**
- **Find peer support**
- **Meet new friends**
- **Start a discussion with new friends**
- **Feel safe with our moderators nearby**

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# Additional Resources

## Helpful Links

- <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>
- <https://www.trevorspace.org/>
- <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/research/>
- <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/crisis-services/>
- <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/blog/>
- <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/advocacy/>
- <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/public-education/>

*Other questions? [Reach out to us directly!](#)*



The Trevor Project is the leading suicide prevention organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBTQ) young people.



@TheTrevorProject



@TrevorProject