The Power of LGBT Alliances

As a recent small town high school graduate and freshman in the Education program at the University of Regina, I have no doubt witnessed many situations where individuals have been targeted because of their gender, age, race or sexual orientation. It is time that everybody sticks together in accepting people's differences in hopes of forming a harass free and diverse society. The biggest current issue that I repeatedly see on a daily basis is homophobic comments or jokes made by many people who I am close to. As a future teacher, I will have a lot of power in resolving these issues which are seen around many schools these days.

The first step in helping people who are targeted because of their sexual orientation would be forming a LGBT alliance club. I am a person who loves to get involved and active around the school and community, so my first action as a new teacher will be creating a new LGBT club. I strongly believe that a club such as this will open the eyes to many people in showing how many people actually are in alliance with these "different" people. Within this organized club around the school, I would work hard in advertising support and a bully free zone for LGBT people. Since this plan of mine is a couple years down the road, there are other things that my friends and I could do to stop LGBT from getting targeted today.

A solution to ending sexual orientation discrimination can be something as simple as ending homophobic comments within conversations with friends and family. When I hear people making fun of people because of their sexual orientation, I always tell them to stop because it is wrong and they can be whoever they want to be and do whatever they want to do. If everybody stopped their friends from making these inappropriate comments then this would simply reduce any sexual discrimination.

As I learned in an education core studies class during my first year of university, being straight is just seen as normal by the society, however it is one of many dichotomies that is false and just a myth. If as individuals we can change the understanding of "normal" within our society, then everybody could just be themselves without worrying about getting targeted or harassed by others. As an educator, we need to teach the youth that there are no rules to sexual orientation and you can be who you want and love who you want without other people constantly judging. If the students are taught this at a younger age then we can construct a better and more knowledgeable society in hopes that they grow up with having no exact rules to sexual orientation.

Individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender should not have to feel unsafe when going to school each and every single day. Schools should be a safe place where students can express their true selves without getting bullied or targeted while there. All teachers and parents play an important role in our society in properly guiding the youth to think differently and more positively when it comes to other people's sexual identity and orientation. With the support of a LGBT alliance in schools, I strongly feel that it would decrease or eliminate the possibility of targeting people who have different sexual orientations than ordinary people. After all, we are all just people, no matter our sexual orientation and who we choose to be each and every single day.