

Anthropology in Texas LGBTQ Advocacy

Rachel Adams Gonzales
Education and Resource Coordinator



What does an Education and Resource Coordinator do?

- **Empower:** When youth and parents are empowered to advocate for themselves, they can achieve a learning environment where trans youth can thrive.
- **Educate:** If educators understand what it means to be trans, they will help create the learning environment trans kids need.
- **Policy:** Having written non-discrimination and bullying policies, and clear practices to address bathroom access and name and gender marker usage
- **Support:** provide advocacy training and education; facilitate peer-to-peer support

Why is this work needed in Texas?

Trans youth are in distress. At school, too many kids don't have bathroom access, protection from bullying, or support from their teachers and administrators. Kids also need support and understanding from their immediate and extended families.



How does my anthropology degree support my work?

- **Networking:** connecting with members of the LGBTQ community and parents of LGBTQ youth
- **Understanding:** processing how and why families might be at greater risk or discriminated against more or less in their communities
- **Strategizing and Supporting:** helping to create and maintain safe environments for all members of the community