



JANE CLEMENTI'S LETTER TO THE NEW YORK TIMES

The New York Times

Opinion
LETTERS

I Lost My Son. Support L.G.B.T.Q. Youth.

Jane Clementi, the mother of Tyler Clementi, discusses anti-transgender rights bills in state legislatures. Also: Stacking the federal courts.

[Click here](#) to read Jane Clementi's New York Times letter discussing anti-transgender rights bills that are currently under debate in many state legislatures. As her letter suggests, many elected officials are alienating trans youth by debating their right to express their gender identities. Jane writes, *"Not only is it wrong for elected officials to try to dictate and control the very personal journey that trans youth face, but it is also incredibly harmful for them to hear their unique identities discussed and codified as if something is wrong with them. This language can only be described as bullying."*

Please consider sharing this message with others, or contacting your elected officials to let them know that you stand in solidarity with transgender rights. Finally, the ACLU regularly updates their [tracking of anti-trans rights bills](#) across the country, this is a great resource for staying up to date on where more advocacy is needed.

DIGITAL WELLNESS TIPS FOR YOUTH



As more of us experience school closures and physical distancing measures, we encourage families to discuss ways for young people to engage safely online. As you know, being an [#Upstander](#) is just as important in our digital spaces. In order to promote wellness and positivity on the internet and social media:

- **Ask young people to share how their experiences with social media have changed during the response to COVID-19.**
- **Practice and encourage regular social media breaks.**
- **Seek out users who promote positive stories, avoid users who spread negative or toxic messages.**
- **If young people witness cyberbullying, tell them to: (1) save evidence, (2) not respond, (3) talk to trusted family members, (4) reach out to the target of bullying.**

ONE WEEK LEFT - APPLY TO BE A YOUTH AMBASSADOR!



[Click here](#) to apply to become a Youth Ambassador with the Tyler Clementi Foundation. Please apply by Tuesday, March 31, 2020 to be considered for this year's Youth Ambassador cohort.

The Youth Ambassadors program emerged to highlight young leaders across America who are working to end all forms of bullying by developing change-making campaigns, organizing fundraisers, and leading activities, on and offline, to help prevent bullying. Read more about our [Youth Ambassadors here](#). If you have questions about the program or the application process, e-mail Program Manager Ryan Smith at Ryan@tylerclementi.org.

SIGN OR SHARE OUR #UPSTANDER PLEDGE



We hope you will continue to share our message to help us reach our goal of 1 million #Upstanders by October 2020 and we encourage you to sign our [#Upstander pledge](#). And, as always, we hope you use our [#Day1](#) tool kit to create safe spaces for your community.

Please consider sharing your Upstander story with us as well!

Jane Clementi

CoFounder & CEO of Tyler Clementi Foundation



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The Tyler Clementi Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to end online and offline bullying in schools, workplaces, and faith communities.



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