

How To Use This Kit

The information, activities, and resources provided in this Kit are designed to help you address the issues raised in the documentary film and additional DVD material. In addition to the film, extended interview footage with the cast and creative team highlights particular issues of concern to families, schools, and communities, such as school-based harassment and the emotional costs of coming out, that can be explored more fully using the information and resources about creating safe schools, becoming an ally, and tips for how to talk with your child, teen, or peers. Because the play on which the film is based is set in a girls' summer camp, the film and extended interviews focus on girls' experiences. However, the issues raised in this Kit, as well as the activities, discussion questions, and resources, address the needs and experiences of LGBTQ youth more broadly. Indeed we hope the film and Kit will be used to educate all youth, parents, and educators and will inspire people to take action against all forms of biased-based bullying and harassment.

The Kit is divided into three broad areas: Educators, Parents, and Youth, with additional information on Teen Suicide Risk and Prevention. In addition, we offer a range of activities designed for teens and adults interested in exploring their thoughts and feelings about the issues raised in the Kit. Finally, we list resources for adults and youth.



This symbol beside discussion questions at the end of each section indicates a corresponding chapter on the Community Action Kit portion of the DVD that contains relevant clips of interviews with *Ugly Ducklings* cast members, parents, and other lesbian teens.

Every school, community, and family is different. We encourage you to become familiar with the various parts of the Kit and to use them in ways that suit your particular context and needs.

This Kit can be used with teens in small groups; at home with family members; with Gay-Straight Alliances or school-based Civil Rights Teams; in school health classes; by mental or medical health providers; by community coalitions; with faith-based youth groups; or as a catalyst for wider community conversations.

We especially recommend on-going conversations that draw on a combination of the film, DVD interview clips, handouts, resources, educational materials, and Kit activities.

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