# LGBTQ+ BOOKS Mirrors and Windows for Students

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## Description

Two authors discuss how their books fit into the history and struggle for LGBTQ+ rights and how these texts can serve as mirrors and windows, allowing some students to see themselves in the pages of a book and enabling others to grow in their understanding and empathy, thus creating a more inclusive school environment.

#### Outcomes

#### Participants will:

- discover some of the challenges LGBTQ+ students face,
- be introduced to books that can help students better understand their own identities (mirrors) and the identities of others (windows),
- become better equipped to use books with LGBTQ+ themes.

LGBTTTQQIA Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender **Two-spirited** Transexual Queer Questioning Intersex Asexual Ally

### MIRRORS AND WINDOWS

"When lighting conditions are just right, however, a window can also be a mirror." --Rudine Sims

Bishop

### LGBTQ+ STUDENT STRUGGLE



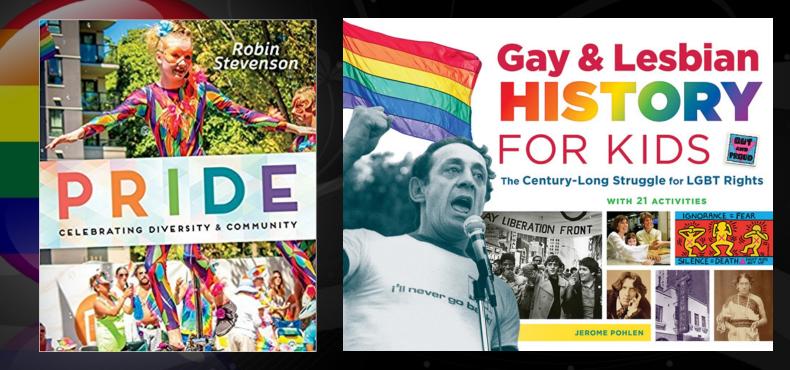
#### LGBTQ+ STUDENT STRUGGLE



Only 22.4% of LGBTQ students have indicated they have experienced an inclusive curriculum. (*The 2015 National School Climate Survey*, GLSEN)

### LGBTQ+ HISTORY

- Books help us learn history.
- Teachers and librarians must know history and make books available.

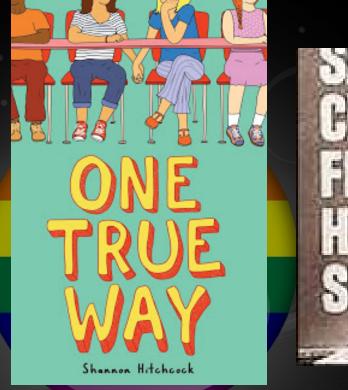


## LGBTQ+ History

Dr. Gayle E. Pitman says it's important to teach kids LGBTQ+ history in order to:

- Boost self esteem
- Prevent and counteract stereotypes
- Promote empathy
- Help children become more socially aware
- Help prevent bullying and harassment
- Help children develop perspective-taking skills
- Give all children the opportunity to visualize themselves in a wider range of careers.

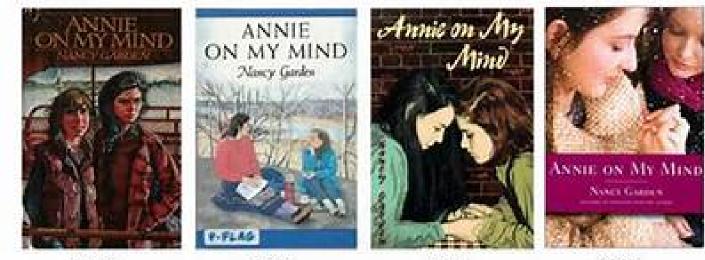
## ONE TRUE WAY by Shannon Hitchcock





PUBLISHED: FEBRUARY 27, 2018

## A Mirror and a Window for Shannon



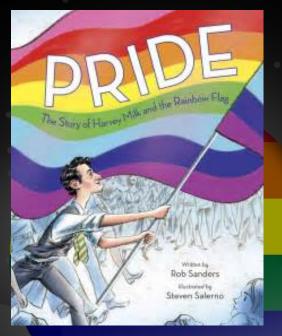
1982

1998

1992

2007

## PRIDE: THE STORY OF HARVEY MILK AND THE RAINBOW FLAG by Rob Sanders





#### PUBLISHED APRIL 2018

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PROP 6 THREATENS EVERYONE.



## PRIDE: THE STORY OF HARVEY MILK AND THE RAINBOW FLAG by Rob Sanders





## STONEWALL: A BUILDING. AN UPRISING. A REVOLUTION. by Rob Sanders

#### **COMING APRIL 2019**





# A Mirror for Rob

#### **BOOKS WITH LGBTQ+ THEMES**

"You have to give them hope. Hope for a better world, hope for a better tomorrow . . ."

-Harvey Milk

Give them hope. Give them a book.

#### **BOOKS WITH LGBTQ+ THEMES**

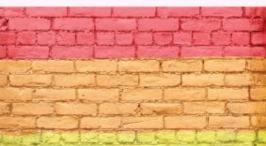
Do you have favorite LGBTQ+-themed books to use with students?

What are they?

Look for our posts on Facebook and Twitter and comment with a favorite title. Let's grow the canon!

## An LGBTQ+ Textbook





Queer Adolescent Literature as a Complement to the English Language Arts Curriculum



Edited by PAULA GREATHOUSE, BROOKE EISENBACH, and JOAN F. KAYWELL

### RECOGNIZING AND FACING THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

With a partner discuss this question:

What challenges will I face/have I faced introducing LGBTQ+ books at my school?

## PLANNING TO MEET THE CHALLENGES HEAD ON



Before you make a plan, put a face to the LGBTQ+ community. Think of a student you currently teach or have taught who might find a mirror in LGBTQ+ literature.

## PLANNING TO MEET THE CHALLENGES HEAD ON

#### Ally & Advocate

**Book Expert** 

#### Conversations, Coalitions & Collaborations

"Rights are won only by those who make their voices heard." *—Harvey Milk*