

## **Open Letter from LGBT Rights Organizations Demanding Justice for Trayvon Martin**

*A coalition of national lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights organizations, led by the National Black Justice Coalition and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, issued the following open letter on Monday, July 15, 2013:*

We cannot begin to imagine the continued pain and suffering endured by Trayvon Martin's family and friends. We stand in solidarity with them as they continue to fight for justice, civil rights and closure. And we thank everyone who has pushed and will continue to push for justice.

Trayvon Martin deserves justice and his civil rights. We support the organizations and community leaders who are urging the federal government to explore every option to ensure that justice is served for Trayvon and that his civil rights are honored and respected. But our work does not end there: we will honor Trayvon Martin by strengthening our commitment to end bias, hatred, profiling and violence across our communities.

We represent organizations with diverse lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender constituencies. Our community has been targets of bigotry, bias, profiling and violence. We have experienced the heart-breaking despair of young people targeted for who they are, who they are presumed to be, or who they love: Rashawn Brazell, Lawrence King, Ali Forney, Brandon Teena, Brandon White, Matthew Shepard, Marco McMillian, Angie Zapata, Sakia Gunn, Gwen Araujo and countless others.

Every person, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity, must be able to walk the streets without fear for their safety.

Justice delayed is justice denied and in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "a right delayed is a right denied." We honor Trayvon by seeking justice for all people.

All Out  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Believe Out Loud  
BiNet USA  
Bisexual Resource Center  
Center for Black Equity  
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers  
Consortium of Higher Education LGBT Resource Professionals  
Equality Federation  
Family Equality Council  
Freedom to Work  
Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network  
Gay-Straight Alliance Network (GSA Network)  
GetEQUAL  
GMHC  
GLAD  
GLAAD  
Harvey Milk Foundation  
Human Rights Campaign  
Immigration Equality  
Lambda Legal  
Movement Advancement Project  
National Black Justice Coalition

National Center for Lesbian Rights  
National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs  
National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce  
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force  
National Minority AIDS Council  
National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance  
Out & Equal Workplace Advocates  
PFLAG National  
The Trevor Project  
Trans Advocacy Network  
Transgender Law Center  
Trans People of Color Coalition