

## Queer Liberation

In 2024, LGBTQ+ rights in the South are **under attack** in more ways than ever before. From **access to healthcare** to the **freedom of expression** through drag, the **fight for queer liberation continues**.

But this fight might not be immediately apparent in some spaces. The **intersection of LGBTQ+ rights** and other social justice issues highlights all the ways discriminatory lawmakers are seeking to **erase this community in every sphere of society** — and how **marginalized communities** must **stick together** and **fight for one another**.

## Resources

- Human Rights Campaign
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Prison Policy Initiative
- The Gender Policy Report
- American Journal of Public Health



**SOUTHERN  
COALITION**  
for SOCIAL JUSTICE

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Social Justice is  
**Queer  
Justice**



## Voting Rights

- \* At least 515 anti-LGBTQ+ bills have been introduced in state legislatures across the United States in 2024.
- ✧ In 2023, the North Carolina Supreme Court reinstated a voter ID law, which both discriminates against voters of color and creates barriers for transgender and nonbinary voters.
- \* Only one-fifth (21%) of transgender people who have transitioned have been able to update all of their IDs.
- ✧ 90% of LGBTQ+ Southerners live without nondiscrimination laws
- \* 6 anti-LGBTQ+ bills have been filed in the NC General Assembly in 2024.
- ✧ These bills range from healthcare restrictions to sports restriction to forced outings in schools.

## Justice System Reform

- \* 20% of youth in prison identify as LGBTQ+, compared to just 9% of the general population.
- ✧ In 2024, a judge ruled the NC Department Of Adult Correction violated a transgender woman's rights by denying her gender-affirming medical care.
- \* More than one in four transgender people report experiencing physical force by police.
- ✧ LGBTQ+ people were less willing to call the police for help in the future compared with non-LGBTQ+ people.
- \* LGBTQ+ people were more likely to be the subject of police search, detention, or arrest and more likely to be placed in police custody.

## Environmental Justice

- \* LGBTQ+ people are more likely to be displaced after a disaster.
- ✧ After a disaster, LGBTQ+ people are more likely to be socially isolated, face disrespect or harassment.
- \* This includes instances of people being turned away from shelters and aid, or having to lie about their relationship status.
- ✧ Gay neighborhoods have a higher amount of air pollutants compared to neighborhoods with predominantly straight couples.
- \* LGBTQ+ people are more likely to be employed in occupations with environmental hazards.
- ✧ Poor air and water quality during disasters can make those living with HIV more susceptible to opportunistic infections.