

# GSA Day 4 Gender Justice Discussion Guide



## We're glad you're here.

Welcome to the 2025 GSA Day 4 Gender Justice Discussion Guide.

This guide offers you and your peers a series of resources, vocabulary, and discussion topics to help your GSA club and TQ2S+ youth collectives organize around Gender Justice issues that are relevant to your local communities and campuses.

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## **Dear GSA Clubs**,

Happy GSA Day for Gender Justice!



GSA Day 4 Gender Justice is a national day of action that invites GSA clubs, youth leaders, and trusted allies to center trans, queer and Two Spirit (TQ2S+) youth by mobilizing for our liberation. Since 2018, GSADay4GJ has highlighted individual points of the National Trans Youth Council's Nine-Point Platform.

This year's GSADay4GJ amplifies Point 7 of the TRUTH Platform: We Call for the End of Global White Supremacy.

As TQ2S+ youth, we embody the possibilities of self-expression, beyond boxes and borders. Our council developed this discussion guide as an invitation and reference for those of us looking to facilitate impactful conversations and take direct action to protect our communities.

We have seen the many ways that our GSA clubs and TQ2S+ youth collectives are transforming schools and communities in the service of all young people, regardless of gender identity. We know that now is the time to re-affirm and re-amplify that trans, queer and Two Spirit youth exist, belong, and have the right to self-determination.

This day of action is about calling for our freedom from the boundaries that white supremacy imposes on our communities and our destinies.

We demand transformative and healing justice.

We demand equity and freedom from all limitations and restrictions that white supremacy upholds.

We demand full control of our destinies.

We believe in our power to hold space and conversation, and we know that TQ2S+ youth across the nation are ready to take action!

In solidarity and with love & care,

National Trans Youth Collective of GSA Network

Letter from TRUTH D4GJ Discussion Guide

## **Starter Vocab Kit**

During General Assembly, you might come across words or phrases that are new to you. This starter vocabulary list is here to help you learn and stay engaged in the conversation.

Term	<b>Definition</b>
#GSADay4GJ	A hashtag for GSA Day 4 Gender Justice that you can use to share any art, poetry, conversations, etc that come from engaging with our discussion guide questions!
National TRUTH Council	Short for "Trans Youth" council, a national GSA Network program that centers healing and political justice through storytelling and community.
Call to Action	"Next steps," that are offered to everyone after a gathering in an effort to guide our work TOGETHER. Everyone has a role to play in our fight for TQ2S+ liberation!
Zine	A zine, short for "magazine" or "fanzine" is a do-it-yourself publication that uplifts one's artistic style and fosters community connection. Anyone can make a zine about anything! We use zines to platform and showcase TQ2S+youth voices and talents.
State of the Movement	All of the things that are going on politically and socially on a large scale that impacts or influences the ways we organize and gather together.
TQ2S+ and Two Spirit	TQ2S+ stands for Trans, Queer, Two Spirit+. Two Spirit is an Indigenous term describing people with both masculine and feminine spirits, reflecting gender, community role, or spirituality. We use TQ2S+ to honor Indigenous understandings of gender and sexuality that existed long before colonization.
Senate Bill I2(SB I2)	A Texas Senate Bill proposing to ban programs and discussions relating to race, gender identity, and sexual orientation in all public and charter schools in Texas from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. In short, a bill that would ban young folks from starting their own GSA or affirming clubs!

## The Nine Point Platform \*\*



We, the National TRUTH Council of 2017-18, draft this document in the radical tradition of creating manifests in order to define our revolution and achieve liberation. The manifesto was inspired by and builds upon the Black Panther Party's Ten-Point Program, the Young Lord's 12 Point Program and Platform, and the Third World Gay Revolution. The platform is not a static document, but a living one, so that it may be updated and changed to reflect the council's increasing understanding of the systems of oppression and the changes in the language we use to describe both ourselves and these systems.

We are in a moment that calls for us to bravely and ferociously fight for our communal liberation. At this moment, in the name of our transgender and gender nonconforming ancestors who struggled before us, in our blood, bones, and our spirits, we claim our right to exist and our future victory with these frameworks to auide our own work and the work of future generations on our collective, continuous journey towards liberation.

## 1. We Call for the Right to Self-Determination and **Control of Our Destinies**

We as trans youth have the right to control our narratives, spaces, and all aspects of our lives. Resources to achieve this trans empowerment must be made more readily accessible and available.

## 2. We Call for the Abolition of — the Police, ICE, Borders and the Judicial System

We demand abolition! Abolition of the police, abolition of borders and ICE, abolition of the current punishment-based justice system. We demand for our communities to be empowered to take care of themselves, for no borders, for rehabilitation and healing justice. Abolition is a process that we are committed to fighting for.

## 3. We Call for an End to Disposability Politics and a **Commitment to Transformative** Commit Justice

We believe in establishing a culture of accountability that is transformative in nature and creates an opportunity for growth. We must take responsibility and hold space for the collective well-being and unity of our people.

## 4. We Call for an End of the Cisgender Heterosexual **Patriarchy**

We recognize that the current state of the world centralizes the stories of white cisgender heterosexual men. We call for the end of a social structure that separates or determines the value of people on gender expectations from historical Europe. We demand that queer and/or TGNC people no longer be oppressed by these frameworks, institutions, and their enablers.

5. We call for Decolonization and Reparations for all Indigenous and Black Peoples

We call for the payment of reparations that are owed and the reclamation of cultural practices by the communities from which they originated. We call for the active and complacent perpetrators of cultural appropriation and colonization to be held accountable and to recognize the privilege they maintain through the oppression of others.



## **6.** We Call for Comprehensive Education that Reflects our Histories and Needs

We call for the use of informed educational practices that provide access to curriculum to help build opportunities for historically erased peoples. We call for free and non-compulsory education for all ages and for all access levels.

## 7. We Call for an End to Global White Supremacy

We call for the end of this racist system that profits off of the devaluing of Black people, Indigenous people and all other people of color. We believe in exposing the history of global white supremacy and its discriminatory practices.

#### 8. We Call for Land Justice and Environmental Justice

We call for the recognition and Indigenous reclamation of stolen lands. We call for conscious creation through choosing to stay local and sustainable, remembering that our actions last for generations.

## 9. We Invite our Comrades, Accomplices and Allies to Join Us

We invite our comrades in struggle who align with our principles, including those who have yet to self-determine their relationship to the struggle, to join us in solidarity, coalition, and liberation -- remembering the revolution is a relationship.

Nine Point Platform D4GJ Discussion Guide

## **Discussion Guide**

Notes for facilitator: Be sure to open the space with these questions. It offers folks the chance to name the state of their heart, mind, and body. It encourages participants to either share out loud or in the chat box. We recognize there are a lot of outside worldly conditions that are impacting folks at this moment. The world has an impact on us and how we navigate potentially heavy conversations. Remember to thank everyone for sharing!

What is your name and pronouns?

# Ask folks to share!

What is in your heart, mind, and body? Or in one word, how are you feeling?

## Share the theme of this year's day of action + Community Agreements (5 minutes)

Notes for facilitator. Remind folks that because of the nature of the theme some conversations might be a lot. Let folks know to make space for themselves if needed. It would be good to come up with community agreements you all would like to follow as you share space together. We included some examples as a good starting point.

# This year the theme of the year is: We Call for an End to Global White Supremacy

TRUTH's website reads: We call for the end of this racist system that profits off of the devaluing of Black people, Indigenous people and all other people of color. We believe in exposing the history of global white supremacy and its discriminatory practices.

Discussion Guide D4GJ Discussion Guide

# What Community Agreements do we want to have in this space?

## **Make Space, Take Space**

(Facilitator Notes: Make sure everyone is mindful of the space they take up and allow for others to share)

## Speak from "I"

(Facilitator Notes: We want to make sure we are all speaking from "I" to not make generalizations about people)

## **Consider Power**

(Facilitator Notes: We all come from different walks of life and want to ensure we recognize the privileges we hold)

## Put up a "v" or say "vocab check"

(Facilitator Notes: For vocabulary check! People might say words others do not know and this would be a good practice to make sure everyone is on the same page)

# Discussion Questions

What is this group's working definition of white supremacy?

Note: A working definition does not have to match up with any dictionary's definition if the group's definitions are different. Working definitions simply help narrow in on what aspects of a concept the group is actually talking about at a given moment.

Where does white supremacy show up in your communities? Day-to-day? Long-term?

How can white supremacy impact queer, trans, and two-spirit people of all races and ethnic backgrounds?

How does white supremacy show up in trans spaces? (give tangible, real life examples)

Have you seen a piece of media (a book, movie, tv show, social media content, etc) challenge white supremacy or uplift TQ2S+ experiences from a non-white lens?

HOW does your media create space for stories from Black and Brown lenses?
What does engaging with this media do for you, personally?

Has lack of diverse media representation ever impacted how you feel as a trans or queer person? What happens when we don't carve out space for Black and Brown TQ2S+ stories in the media?

Add your own questions below!

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## **Take Action Today!**

#### **Register your GSA Club!**

It's officially back—to—school season and GSAs are
Here To Stay! Whether your club is a school based
GSA, a community based GSA, or a TO2S+ youth
gathering space — you're eligible to join! Register
your GSA club and join a national network of trans,
queer and Two Spirit youth today!

**Website:** https://gsanetwork.org/gsa-registration/

**Expand Your Club's Toolkit!** — Explore Star Freedom School, a youth—rooted political education space centered in community organizing and ancestral memory. We offer tools, trainings, curricula and fellowship opportunities for TO2S+ youth to build power locally and nationally.

**Website: https://www.starfreedomschool.org/** 

#### **Lead a Campaign!**

Pick an issue in your school or state affecting TO2S+ youth. Organize, strategize, and launch a youth-led campaign on GSAsUNITE - an exclusive platform for GSA clubs. Connect with GSA club members across the nation and make your voices impossible to ignore.

Website: https://unite.gsanetwork.org/

## **Take Action Today!**

## **Host a Club or Community Event!**

Intentionally uplift and honor the legacies, stories, and experiences of trans and Two Spirit youth! Draw inspiration from our Trans Joy Zines and lead a storytelling project for your club and community!

## **Expand your Support/Care Ecosystems!**

Discover and build community with other youth, elders, and families! Work with your club to connect with a local or statewide TO2S+ organization, attend a local volunteer event, and engage in mutual aid networks!

## **Engage with this Discussion Guide!**

Understand your role in the history, lessons, and strategies of TO2S+ movements and ancestors practicing collective study with your peers! Use this discussion guide to help facilitate your club's study!

## Resources

#### What is the TRUTH Council reading to guide their study?

#### • TRUTH Nine-Point Platform, TRUTH Council 2018

 We use the platform created by TRUTH's now-alumni to help center and guide our work. As we work through each point, we check back and look ahead for intersecting areas of activation.

## Combahee River Collective Statement, Combahee River Collective

 This is one of our guiding texts for TRUTH and GSA! While there are many works that delve into Black feminist thought, this one touches on a bit of the past, present, and future of broader movement work.

#### • The Color Pynk, Omise'eke Natasha Tinsley

 An excellent deep dive into the cultural aspects of what it means to be a Black femme. It basically rips apart everything that is blocking Black femme joy.

#### Unapologetic, Charlene A. Carruthers

 Great for knowing how to move in the world while going against cultural standards and unjust movements.
 Teaches us to be Unapologetic in demanding what is right!

#### Letter to the Universe, Ivy Aberdeen

 A very good Queer book that actually speaks to being a queer youth!

Resources D4GJ Discussion Guide

## Resources

## • Parable of the Sower, Octavia E. Butler

 This novel is an all-too-real story of what a post-apocalyptic world could look like from a young organizer's perspective.
 Written in 1993 and taking place in 2021, we pick apart which of Butler's predictions became our realities and begin to examine the "why" behind all of it.

#### • Rest is Resistance, Tricia Hersey

• In the name of healing justice, we know that while we cannot "self-care" our ways out of the issues we face, we have more control of our rest than we often realize. This book offers creative ways to engage in rest and play that nourish our bodies and sustain our spirits while we engage in the labor of organizing.

#### Your Silence Will Not Protect You, Audre Lorde

 Collection of essays and poems by Audre Lorde that highlight the importance of using our voices and the power that we have to control our own destinies and care for one another.
 This is Black feminist thought.

## • The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House (essay)

This is a text that many come across at some point or another!
 Check it out now and compare notes with a friend!

#### • killing rage, bell hooks

 A straight and to the point dismantling of anti-Black racism by the one and only bell hooks. Take what you need, leave what you don't!

Resources D4GJ Discussion Guide



