

# Stonewall

Rt Hon Rishi Sunak,  
10 Downing St,  
London,  
SW1A 2AB

To the Prime Minister Rishi Sunak,

We, as a community of LGBTQ+ individuals and allies, are writing to demand immediate action on banning conversion practices. Conversion practices are abhorrent forms of abuse targeted at LGBTQ+ people for being who they are. Your government promised to ban this abuse, yet it appears you will break this promise.

It has been over five years since the UK Government first promised to ban conversion therapy – unethical, harmful and ineffective practices, which have been condemned by religious leaders and medical professionals worldwide. But instead of taking decisive action to legislate, as countries such as Canada, New Zealand, France, and Spain have done, plans have delayed time and again. Now, by letting the clock run out, you are showing callous disregard for the harm faced by LGBTQ+ people. You are giving the green light for abusers to continue unhindered. You are letting down survivors and victims of abuse across this country.

The consequences of your inaction on this pertinent issue have been, and continue to be, significant. The government's own National LGBT Survey found that 7% of LGBT respondents had been offered or undergone conversion therapy. People were targeted in medical, psychiatric, psychological, religious, and cultural settings. These are places everyone should feel safe.

These are not just statistics – these are real people. And every one of these people has a story. Every single one may have had experiences ranging from feelings of rejection and fear to life-long trauma and suicidal ideation. Several will have followed through on these ideations.

Procrastination in the face of this suffering follows a trend of inaction. We have seen rising hate crimes, debilitating lack of access to life-saving healthcare, and doubts cast on support for inclusive education in schools. From comments that undermine the rights of LGBTQ+ refugees to asylum, to mockery of the trans community by senior politicians, LGBTQ+ people in the UK feel less safe today. The Home Office's own report linked a rise in hate crimes against transgender people to the heavy discussion of trans issues by politicians and the media.

LGBTQ+ people deserve a government with the will to protect them from harm. This is the last chance for your government to keep one promise to our country's LGBTQ+ constituents. Please do the right thing and legislate for a complete ban on these horrific and life-altering practices.

We want to see a future where all LGBTQ+ people in Britain can live freely and safely and fulfil their potential. As you prepare for a general election, we will be calling on the next UK Government to step forward as a global leader, and recommit to protecting the rights and safety of *all* LGBTQ+ people.

**Stonewall**  
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# Stonewall

Signed,

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Charity Kase

Dan Howell

Daniel Lismore

David Atherton

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Dr Ranj

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Honey Kinny

Jade Thirlwall

Jenny Ryan

Jonbers Blonde

Juno Dawson

Mae Martin

Marshall Arkley

Munroe Bergdorf

Pixie Polite

Rina Sawayama

Romy

Ruby Rare

Russell Tovey

Rylan

Sister Sister

Sum Ting Wong

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