

Please Read

Hey everybody,

Every year at this time, some people observe the Day of Silence. I am one of those people and am not talking until we break the silence at lunch during GSA. You should come, we're having LGBTQ sammiches (lettuce, guac, bacon, tomato & q-cumber [lol]).

One part of me said, "It's too hard—you can't teach without talking. It'll be too much work." When that feeling hit me, I knew I had to try because of friends, colleagues and people I don't know but admire—and all of the times they were afraid to speak, weren't heard or were silenced by society.

Three things will help this work:

- Pay attention--be engaged in class
- Ask me yes or no questions
- Tell me what you need

We can also write on paper/type on the computer. Also some of your peers might be able to help. For longer conversations, find me at lunch or email me.

Every year things happen that make me feel uncomfortable. I hide in my room; I can't joke around to Marco and Alex before school like we always do. One of my Advisees might say hello, and all I can do is awkwardly wave. I felt silenced, left out and misunderstood.

That's why I'll be silent. It's inconvenient--the fact that I can complain about convenience, just shows me how often I am allowed to speak.

FYI:

[The GLSEN Day of Silence](#) is a student-led national event that brings attention to anti-LGBT name-calling, bullying and harassment in schools. Students from middle school to college take a vow of silence in an effort to encourage schools and classmates to address the problem of anti-LGBT behavior by illustrating the silencing effect of bullying and harassment on LGBT students and those perceived to be LGBT.