A BYU administrator unilaterally upended months of careful cooperation between student-led LGBTQ orgs and BYU admin. Resource packets, paid for by donations, were removed from freshman orientation bags. This censorship is completely unacceptable. Our statement:

We are saddened by the actions BYU has taken against its LGBTQ students, and are in the process of working through this. Full statement, for easier reading, is in the thread below:

When BYU Freshman students go to open their NSO gift bags this week, they will no longer find our “Allyship and Activism Resource Guide” in them. These 5,000 booklets listed both BYU and community resources for marginalized students, including;
The RaYnbow Collective @The_RaYnbow · Aug 25

Replying to @The_RaYnbow

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Therapy
Safe Housing
Scholarships
/

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The RaYnbow Collective @The_RaYnbow · Aug 25

Monthly and Weekly Activities
Upcoming Events

A unilateral decision was made against our contract to pull the items and throw them away. We are currently in conversations with BYU to figure out amends and how to move forward. We are grateful for those who have advocated for us
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The RaYnbow Collective @The_RaYnbow · Aug 25

and continue to advocate for us. While we received a refund, we would have rather had these resources available. It took hundreds of hours and over 50 volunteers to provide this packet and other resources. This decision is disappointing and disheartening, especially when we
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The RaYnbow Collective @The_RaYnbow · Aug 25

consider our experiences as freshmen feeling lonely, isolated, and unsupported as queer students. Unfortunately, it follows a consistent pattern of BYU breaking its promises and agreements with LGBTQ+ students. There will always be LGBTQ+ students at BYU, and our goal is
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The RaYnbow Collective @The_RaYnbow · Aug 25

to support all students on campus, especially those who experience discrimination. If you would like to receive a resource booklet, we will be giving them away at Back to School Pride Night on September 3rd at Kiwanis Park. If you would like to support students with easy access /

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to resources, you can donate via our Venmo @raynbowcollective so we can continue printing them. No student should feel alone, and no student should feel rejected by their university because of their identity. We hope BYU improves its adherence to contracts, educates /

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The RaYnbow Collective @The_RaYnbow · Aug 25

its employees on industry-standard diversity and inclusion training, and provides these resource guides in the future for all BYU students.

Signed,
Carolyn Gassert, USGA
Julia Sasine, Cougar Pride Center
Maddison Tenney, The RaYnbow Collective
John Valdez, The OUT Foundation

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The RaYnbow Collective @The_RaYnbow · Aug 25

@usgabyu
@cougarpridectr
@The_RaYnbow
@OUT_Foundation

/end
The RaYnbow Collective @TheRaYnbow · Aug 25

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Show this thread

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- Therapy
- Safe Housing
- Scholarships
- Monthly and Weekly Activities
- Upcoming Events

A unilateral decision was made against our contract to pull the items and throw them away. We are currently in conversations with BYU to figure out amends and how to move forward. We are grateful for those who have advocated for us and continue to advocate for us. While we received a refund, we would have rather had these resources available. It took hundreds of hours and over 50 volunteers to provide this packet and other resources. This decision is disappointing and disheartening, especially when we consider our experiences as freshmen feeling lonely, isolated, and unsupported as queer students. Unfortunately, it follows a consistent pattern of BYU breaking its promises and agreements with LGBTQ+ students. There will always be LGBTQ+ students at BYU, and our goal is to support all students on campus, especially those who experience discrimination. If you would like to receive a resource booklet, we will be giving them away at Back to School Pride Night on September 3rd at Kiwanis Park. If you would like to support students with easy access to resources, you can donate via our Venmo @raynbowcollective so we can continue printing them. No student should feel alone, and no student should feel rejected by their university because of their identity. We hope BYU improves its adherence to contracts, educates its employees on industry-standard diversity and inclusion training, and provides these resource guides in the future for all BYU students.

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