Current Event

NC’S LACK OF PROTECTIONS FOR LGBTQ+ FOLKS

North Carolina is 1 of 31 states that does not offer full protections for LGBTQ+ and Transgender folks in employment, housing, and public accommodations. With almost 275,000 openly LGBTQ folks living in the state, there are 4 laws that actively harm this population including laws regarding relationship and parental recognition, health and safety, LGBT youth, and non-discrimination. This means LGBTQ folks can be denied promotions at work, evicted from their homes, denied medical treatment, kicked out of restaurants, and/or not permitted to correct their name or gender on identity documents.

Source: “Beyond I Do” beyondido.org

Current Event

PITTSBURG SYNAGOGUE SHOOTING

Roberts Bowers, 46, entered into the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburg, PA on October 27th armed with one assault rifle and three handguns. He shouted anti-Semitic slurs as he attacked innocent worshippers, ultimately taking 11 lives. He is charged with 29 criminal counts resulting in a maximum penalty of death. Following the hearing, the case will be presented to a federal grand jury.

Source: USA Today

Put It Into Practice

HOW TO NOT APPROPRIATE WITH COSTUMES

People wearing costumes (especially during Halloween) that represent others’ cultures is problematic and offensive.

Why? According to LSPIRG, cultural appropriation is “taking significant elements from one’s culture and removing all original context” to be popular or cool. It is “a part of white supremacy that gives less opportunities for marginalized folks to exist outside of harmful stereotypes” (Laurier Students’ Public Interest Research Group).

What can I do about it?
1. Reflect on your past experiences. Have you participated?
2. If yes, don’t sit in your guilt.
3. Challenge others by asking why they are wearing the costume.
4. Speak up! Share the knowledge you’ve learned with others.
5. Don’t tolerate appropriative costumes in your presence. Be mindful of party themes too.

Source: http://www.lspirg.org

Program Spotlight

DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

When: Fri, November 16th 5pm
Where: SOEB 114
What: Diwali is one of India’s biggest holidays. It gets its name from the row (avali) of clay lamps (deepa) that Indians light outside their homes. It symbolizes the inner light that protects from spiritual darkness. Visit intercultural.uncg.edu for info.

Source: http://www.lspirg.org