

**General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022  
Archives' Research Report**

**Resolution No.:** 2022-D072  
**Title:** Resolution on Gender and Sexuality Training  
**Proposer:** The Ven. Jan Grinnell  
**Topic:** Gender Identity

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2018-C022 Support End of Discrimination Against Transgender and Non-Binary People  
2018-C054 Adopt Guiding Principles for Inclusion of Transgender and Non-binary People

**Indirectly Related:** (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

None

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.*

# D072 - Resolution on Gender and Sexuality Training

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**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** The Ven. Jan Grinnell

**Endorsed by:** Ms. Cindy Smith, The Rev. Courtney Jones, Ms. Sinead Doherty, Dr. Adam Hamilton-Ferguson

**Requests New Interim Body:** No

**Amends C&C or Rules of Order:** No

**Has Budget Implications:** Yes

**Cost:** \$35,000.00

**HiA:** HD

**Legislative Committee Currently Assigned:** 14 - Christian Formation & Discipleship

**Completion Status:** Incomplete

**Latest House Action:** N/A

**Supporting Documents:** Yes

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## Resolution Text

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention address the urgent need for gender and sexuality training in our church on all levels; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 80th General Convention authorize the use of, and adopt as an official training resource, the Safe Zone Project no-cost 2-hour foundational curriculum; and be it further

*Resolved*, That The Episcopal Church will provide virtual training for at least one representative from each of the Dioceses in the adopted program to train-the-trainers on a diocesan level; and be it further

*Resolved*, each participating Diocese will oversee and document the training of all clergy, Bishops, ordinands, and lay leaders and will issue certificates to participants who successfully complete this training, with training to begin by the 81st General Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the reporting of gender and sexuality training by participating dioceses to The Episcopal Church be included on the Diocesan Parochial Report as is the practice for other trainings such as Safe Church and Anti-Racism; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the 80th General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$35,000 to fund the virtual training of the diocesan trainers.

## **Explanation**

The Episcopal Church (TEC) has recognized the critical need for training for its members in Safe Church and Anti-Racism practices to address protecting those who gather in our midst as well as to promote equality. This training has made a difference in our culture and our actions. These programs were mandated and developed intentionally. There is a critical need for raising gender and sexuality training to the same level of accountability. The Safe Zone Project is a free non-denominational resource that offers a curriculum that provides 'opportunities to learn about gender and sexuality, and examine prejudice, assumptions, and privilege associated with sexual identities' (from Safe Zone Project). The Safe Zone curriculum was originally created in 2013 and receives regular updates. The purpose of this training is to ultimately make our churches and institutions 'safe zones' for all people and help our constituents to be comfortable with all who come to us and know how to be genuinely inclusive.





**Resolution Number:** 2018-C022  
**Title:** Support End of Discrimination Against Transgender and Non-Binary People  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church reaffirm its support for the enactment of laws at the local, state and federal level that prohibit discrimination based on gender identity or the expression of one's gender identity; and be it further*

*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church support legislative, educational, pastoral, liturgical, and broader communal efforts that seek to end the pattern of violence against transgender people in general and transgender women in particular, calling attention especially to the rising violence against transgender women of color and gender non-conforming people; and be it further*

*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church oppose all legislation that restricts public restroom, locker room and shower access for transgender and gender non-conforming people, recognizing that such bills disproportionately impact and contribute to a pattern of violence against transgender women and non-binary identified people; and be it further*

*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church ask dioceses and parishes to remove barriers to full participation in congregational life by making their gender-specific facilities and activities fully accessible to all, regardless of gender identity and expression; and be it further*

*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church direct the Office of Government Relations to advocate for passage of federal legislation that protects transgender and gender non-conforming persons from discrimination; and be it further*

*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church urge dioceses, parishes, and Episcopalians to advocate for passage and enactment of similar legislation at the local and state level.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 421.



**Resolution Number:** 2018-C054  
**Title:** Adopt Guiding Principles for Inclusion of Transgender and Non-binary People  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention affirm the following guiding principles for the inclusion of transgender and non-binary people and urge that the Dioceses of the Episcopal Church prayerfully consider adopting and implementing the following guiding principles for the inclusion of transgender and non-binary people in their parishes, missions, schools and camps:

**Guiding Principles for the Inclusion of Transgender and Non-Binary People in Dioceses, Parishes, Missions, Schools and Camps:**

**We believe that all people are created in the image of God and that all people are beloved children of God. Because this is true,**

1. **We will protect the rights and respect the dignity of transgender and non-binary persons, refusing to reject, judge, abuse, belittle or in any way dehumanize them.**
2. **We will engage the complex realities for transgender and non-binary persons in our churches, schools, and camps, and not yield to the temptation to ignore those realities.**
3. **We will recognize and accept our responsibility to protect the privacy of transgender and non-binary persons.**
4. **We will make decisions about how to support transgender and non-binary minors in our schools and camps in sensitive and appropriate communication with their parents.**
5. **We will provide a safe environment for transgender and non-binary persons, for those who support them, and for those who do not understand our commitment to these principles.**
6. **We will stay flexible in response to the complex and changing ramifications of this work by being open to relevant stories, to emerging information, and to the movement of the Holy Spirit.**

And be it further

*Resolved*, That materials to help promote the Guiding Principles of this resolution be developed and curated by the Office of Formation through partnerships with organizations such as Integrity and TransEpiscopal.

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), pp. 945-946.