

Social Justice Watch 0803

[图集精选](#)

[消息精选](#)

['Say her name': Dominique 'Rem'mie' Fells remembered at candlelit vigil](#)

[Amazon Prime series Made in Heaven accused of copying indie film](#)

[BBC swamped with complaints for same-sex kiss on The Next Step](#)

[Boris Johnson pulled out of ditching GRA reform 'on advice of Carrie'](#)

[British stars unite to combat racism and homophobia in music industry](#)

[Ellen DeGeneres reportedly wants to quit to 'recover her personal brand'](#)

[Fintan Warfield: Sinn Féin senator faces 'blatantly homophobic' abuse](#)

[LGBT groups condemn BBC after it quietly cut ties with trans charities](#)

[LGBT youth 'robbed' by coronavirus, says head of The Trevor Project](#)

[Rosie Duffield MP brands 'transphobia' allegations 'a Communist pile-on'](#)

[The Outside Project opens LGBT+ domestic abuse refuge in London](#)

[Washington DC: Police name suspect in 2002 murder of trans teens](#)

来源：[Social Justice Watch](#)

镜像

图集精选

[返回目录](#)



BLUE LIVES
DON'T EXIST

YOUR CAREER
IS A CHOICE



IF YOU ACCEPT
GAY BUT NOT
TRANS PEOPLE,

YOUR "ACCEPTANCE"
IS SHITTY AND
WE DON'T
WANT IT

CANCEL
CULTURE



ISN'T
WORKING



hi i'm matt i'm the creator behind the angry political makeup looks u may have seen floating around social media without credit . i'm gay n that's all u need to know [source](#)

[返回目录](#)

消息精选

[返回目录](#)

[telegra.ph/LGBT-groups-condemn-BBC-after-it-quietly-cut-ties-with-trans-charities-07-31](#)

Telegraph

LGBT groups condemn BBC after it quietly cut ties with trans charities
The heads of Britain's biggest LGBT+ groups have united to demand the BBC reinstate trans-support charities onto its Action Line website and explain why they were removed. All trans-specific charities for England, Scotland and Wales have been removed from...

[telegra.ph/Washington-DC-Police-name-suspect-in-2002-murder-of-trans-teens-07-31](#)

Telegraph

Washington DC: Police name suspect in 2002 murder of trans teens
Police in Washington DC have finally admitted that the killings of two Black trans teenagers almost 20 years ago were “clearly a hate crime”. Ukea Davis, 18, and Stephanie Thomas, 19, were found dead in a car in 2002. Both had been shot at least 10 times....

My sister works at a daycare. One of her coworkers was diagnosed with COVID 19, and the school ONLY notified the people in that woman's classroom, and no other teachers or parents. Now my sister has COVID. [source](#)

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Telegraph

Amazon Prime series Made in Heaven accused of copying indie film
A queer independent filmmaker has accused an Amazon Prime series of ripping off his 2011 anthology film without any credit or acknowledgement. Indian film and TV director and screenwriter Onir accused the creators behind Amazon series Made in Heaven of copying...

[telegra.ph/Ellen-DeGeneres-reportedly-wants-to-quit-to-recover-her-personal-brand-08-01](#)

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Ellen DeGeneres reportedly wants to quit The Ellen DeGeneres Show to "recover her personal brand" amid claims the set is rife with racism, fear and intimidation. WarnerMedia has launched an investigation into the working environment on The Ellen DeGeneres...

[telegra.ph/Rosie-Duffield-MP-brands-transphobia-allegations-a-Communist-pile-on-08-01](#)

Telegraph

Rosie Duffield MP brands 'transphobia' allegations 'a Communist pile-on'
Labour's Rosie Duffield has slammed accusations that she's "transphobic" as a "tedious Communist pile on" amid a heated online row about who can get cervical cancer. The controversy began late last night, when Duffield – who last week in parliament suggested...

[telegra.ph/The-Outside-Project-opens-LGBT-domestic-abuse-refuge-in-London-08-01](#)

Telegraph

The Outside Project opens LGBT+ domestic abuse refuge in London
London's The Outside Project has opened a new LGBT+ domestic abuse refuge, named for transgender pioneers Sylvia Rivera and Marsha P. Johnson. The grassroots organisation, which in 2018 opened the UK's first LGBT+ homeless shelter and community centre, announced...

telegra.ph/Say-her-name-Dominique-Remmie-Fells-remembered-at-candlelit-vigil-08-01

Telegraph

'Say her name': Dominique 'Rem'mie' Fells remembered at candlelit vigil
Philadelphia's Black LGBT+ community has remembered murdered trans woman Dominique 'Rem'mie' Fells with flowers, candles and a vigil. Fells, a Black trans woman whose dismembered body was found in a river in June, was 27 when she died. The vigil, organised...

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/dawnstaceyennis/2020/07/30/house-votes-to-end-trumps-transgender-military-ban>

Forbes

House Votes To End Trump's Transgender Military Ban

If it were to become law, the amendment would block the Pentagon from using Congressionally-approved funds to bar trans Americans from the armed forces.

telegra.ph/Boris-Johnson-pulled-out-of-ditching-GRA-reform-on-advice-of-Carrie-08-02

Telegraph

Boris Johnson pulled out of ditching GRA reform 'on advice of Carrie'
At the last minute, Boris Johnson pulled out of abandoning Gender Recognition Act reform "on the advice" of his fiancée Carrie Symonds, Tory MPs claim. The announcement that Johnson would "scrap" plans to reform the Gender Recognition Act (GRA), which were...

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LGBT youth 'robbed' by coronavirus, says head of The Trevor Project
The coronavirus pandemic has “robbed” LGBT+ youth – who already had a higher risk of mental-health problems – of support, the head of The Trevor Project has written. Writing for the World Economic Forum, Amit Paley, the CEO of youth suicide-prevention organisation...

[telegra.ph/BBC-swamped-with-complaints-for-same-sex-kiss-on-The-Next-Step-08-02](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/BBC-swamped-with-complaints-for-same-sex-kiss-on-The-Next-Step-08-02)

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BBC swamped with complaints for same-sex kiss on The Next Step
The BBC has been swamped with complaints for an episode of The Next Step that showed two teenage girls kissing. The same-sex kiss – the first kiss of two teenage girls falling in love with each other – was aired on CBBC last month and watched by thousands...

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T HEAR, AN 89 YEAR OLD ASIAN AMERICAN WOMAN WAS SLAPPED AND SET ON FIRE IN NYC A FEW WEEKS AGO, COMPLETELY UNPROVOKED. THE TWO MEN WHO DID IT STILL HAVE NOT BEEN FOUND, AND IT'S NOT BEING INVESTIGATED AS A HATE CRIME. [source](#)

[telegra.ph/Fintan-Warfield-Sinn-Féin-senator-faces-blatantly-homophobic-abuse-08-02](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/Fintan-Warfield-Sinn-Féin-senator-faces-blatantly-homophobic-abuse-08-02)

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A gay senator in Ireland has put his social media accounts on private after he was subjected to “blatantly homophobic” abuse from a right-wing political party. Socially conservative political party Aontú, which was formed in 2019 and has just one elected...

no more characters forgiving abusive parents, society has progressed passed the need for characters forgiving their abusive parents [source](#)

[返回目录](#)

'Say her name': Dominique 'Rem'mie' Fells remembered at candlelit vigil

[返回目录](#)



Philadelphia's Black LGBT+ community has remembered murdered trans woman Dominique 'Rem'mie' Fells with flowers, candles and a vigil.

Fells, a Black trans woman whose dismembered body was found in a river in June, was 27 when she died.

The vigil, organised by Philadelphia's Black LGBT+ community and held yesterday (July 31) in West Philly, saw a sea of people chant "Say her name"

and lay candles and flowers next to a mural bearing her name.

Family members of Fells were also in attendance, with her uncle, Roland Williams, speaking on behalf of the family.

“The support is tremendous. It’s something that we couldn’t think of,” said Williams, who also shared memories of his niece.

He continued: “Rem’mie was just always having a good time and laughing. We have a lot of family get togethers, she loved being around her cousins, uncles and aunts. She likes to eat and have a good time.”

“She was great at sewing, great at taking old clothes and making them into something fashionable for her. The sky was unlimited for her. Unfortunately, it was cut short,” said Williams.

Members of Philadelphia’s trans community at the vigil demanded safety and equality, at a time when violence against the trans community – particularly against trans women, and especially Black trans women and trans women of colour – is surging.

Williams added: “They’re looking for equal rights just as we have as people. They want to be seen. They want to be heard and they should be seen and heard.”

Fox29 reports that the vigil was also a fundraiser to benefit three causes, which organisers said were chosen by Rem’mie’s mother. One is Morris Home, Philadelphia’s LGBT+ recovery house.

The community also organised a fundraiser to cover Fells’ funeral costs.

Dominique ‘Rem’mie’ Fells: Black trans woman’s body recovered from river in June.

Fell’s mutilated body was recovered from the Schuylkill river on June 9. Her corpse was stuffed into a suitcase with both legs severed, with stab wounds and evidence of trauma to the face and head.

Police investigating the case have now issued an arrest warrant for a murder

suspect, Akhenaton Jones, after attending a home and discovering blood and a cutting tool believed to be connected to the case, according to *NBC Philadelphia*.

Jones, 36, is said to be an acquaintance of the victim, according to the outlet.

It is unclear if the case is being treated as a hate crime.

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

Amazon Prime series Made in Heaven accused of copying indie film

[返回目录](#)



A queer independent filmmaker has accused an Amazon Prime series of ripping off his 2011 anthology film without any credit or acknowledgement.

Indian film and TV director and screenwriter Onir accused the creators behind Amazon series *Made in Heaven* of copying his award-winning film *I Am* in a series of tweets.

Onir spoke out about the similarities following a tweet from casting director Nalinii Rathnam.

“Did the makers of Made in Heaven ask/take permission/inform Onir before lifting this sequence frame by frame from his National Award winning film *I Am*?” Rathnam asked.

Onir shared the tweet and wrote: “I was quite taken aback when I saw that so

much of that section of *I Am* was not only there as content but shot exactly in the same way.

“But acknowledgement has never been the strength of this industry,” he added.

Queer Indian filmmaker Onir said the similarities between Amazon Prime series *Made in Heaven* and *I Am* are ‘disheartening’.

In a follow-up tweet, Onir said it was “disheartening” to see *Made in Heaven* showered with praise for a scene that was extremely similar to his.

He added: “I am being told that it’s just the incident and many such incidents happen and there were no actual similarities in the way it was executed.”

I was quite taken aback when I saw that so much of that section of *I Am* was not only there as content but shot exactly in the same way.

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

BBC swamped with complaints for same-sex kiss on *The Next Step*

[返回目录](#)



The BBC has been swamped with complaints for an episode of *The Next Step* that showed two teenage girls kissing.

The same-sex kiss – the first kiss of two teenage girls falling in love with each other – was aired on CBBC last month and watched by thousands of viewers.

The Next Step is a Canadian drama following a professional dance studio. In the episode featuring the kiss, friends Jude (Molly Sanders) and Cleo (Dani Verago) perform a duet together – and it becomes clear that their feelings for each other are not purely platonic.

Many viewers have praised CBBC for showing queer youth, but according to The Metro “more than 100” others wrote in to complain.

On its complaints website, the BBC said that the decision to include the kiss

“was taken very carefully and with much consideration”.

Rejecting complaints that showing the kiss was “inappropriate for the audience age”, the broadcaster said that “CBBC regularly portrays heterosexual young people dating, falling in love, and kissing, and it is an important way of showing children what respectful, kind and loving relationships look like”.

Showing the kiss came about after CBBC and Boatrock, the production company who make the show, “acknowledged that the series could and should do more to reflect the lives of LGBTQ+ young people”.

“This is an important part of our mission to make sure that every child feels like they belong, that they are safe, and that they can be who they want to be,” the BBC continued.

“We believe that the storyline, and the kiss, was handled with sensitivity and without sensationalism, following as it did the portrayal of Jude and Cleo’s developing relationship.

“Same-sex relationships have already featured in other CBBC shows such as *Jamie Johnson*, *4 O Clock Club*, *Dixie* and *Marrying Mum and Dad*, and (contrary to what was reported in the press about *The Next Step*) the first same-sex kiss on CBBC was in fact in *Byker Grove*, many years ago.”

Stonewall’s head of policy and research, Eloise Stonborough, praised *The Next Step* episode in a statement to *The Metro* as “an exciting moment for LGBT+ representation”.

“It’s important for everyone to be able to see themselves in mainstream media and to know they have a place in society,” she said.

“When lesbian, gay, bi and trans people aren’t reflected in what they watch, young LGBT+ people can get the impression that there is something is different or wrong about them.

“Representation can help young LGBT+ people understand themselves by relating to lesbian, gay, bi and trans characters, and improves understanding of what it means to be lesbian, gay, bi or trans, which helps everyone to be more accepting.”

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

Boris Johnson pulled out of ditching GRA reform 'on advice of Carrie'

[返回目录](#)



At the last minute, Boris Johnson pulled out of abandoning Gender Recognition Act reform “on the advice” of his fiancée Carrie Symonds, Tory MPs claim.

The announcement that Johnson would “scrap” plans to reform the Gender Recognition Act (GRA), which were initiated by Theresa May’s government in 2017, was expected in June after a *Sunday Times* article reported he was abandoning the reforms.

But Johnson didn’t make the announcement that GRA reform was being dropped.

In a Mail on Sunday article today, Tory MPs claim that Johnson pulled out of

making the announcement that he was dropping GRA reform because of the influence of his fiancée, Carrie Symonds.

A senior source told the *Mail on Sunday*: “Many detect the hand of Carrie in this, but for whatever reason, Boris does not appear to have an appetite for this fight at the moment. He’s got cold feet.”

Instead, Johnson and his minister for women and equalities, Liz Truss, have confirmed they will publish the government’s GRA reform plans “over the summer”.

The anticipated dropping of GRA reform – which would make an administrative process used by a small number of people simpler and less bureaucratic – was fiercely protested by trans allies, including 8,000 cis women who wrote to Truss condemning her anti-trans plans.

GRA reform reportedly backed by 70 per cent of the public.

The Gender Recognition Act is a 2004 law that transgender men and women use to gain legal recognition of their gender.

A huge consultation in 2018, responded to by over 100,000 people, reportedly found that 70 per cent of respondents backed Theresa May’s proposals to “streamline and de-medicalise” the process of legal gender recognition for trans men and women in the UK.

But the government has repeatedly delayed publishing the full results of the public consultation and its proposals for GRA reform off the back of it, amid increasingly toxic public debate about trans lives.

Johnson was “expected to declare that the Government was abandoning moves to allow transgender people to change their birth certificates without a medical diagnosis”, the *Mail* reports.

Pulling out of this announcement was “a blow to Cabinet Minister Liz Truss, who has been fighting a ‘culture war’ within Whitehall to stop the rules being relaxed”, the *Mail* said.

“MPs who supported Ms Truss’s drive have claimed privately that the Prime

Minister backed away from a confrontation with trans activists on the advice of Ms Symonds,” the *Mail* added.

Trans-rights activists had warned that abandoning plans to reform the GRA, coupled with a potential rollback of existing trans rights under the Equality Act 2010, would be a “new Section 28“.

Section 28 was a homophobic law brought in by Margaret Thatcher in 1988 that banned the “promotion of homosexuality” in British schools.

Fears have grown in recent months that the Tories could introduce similar discriminatory plans to erase the existence of transgender people, with Labour’s Nadia Whittome condemning Truss’ “quibbling” over GRA reform for “fanning the flames of populist hate” against trans and non-binary people.

A Downing Street source “categorically denied” the claims in the *Mail*, saying: “This story is untrue. Ms Symonds has not discussed this issue with the Prime Minister.”

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

British stars unite to combat racism and homophobia in music industry

[返回目录](#)



Years & Years, NAO and Rita Ora are among hundreds of stars who are “proudly uniting” to combat systemic racism, homophobia and transphobia in the UK music industry.

Little Mix’s Jade Thirlwall, Chic’s Nile Rogers, Ella Eyre, Jessie Ware and The 1975 are among the 700 artists who have signed an open letter pledging to “combat hate”.

“We are at our worst when we attack one another,” says the open letter, which is signed by artists, managers, record-company executives, songwriters, producers and agencies.

Citing instances of recent “anti-Jewish racism”, after Wiley shared anti-Semitic posts, as well as systemic racism, homophobia, transphobia, islamophobia and xenophobia, the signatories said they “stand together” and want to “wipe out racism”.

Ed Sheeran’s manager, Stuart Camp, and Stevie Wonder’s manager, Keith Harris, have also signed the letter, along with the president of EMI and labels such as Universal Music UK, Warner Music UK and Sony Music UK.

The letter says: “We, representatives from the music industry, write to demonstrate and express our determination, that love, unity and friendship, not division and hatred, must and will always be our common cause.

“In recent months through a series of events and incidents, the anti-black racists and antisemites, plus those who advocate islamophobia, xenophobia, homophobia and transphobia, have repeatedly demonstrated that they clearly want us all to fail.

“Whether it be systemic racism and racial inequality highlighted by continued police brutality in America or anti-Jewish racism promulgated through online attacks, the result is the same: suspicion, hatred and division.

“We are at our worst when we attack one another.

“Minorities from all backgrounds and faiths have struggled and suffered. From slavery to the Holocaust we have painful collective memories. All forms of racism have the same roots — ignorance, lack of education and scapegoating.

“We, the British music industry are proudly uniting to amplify our voices, to take responsibility, to speak out and stand together in solidarity. Silence is not an option.

“There is a global love for music, irrespective of race, religion, sexuality and gender. Music brings joy and hope and connects us all. Through music, education and empathy we can find unity.

“We stand together, to educate and wipe out racism now and for our future generations.”

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

Ellen DeGeneres reportedly wants to quit to 'recover her personal brand'

[返回目录](#)



Ellen DeGeneres reportedly wants to quit *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* to “recover her personal brand” amid claims the set is rife with racism, fear and intimidation.

WarnerMedia has launched an investigation into the working environment on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* following claims that the set is “dominated by fear”.

Three *Ellen* producers have between them been accused of groping and grooming junior staff members, asking employees for sex and creating an atmosphere of intimidation.

Ellen DeGeneres, 62, has long been plagued by rumours of “notoriously mean” behaviour behind the cameras, seemingly at odds with her famously sunny disposition. The allegations have intensified as several reports of a toxic workplace environment surfaced over the past four months.

After months of swirling rumours about the host’s alleged mean behaviour, including that the star is “one of the meanest people alive”, Ellen apologised to staff this week saying she would seek to “correct the issues” moving forward.

And now, reports have emerged that Ellen wants to “shut down the show” in order to “recover her personal brand”, according to the *Daily Mail*.

An “insider” at Telepictures, the production company behind the *Ellen* show, said that the host is telling executives that she has had enough and wants to walk away from the show.

“She feels she can’t go on and the only way to recover her personal brand from this is to shut down the show,” the insider said.

They added: “The truth is she knew what was going on, it’s her show. The buck stops with her. She can blame every executive under the sun – but Ellen is ultimately the one to blame.”

***Ellen* show staff reject DeGeneres apology.**

The news that Ellen DeGeneres wants to quit comes as staff rejected her apology this week.

“Don’t think for a minute anything she has said in that apology means anything. She created and then enabled this toxic culture to go on for so long,” said one staffer, who spoke anonymously to the *Daily Mail*.

“If anyone had come to her or those three vile [executive producers] to complain, they would’ve been fired.”

The Telepictures insider added: “Inside Telepictures we’ve had enough of her. She is a phony who does not practice what she preaches.

“The behaviour of her show executives has been appalling, but [Ellen] is no

better. In fact, she is the worst. It's outrageous that she is trying to pretend that this is all a shock to her. The fish rots from the head, and Ellen is the head."

In her apology letter this week, *US Weekly* reported, DeGeneres said: "On day one of our show, I told everyone in our first meeting that *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* would be a place of happiness – no one would ever raise their voice, and everyone would be treated with respect.

"Obviously, something changed, and I am disappointed to learn that this has not been the case. And for that, I am sorry. Anyone who knows me knows it's the opposite of what I believe and what I hoped for our show."

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

Fintan Warfield: Sinn Féin senator faces 'blatantly homophobic' abuse

[返回目录](#)



A gay senator in Ireland has put his social media accounts on private after he was subjected to “blatantly homophobic” abuse from a right-wing political party.

Socially conservative political party Aontú, which was formed in 2019 and has just one elected representative, shared a photograph of gay Sinn Féin senator Fintan Warfield, which was taken from his personal Instagram account.

The photo showed Warfield wearing a Speedo along with a t-shirt bearing a picture of Pope Francis.

“Why is a Sinn Féin senator purposely seeking to offend people’s religious beliefs?” the tweet said.

Aontú deleted the tweet on 31 July following a barrage of criticism, with many accusing the party of targeting Warfield because of his sexuality.

Irish right-wing party Aontú faced a barrage of criticism for tweeting personal photo of Sinn Féin senator Fintan Warfield.

Twitter user Stephen Todd tweeted: “The attacks on Fintan Warfield are founded in blatant homophobia. Nothing more, nothing less. One of the most inspiring young men I know.”

The attacks on Fintan Warfield are founded in blatant homophobia. Nothing more, nothing less. One of the most inspiring young men I know. Fantastic advocate for young people in the Oireachtas. Proud to call him a comrade

— Stephen Todd (@UbuntuLad) July 31, 2020

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

LGBT groups condemn BBC after it quietly cut ties with trans charities

[返回目录](#)



The heads of Britain's biggest LGBT+ groups have united to demand the BBC reinstate trans-support charities onto its Action Line website and explain why they were removed.

All trans-specific charities for England, Scotland and Wales have been removed from the BBC's Action Line page, which the leading LGBT+ groups slammed as “deeply troubling”.

The ten LGBT+ organisations also accuse the BBC of breaching its “duty of impartiality, as set out in the Royal Charter”.

The BBC quietly dropped three trans-specific charities – Mermaids, Gires and

the Gender Trust – from its Action Line help pages during changes to its “LGBT Issues” and “Gender Identity: Support and Information” pages this month.

This move, which members of the BBC’s internal LGBT+ Pride network were told this week was because of “audience complaints”, has already seen the public-service broadcaster condemned for “bowing down to deliberate and orchestrated hate campaigns” against trans people.

The bosses of leading equalities charities Stonewall, Switchboard LGBT+ Helpline, LGBT+ Consortium, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, The Rainbow Project and the LGBT Foundation have all signed today’s far-reaching letter, which demands the BBC give the affected organisations the opportunity to see and respond to the complaints levelled against them.

“This is a deeply concerning decision, particularly in light of increased misinformation and debate around trans people’s lives, which is being reflected in our national media,” reads the letter, which is also signed by the heads of major transgender charities Gendered Intelligence, Mermaids, GIRES and Sail NI.

“We are seeing continued efforts from a small but motivated group of people to discredit legitimate organisations working in the field of supporting trans people.”

The letter – in which the LGBT+ organisations say they “speak in one voice” in defence of the trans community – was sent this afternoon to the BBC Editorial Policy Department.

The removal of the charities, according to letter, “signals a deliberate removal of authority and approval [of the trans charities] as well as the support they could provide to trans people in need of help”.

The letter adds that trans-support charities “are facing an increasingly toxic and hostile public dialogue around trans lives. They work to support their service users through this toxicity and hostility every day.

“It has been suggested that this dialogue has made the listing of the charities a complex matter. We cannot see the complexity.

“All the charities are dedicated to upholding the rights of this vulnerable

population who are currently facing public humiliation and deliberate misinformation more than ever. That population make up a proportion of your readership and viewers.”

None of the charities were alerted by the BBC before being taken down from Action Line or were given the opportunity to respond.

The BBC’s Pride network said on 15 July that it had spent a week trying to discover the “rationale” for removing the trans charities but admitted it still did not know.

“We are troubled that trans people are the only ones whose access to support has been reduced. Even more so that the action has taken place within an opaque process,” the letter says.

“If the organisations are not reinstated, then the opaque decision-making process is simply inadequate and highly damaging to the BBC’s reputation for impartiality and considered decision-making.”

Last month, senior MPs and LGBT+ activists were among 150 people who branded BBC News “institutionally transphobic” and expressed “serious concerns” about its coverage of trans issues in a letter to BBC News director Kamal Ahmed.

Today, the letter from the UK’s biggest LGBT+ groups added that “opposition to transphobia is a fundamental democratic principle”.

“It is, after all, trans people’s democratic right not to be discriminated against,” the letter says. “It is also the BBC’s imperative not to merely arbitrate between complaints and the fundamental rights of those affected are engaged.”

A BBC spokesperson previously said: “We understand this issue is hugely important for some audiences so our Action Line LBGT Issues page links to gender identity information on the NHS website, which also links through to additional relevant resources.”

PinkNews has contacted the BBC for comment.

Full list of signatories on letter to BBC Editorial Policy Department regarding removal of trans-support charities.

Nancy Kelley, CEO, Stonewall

Natasha Walker, co-chair, Switchboard LGBT+ Helpline

Peter Zacaroli, co-chair, Switchboard LGBT+ Helpline

Paul Roberts, chief executive, LGBT+ Consortium

Hugh Fell, chair of trustees, Family and Friends of Lesbian and Gays

John O'Doherty, director, The Rainbow Project

Paul Martin, chief executive, LGBT Foundation

Susie Green, CEO, Mermaids

Dr Jay Stewart, CEO, Gendered Intelligence

Shaan Surat R Knan, chair, GIRES

Nicola Doran, director, Sail NI

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

LGBT youth 'robbed' by coronavirus, says head of The Trevor Project

[返回目录](#)



The coronavirus pandemic has “robbed” LGBT+ youth – who already had a higher risk of mental-health problems – of support, the head of The Trevor Project has written.

Writing for the World Economic Forum, Amit Paley, the CEO of youth suicide-prevention organisation The Trevor Project, called for better data to understand the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on queer youth.

This follows a surge in the number of young LGBT+ people reaching out to The Trevor Project – the world’s largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organisation for young LGBT+ people – reaching double the usual numbers, at times.

A study by the organisation in May found that almost a third of trans and non-binary youth have attempted suicide in the past year. The pandemic will only have “exacerbated” pre-existing problems such as this, Paley wrote.

“Prior to the pandemic, LGBTQ youth have been found to be at significantly increased risk for depression, anxiety and attempting suicide,” he said.

Paley continued: “This correlates with the minority stress model, in which experiences of discrimination, rejection and violence are compounded, and can lead to negative mental health outcomes.

“Furthermore, young LGBTQ people already faced disproportionate rates of unemployment and homelessness. It is clear that the widespread anxiety, physical distancing and economic strain caused by COVID-19 have exacerbated these concerns, and created new, unique problems for many of them.”

Widespread school closures during the pandemic have affected all youth – but Paley argues that, given LGBT+ youth are more than four times as likely to attempt suicide compared to their peers, “for many young LGBTQ people, school might be their one safe space and source of affirming community”.

“According to the Trevor Project’s research, young LGBTQ people who report having at least one accepting adult were 40 per cent less likely to report a suicide attempt in the past year. For some, that accepting person could be a teacher, coach or school counsellor.

“Another unintended consequence of physical distancing has been an increase in negative interactions. Many now find themselves confined to unsupportive home environments – which can result in increased anxiety and emotional pain, particularly among transgender and nonbinary youth, as they may need to hide their authentic selves to maintain safety.

“Among young LGBTQ people, only one-third experience parental acceptance, with an additional one-third experiencing parental rejection, and the final one-third not disclosing their LGBTQ identity until they are adults.”

Readers who are affected by the issues raised in this story are encouraged to contact Samaritans on 116 123 (www.samaritans.org), or Mind on 0300 123 3393 (www.mind.org.uk). Readers in the US are encouraged to contact the National Suicide Prevention Line on 1-800-273-8255.

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

Rosie Duffield MP brands 'transphobia' allegations 'a Communist pile-on'

[返回目录](#)



Labour's Rosie Duffield has slammed accusations that she's "transphobic" as a "tedious Communist pile on" amid a heated online row about who can get cervical cancer.

The controversy began late last night, when Duffield – who last week in parliament suggested a ban on laughing gas or "hippy crack", which she said youth are "buying off the internet for pennies" – liked a Piers Morgan tweet.

Morgan had commented "Do you mean women?" in response to a CNN tweet about new American Cancer Society guidelines that state: "Individuals with a cervix are now recommended to start cervical cancers screening at 25 and

continue through age 65, with HPV testing every five years.”

Duffield then added: “I’m a ‘transphobe’ for knowing that only women have a cervix....?!”

She continued by saying that the allegations of transphobia being levelled against her are “just this week’s tedious ‘Communist’ pile on...”

Add to the list of reasons Rosie Duffield needs booting, she’s a transphobe too pic.twitter.com/Ju7Iyhiv3f
— Sarah (@Sarah_Cundy) July 31, 2020

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

The Outside Project opens LGBT+ domestic abuse refuge in London

[返回目录](#)



London's The Outside Project has opened a new LGBT+ domestic abuse refuge, named for transgender pioneers Sylvia Rivera and Marsha P. Johnson.

The grassroots organisation, which in 2018 opened the UK's first LGBT+ homeless shelter and community centre, announced the Star Refuge on Monday (July 27).

The domestic-abuse refuge is named to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera's STAR House, the shelter for homeless queer youth founded by the pair in New York in 1970.

"The Outside Project have opened a domestic abuse refuge for London's LGBTIQ+ community in response to the COVID-19 pandemic," the group said.

"If you ever feel like you need to stay somewhere else for your own safety or wellbeing then you are right. Don't wait. To discuss your options and refer into

our refuge contact our partner agencies.”

Galop, the national LGBT+ domestic-violence helpline, and homelessness charity Stonewall Housing are both listed.

A post shared by The Outside Project (@lgbtiqoutside) on Jul 27, 2020 at 12:53am PDT

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)

Washington DC: Police name suspect in 2002 murder of trans teens

[返回目录](#)



Police in Washington DC have finally admitted that the killings of two Black trans teenagers almost 20 years ago were “clearly a hate crime”.

Ukea Davis, 18, and Stephanie Thomas, 19, were found dead in a car in 2002. Both had been shot at least 10 times.

Now, almost two decades on, police in Washington DC have finally found a suspect in the case – but he died three years ago in a fatal shooting, the *Washington Post* reports.

D.C. Police Chief Peter Newsham admitted that the murder of the two best friends was “clearly a hate crime” and said suspect Michael Dupree Price had

been with the women on the night they were killed.

Police identify suspect in 2002 murder of two trans women in Washington DC – but he was killed three years ago.

Police tracked down two new witnesses in the cold case who told them that Price killed the women when he discovered that they were trans.

But police were too late to bring Price to justice. He was shot dead in May 2017, aged 36.

Authorities began investigating the case again earlier this year when Detective Danny Whalen found a letter that referenced a person who allegedly had information about the killings.

The letter was discovered in an old file, but had never been followed up on.

He's been deceased since 2017, but what was he doing since 2002? Why wasn't he brought to justice?

[原文](#)

[返回目录](#)