

Polanco, Joanna

From: Johnson, Cavalier
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 4:45 PM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Fwd: Ban Conversion Therapy in Milwaukee

FYI

Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee
(o) [414-286-3777](tel:414-286-3777) (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: michail takach <michailtakach@gmail.com>
Date: March 19, 2018 at 1:36:00 PM CDT
To: rjbauma@milwaukee.gov, cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
Subject: **Ban Conversion Therapy in Milwaukee**

Alderman Bauman:

So-called “conversion therapy,” sometimes known as “reparative therapy,” is a range of dangerous and discredited practices that falsely claim to change a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

Such practices have been rejected by every mainstream medical and mental health organization for decades, but due to continuing discrimination and societal bias against LGBTQ people, some practitioners continue to conduct conversion therapy. Minors are especially vulnerable, and conversion therapy can lead to depression, anxiety, drug use, homelessness, and suicide.

California, Connecticut, Illinois, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and the District of Columbia have enacted laws or regulations to protect minors from being subjected to conversion therapy by state-licensed mental health providers.

Additionally, a growing number of municipalities have enacted similar protections, including cities and counties in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, Florida, New York and Arizona.

On March 27, you'll be called upon to vote on a proposed ordinance banning conversion therapy in the City of Milwaukee. As your constituent, a lifelong Milwaukeean, an LGBTQ historian and author, a Board member of several local LGBTQ organizations, and someone who's seen the devastating effects of rejection and reprogramming on LGBTQ youth, I ask that you vote on the right side of history, community health and individual wellness.

Support this ordinance and banish conversion therapy to the darkest and most shameful corners of our city's history.

Thank you -

Michail Takach
401 W Michigan St
Milwaukee WI 53203

Polanco, Joanna

From: Johnson, Cavalier
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 4:46 PM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Fwd: Please Protect LGBTQ Youth from Conversion Therapy in Milwaukee

FYI

Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee
(o) [414-286-3777](tel:414-286-3777) (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
City Hall [200 E. Wells Street room 205](#)
[Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202](#)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sam Brinton <sam.brinton@thetrevorproject.org>
Date: March 19, 2018 at 12:40:54 PM CDT
To: "Rainey, Khalif" <Khalif.Rainey@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: "Johnson, Cavalier" <Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Re: Please Protect LGBTQ Youth from Conversion Therapy in Milwaukee

Most welcome. Thank you for serving the great people of Milwaukee.

Sam Brinton
Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs / [The Trevor Project](#)
202.768.4413 / sam.brinton@thetrevorproject.org

Please refer to me using the gender fluid pronouns they, them, or theirs.

The Trevor Project is the leading national organization focused on crisis and suicide prevention efforts among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning youth.

On Mon, Mar 19, 2018 at 1:36 PM, Rainey, Khalif <Khalif.Rainey@milwaukee.gov> wrote:
Thank you Sam.

On Mar 19, 2018, at 12:22 PM, Sam Brinton <sam.brinton@thetrevorproject.org> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

My name is Sam Brinton and I serve as the Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs for the The Trevor Project, the leading national organization focused on crisis and suicide prevention efforts among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth.

It is my honor to send this letter of support for the ordinance sponsored by District 2 Alderman Cavalier Johnson to protect LGBTQ youth from

conversion therapy. I urge your support for this ordinance. Thank you for your time.

Sam Brinton
Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs / The Trevor Project
202.768.4413 / sam.brinton@thetrevorproject.org

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<Trevor Project Support Letter - Milwaukee 7.pdf>

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Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 4:46 PM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Fwd: Please Protect LGBTQ Youth from Conversion Therapy in Milwaukee

FYI

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(o) [414-286-3777](tel:414-286-3777) (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
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Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sam Brinton <sam.brinton@thetrevorproject.org>
Date: March 19, 2018 at 12:02:11 PM CDT
To: jbohl@milwaukee.gov
Cc: Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov
Subject: **Please Protect LGBTQ Youth from Conversion Therapy in Milwaukee**

Good Afternoon,

My name is Sam Brinton and I serve as the Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs for the The Trevor Project, the leading national organization focused on crisis and suicide prevention efforts among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth.

It is my honor to send this letter of support for the ordinance sponsored by District 2 Alderman Cavalier Johnson to protect LGBTQ youth from conversion therapy. I urge your support for this ordinance. Thank you for your time.

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202.768.4413 / sam.brinton@thetrevorproject.org

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Polanco, Joanna

From: Johnson, Cavalier
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 4:48 PM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Fwd: Please Protect LGBTQ Youth from Conversion Therapy in Milwaukee
Attachments: Trevor Project Support Letter - Milwaukee 1.pdf; ATT00001.htm

FYI

Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee
(o) 414-286-3777 (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
City Hall 200 E. Wells Street room 205
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sam Brinton <sam.brinton@thetrevorproject.org>
Date: March 19, 2018 at 12:31:02 PM CDT
To: ahamil@milwaukee.gov
Cc: Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov
Subject: **Please Protect LGBTQ Youth from Conversion Therapy in Milwaukee**

Good Afternoon,

My name is Sam Brinton and I serve as the Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs for the The Trevor Project, the leading national organization focused on crisis and suicide prevention efforts among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth.

It is my honor to send this letter of support for the ordinance sponsored by District 2 Alderman Cavalier Johnson to protect LGBTQ youth from conversion therapy. I urge your support for this ordinance. Thank you for your time.

Sam Brinton
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Randy Stone (1958-2007)
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Ruben Ramirez
Thomas Sanchez
Adam Shankman
Jeffrey Paul Wolff

Amit Paley
CEO & Executive Director

TO: District 1 Alderman and Council President Ashanti Hamilton

As the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services for LGBTQ youth, The Trevor Project urges the support of protections for LGBTQ youth from conversion therapy. Conversion therapists falsely claim to be able to change LGBTQ youth into straight and cisgender youth. Prominent professional health associations—including the American Medical Association, the American Psychological Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, among numerous others—oppose the use of conversion therapy on youth, calling the practice harmful and ineffective.

Milwaukee is on track to be the next municipality to pass legislation limiting the practice as 40 states across the country still allow this terrible crisis to continue. The Trevor Project frequently receives calls of LGBTQ youth in crisis stemming from their experience with conversion therapy and aims to advocate for the eventual end of state sanctioned conversion therapy across the country via our 50 Bills 50 States campaign.

I am a survivor of the dangerous and discredited idea that a therapist could change my sexual orientation or gender identity. Although some may say that conversion therapy should be allowed as a choice, I simply reply that I never chose the “therapy” my family subjected me to during my formative years as a child. My experiences in conversion therapy ranged from talking about my faith’s rejection of my bisexuality all the way to physically aversive techniques like the application of heat, cold, and electricity to try and forcibly train my body to have heterosexual attractions.

To respond to those painful years, I now serve as the Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs for The Trevor Project, the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to LGBTQ youth. The Trevor Project has been contacted by nearly 100,000 LGBTQ youth in the past year alone with hundreds coming from Wisconsin. These youth call us considering suicide and needing someone to speak to when they feel alone and scared.

Not all of these youth are victims of conversion therapy but all have been wounded by a culture that allows the idea of the choice of one’s sexual orientation to permit violence, bullying, and family rejection. In new research, released by the Williams Institute, we now estimate that more than 700,000 LGBTQ people will have experienced the horrors of conversion therapy in the past decades. Nearly 80,000 youth are still at risk of conversion therapy in the coming few years including many in Milwaukee. You have an opportunity to stop that number from continuing to grow.

Conversion therapy does not have a political party. Of the ten states that now protect LGBTQ youth from conversion therapy, four have had Republican governors sign the legislation and six have had Democratic governors sign the legislation. When polled, most agree that the discredited snake oil of conversion therapy does not have a place in a city like Milwaukee that prides itself on respect and dignity and the freedom to love openly. States like Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Idaho, West Virginia, and Arizona and countless others are having the same debate you are hearing today and in many cases are agreeing that the protection of youth trumps any political party affiliation.

Conversion therapy does not have a scientific standing. Every major medical and mental health organization has stated that the treatment of conversion therapy is ineffective and potentially harmful. Conversion therapists are stealing from hard working American families who have their best interest of their children at heart. This is consumer fraud and the Supreme Court has agreed on this point time and time again.

The trauma of conversion therapy will remain with me for decades to come but as I travel and visit the amazing universities across Wisconsin and in Milwaukee I am honored to see that many fellow survivors are using their pain for good by working to end conversion therapy. **It is for this reason I am asking you to support this ordinance to protect LGBTQ youth from conversion therapy today.**

Sincerely,



Sam Brinton
Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs / The Trevor Project
202.768.4413 / Sam.Brinton@thetrevorproject.org



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Randy Stone (1958-2007)
James Leceane

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Jeffrey Paul Wolff

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CEO & Executive Director

TO: District 2 Alderman Cavalier Johnson

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We sincerely thank you for serving as the lead sponsor to protect LGBTQ youth from conversion therapy with your ordinance. Milwaukee is on track to be the next municipality to pass legislation limiting the practice as 40 states across the country still allow this terrible crisis to continue. The Trevor Project frequently receives calls of LGBTQ youth in crisis stemming from their experience with conversion therapy and aims to advocate for the eventual end of state sanctioned conversion therapy across the country via our 50 Bills 50 States campaign.

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The Trevor Project
Los Angeles - 8704 Santa Monica Blvd. Suite 200 West Hollywood, CA 90069
New York - 575 8th Ave #501 New York, NY 10012
DC - 1200 New Hampshire Ave. NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20036
p 310.271.8845 | f 310.271.8846 www.thetrevorproject.org

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Sincerely,



Sam Brinton
Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs / The Trevor Project
202.768.4413 / Sam.Brinton@thetrevorproject.org

Polanco, Joanna

From: Johnson, Cavalier
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 5:57 PM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Fwd: Ordinance Prohibiting Conversion Therapy

FYI

Cavalier Johnson
Alderman, 2nd District | City of Milwaukee
(o) [414-286-3777](tel:414-286-3777) (e) cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov
City Hall [200 E. Wells Street room 205](#)
[Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202](#)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Benjamin Babb <bnjmn4@outlook.com>
Date: March 19, 2018 at 5:47:08 PM CDT
To: "rjbauma@milwaukee.gov" <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: "cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov" <cavalier.johnson2@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Ordinance Prohibiting Conversion Therapy

Dear Alderman Bauman,

I applaud Alderman Johnson's proposed ordinance prohibiting conversion therapy for LGBT persons, and I urge you to support its passage on March 27th. This practice does irreparable harm to people and its negative, long term effects have been observed by a range of healthcare professionals.

As a gay man who grew up in the rural south, I know first hand how detrimental this practice can be to a person's mental, physical, and emotional health. What we need are strong, healthy, empowered LGBT people in our diverse community.

I've heard other members of the council voice their opposition to the ordinance on the grounds that it constitutes an intrusion into the personal lives of citizens. Hogwash.

The practice infringes on the rights of citizens by subjecting them to abuse at the hands of those who are supposed to nurture and protect them. It has no basis in science and does not prevent anyone from practicing their religion.

Protect our community. Vote to prohibit conversion therapy.

Thank you,

Benjamin H. Babb
829 N. Cass Street

Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-242-6736