INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA
IDAHO
MAY 17TH 2012
26th April, 2012

Dear

I am writing to invite your school to join Safe Schools Coalition Victoria in celebrating IDAHO on May 17th, 2012. We recently signed up our 59th school member of the coalition, so we are hoping that this year’s IDAHO will see more activities in schools than ever before.

IDAHO is internationally recognised and provides a great opportunity for you to focus on activities that support gender and sexual diversity. A perfect occasion to launch or re-launch anti-homophobia policies, groups, or even your membership of the coalition.

I have included some ideas for activities that you could consider organising, or getting students involved in organising for the day, and in the lead up to the day itself. We can also provide additional materials and resources to support these activities. But don’t be restricted to our suggestions, be as creative as you like!

I have also included information on a new IDAHO Short Film Competition that is being launched this year. Please encourage any young people you know who might be interested to get involved. We will be emailing out the link to the winning film just before IDAHO – another great resource for showing in assembly or as part of your activities on the day!

Finally, it would be fantastic to be able to document your activities on our website – so please send in any photographs, or reports and we will be more than happy to share them!

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like to order more resources, or have any questions or queries.

Best wishes, and happy IDAHO!

Roz Ward

Coordinator, Safe Schools Coalition Victoria
E: r.ward@latrobe.edu.au
T: (03) 9285 5131
WHAT CAN YOUR SCHOOL DO FOR IDAHO?

1. BE VISIBLE

- If you haven’t already – join Safe Schools Coalition Victoria! Make a special announcement in assembly about it and put information in your newsletter to parents.
- Put up a display in your library, or somewhere else in the school, that showcases famous GLBTI people in history, literature, or GLBTI sporting heroes, or some other celebration of gender and sexual diversity! (ideas for this also enclosed)
- Put up some of the Safe Schools Coalition Victoria or Minus18 posters in the school, or make your own posters to celebrate IDAHO day.

2. BE ACTIVE

- Hold a uniform free day with money raised going towards buying inclusive resources for the library or for setting up or supporting a GSA group in the school.
- Host a ‘speak out’ against homophobia or panel of guests at lunchtime somewhere visible and accessible within the school.
- Hold a sausage sizzle or cake sale to raise money for future activities or a ‘Stand Out’ group, as well as raising awareness about gender and sexual diversity.
- Have a special assembly to acknowledge IDAHO day – show the IDAHO short film competition winner or one or more of the ‘Think B4 you Speak’ videos about not using homophobic language.
- Hold an ‘hour of silence’ or a ‘no name calling day’ to recognise the power of negative words or the power of positive communication.
- Launch a new ‘Stand Out’ student group that includes same sex attracted young people and their friends who will work on challenging homophobia in the school and supporting gender and sexual diversity.

3. BE COMMITTED

- Pass a motion at your staff meeting or school council to support IDAHO day so that all staff recognise and are committed to making IDAHO a homophobia free day.
- Review your bullying policy to ensure that it specifically outlines homophobic bullying, including examples and consequences.
- Review your diversity policy to ensure that it makes specific reference to gender and sexual diversity, and how these types of diversity will be supported.

4. BE CREATIVE

- Set up your own photo or film or art competition that culminates with a prize giving on IDAHO day.
- Host a lunchtime film screening of short films or a feature like ‘Milk’ (ideas enclosed)
- Find a department of teachers who will commit to including activities, examples, or discussions of diverse sexuality in their subject area in every lesson during IDAHO day.
- Hand out rainbow ribbons, raise a rainbow flag, just do something!
ORGANISATIONS

Safe Schools Coalition Victoria
Rainbow Network Victoria
Minus18

www.safeschoolscoalitionvictoria.org.au
www.rainbownetwork.net.au
www.minus18.org.au

RESOURCES

Think b4 you speak
IDAHO 2012
Stand Out!

www.thinkb4youspeak.com
www.dayagainsthomophobia.org
www.minus18.org.au/standout

FILMS

Feature length:
Milk (2008)
Beautiful Thing (1996)
Summer Storm (2004)

www.imdb.com/title/tt1013753/
www.imdb.com/title/tt0115640/
www.imdb.com/title/tt0420206/

Shorts:
Homecoming (2005)
Stand Up! Don’t Stand for Homophobic Bullying (2011)
Stand Out: Against Homophobia in Schools (2011)

www.snagfilms.com/films/title/homecoming
www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1rJxqvaIFxM
www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPXQ9npthtg

Docos:
Red Without Blue (2007)
Assume Nothing (2009)
Becoming Chaz (2011)

www.imdb.com/title/tt0923870/
www.imdb.com/title/tt1705969/

POSTERS

Posters can be downloaded from the resource section on www.minus18.org.au or sscv.org.au
The competition

Safe Schools Coalition Victoria and Minus18 are proud to invite entries in the inaugural International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHO) Short Film Competition. The competition will be an opportunity to spread positive messages about gender and sexual diversity, particularly within schools, but also for young people more broadly. The winning film will be shown as part of the IDAHO day celebrations in schools and the community on May 17th 2012.

The judges

Young members of YGLAM Queer Youth Theatre will judge the competition and narrow down to a list of five recommended films, and a top three.

The rules

Film makers;

- Must be aged under 21.
- All genders and sexualities welcome.
- Get support from your school or youth group!

Films;

- Must be under 3 minutes in length.
- Must follow the theme “some boys like boys, some girls like girls, some like both.”
- Can be filmed in any style – including phone, webcam, digital camera or animation, etc.
- Must be uploaded to your own YouTube account as an “unlisted” video, and the link emailed to r.ward@latrobe.edu.au by 12 midday on Monday 14th May to qualify for entry.

The prizes

First Prize will be a $200 Hares and Hyena’s Voucher to be spent on books and resources for your school or group PLUS your video will be posted on the Safe Schools Coalition Victoria and Minus18 websites and screened in schools on IDAHO Day, May 17th 2012.

The inspiration

Check out the amazing YGLAM animations here: www.youtube.com/channel/UCAAA6ZaP_hNQ9YM26id2kUg/videos

The submissions

All Submissions must be uploaded to your own YouTube account as an “unlisted” video, and the link emailed to r.ward@latrobe.edu.au by 12 midday on Monday 14th May to qualify for entry.

MORE INFO: call or email Roz Ward: (03) 9285 5131 or r.ward@latrobe.edu.au