

What to do when Confronted by Anti-LGBT Hate Groups on Campus

Off-campus preachers:

These people come to provoke students to harass them so that they have grounds to sue campus and student alike, and create social media content and propaganda by selective editing to manufacture discrimination against themselves. Essentially do not feed their content creation and retaliate by reporting behavior that meets the criteria of harassment outlined below. Feel free to share your experiences and concerns as well via the Title IX office to make them understand more clearly what's going on.

Chi Alpha, other campus ministries, or SHSU students: Generally LGBT students have not had positive experiences around some campus ministries . There are some conservative christians who generally work hard to practice a gay conversion ministry, singling out a queer looking person and trying to convert them, it's nothing we haven't heard or experienced in Texas before. Campus ministries are student organizations as well and fall under campus policy when it comes to how students should be respected and treated. If you're ever find yourself in an unwanted or invasive personal conversation it's best to cut to the chase and ask directly if they think being gay is wrong/sinful and get a yes or no answer. **The best thing to do when you know someone is homophobic and trying to minister to you is to tell them to leave you alone and report them if they dont respect your boundaries, this is when it becomes harassment.** It is important to keep in mind liberal and progressive churches as well as LGBT Christians are in town and are connected with the local Huntsville Pride group.

Official Reporting:

Report any comments/actions that make you feel harassed, threatened, or unsafe to the university Title IX Office and Office of Diversity and Inclusion. This is especially important if the harassment comes from faculty/staff/students at SHSU—those behaviors are not protected speech and constitute discrimination within the university. **Harassment is any unwanted physical contact, any unwanted conversion or engagement after stating you want to be left alone, a lot of people or a group harassing one person or many people and vice versa.** We might all be skeptical of their willingness to act, but repeated reporting not only establishes a paper trail but might help convince these offices to act more seriously.

Title IX Contact:

Phone: (936) 294-3080

Office: Thomason Building Suite 302

Email: jbias@shsu.edu (Goes direct to Jeanine Bias Nelson, Title IX Director)

Online report form: <https://shsu.publicincidentreporting.com/>

Personalized support:

Please feel free to contact any of the staff/faculty on this list via private email, text, phone, or a visit to their campus office. These individuals have volunteered to be safe people and spaces until a more centralized LGBT friendly location can be established.

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