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As someone who is surrounded by members of the LGBTQ+ community in every area of life, I have to stress how important I've found it to accept gender differences across all spheres and age ranges. Kids and teenagers struggle so much with acceptance as it is. They need to be met with support and love or the consequences can be dire. I don't want to hear about any more trans kids taking their own lives because they seek acceptance at school and at home and they're met with intolerance.

My own family and friends, fortunately, are happy because they know that we love and accept them no matter what. All I want is for other kids, and the adults that they hopefully will grow up to be, to have that same knowledge, and the comfort and sense of support that come with it. No child deserves to feel unaccepted by the society and systems they're born into. We must show children that they are loved and accepted unequivocally.

Gender identity is a human rights issue. We all recognize this for ourselves; trans people deserve to have this recognized for themselves as well. I have trans friends and family who I know deserve this protection. I'm sure everyone knows trans people who deserve this consideration too, whether they're aware of it or not. They need the protection more now than ever before and they deserve to have that from their state.