

# A Confession to Queer people

## An alternative Yom Kippur prayer

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by Gavi Nelson

We have turned a blind eye to your pain.

We have swept you under the rug.

We have chosen our own comfort over you.

We have not made space for you in our schools & shuls.

We have avoided the topic of queerphobia, for fear of the backlash we may face.

We have chosen hate and judgement over love and understanding.

We have created a society that looks down upon those who are different than us.

We have hurt those close to us with our silence.

We will do better.

We will look you in the face.

We will set aside our discomfort and learn to understand you.

We will make space for you in all our institutions.

We will set aside our fear and discuss the queerphobia that is rampant in our community.

We will choose love and understanding over hate and judgement.

We will create a better and more inclusive society for the queer people among us.

We will be loud and proud with those who have sat in the shadows for far too long.