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## This Semester, Make It Better!

Aug. 31, 2011 ? Jill

Quick quiz: What are the first words that come to mind as you head back to school? Backpacks, binders, bells? and bullying?



**Not this semester. This semester, make it better!**

[1]

Youth activists across the country worked together this summer to change this back-to-school season. The [Summer Camp\(aign\)](#) <sup>[1]</sup> just ended, but the resources, community, and movement the camp(aign)ers built up are here for you now.



Don't know how to [fight a hostile administration](#) [2]? Need to get your GSA members thinking [beyond the gender binary](#) [3]? Want [straight allies](#) [4] to understand that they belong in your GSA, too? GSA Network youth trainers ? with some help from the [American Civil Liberties Union](#) [5] and [We Are Straight But Not Narrow](#) [6] founder/Nickelodeon star Avan Jogia ? recorded five live, [interactive workshops](#) [7] that you can watch by yourself or with your whole GSA for support and answers to these questions and more.

There's also a [Facebook group](#) [8] where you can give and ask advice of other youth activists across the nation!

Get caught up on those resources now, because the next step is to take action:

- [Collaborative Calendar](#) [9]  
Inspire ? and get inspired by ? youth activists all over the country! Submit the activities and events you're planning for your school or GSA club this semester to the Make It Better Project public calendar. Just click ?Suggest an Event? at the bottom of the page and fill in the details.  
Afterwards, submit a blog post or a video about how your activity helped make it better to [makeitbetter@gsanetwork.org](mailto:makeitbetter@gsanetwork.org) [10], and you could win a prize! We'll also collect all of your activity ideas for one epic activity list brainstorm, which we'll send out to all camp(aign)ers.

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Last fall, several young people tragically died by suicide and the media focused on the bullying and harassment faced by LGBT youth in school. This fall, we're sparking a new national dialogue: we can and will Make It Better! Encourage students at your school and members of your community to join the Write a Letter, Make It Better campaign for its kick-off week of action at the end of September. Keep an eye on [MakeltBetterProject.org](http://MakeltBetterProject.org) <sup>[12]</sup> and your email inbox for more information on how you can participate.

**Together, we can make it better NOW!**

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**Source URL:** <https://gsanetwork.org/news/blog/semester-make-it-better/08/31/11>

#### **Links**

- [1] <http://www.makeitbetterproject.org/make-it-better-summer>
- [2] <http://www.makeitbetterproject.org/4-aclu-know-your-rights>
- [3] <http://www.makeitbetterproject.org/session-1-orientation>
- [4] <http://www.makeitbetterproject.org/5-straight-allies-unite>
- [5] <http://www.aclu.org>
- [6] <http://wearesbnn.com>
- [7] <http://www.makeitbetterproject.org/make-it-better-semester>
- [8] <http://on.fb.me/nKMWRd>
- [9] <http://www.makeitbetterproject.org/calendar>
- [10] <mailto:makeitbetter@gsanetwork.org>
- [11] <http://www.makeitbetterproject.org/write-letter-make-it-better>
- [12] <http://WWW.MakeltBetterProject.org>