

# Affirmation Comment Policy

**Last updated:** January 11, 2026

**Questions / appeals:** [community@affirmation.org](mailto:community@affirmation.org)

**Safety concerns (urgent/non-urgent):** [safety@affirmation.org](mailto:safety@affirmation.org)

## 1) Purpose & Scope

Affirmation: LGBTQ Mormons, Families & Friends (“Affirmation”) hosts conversations on our website, blog, email newsletters, and social channels (Facebook, Instagram, X/Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, TikTok, community forums). This policy explains what we welcome, what we remove, and how we moderate. **Different platforms have different tools; we’ll use the closest equivalent action available.**

## 2) Our Values

We foster **safety, love, and hope**. Discussion is welcome when it is respectful, on-topic, and supportive of LGBTQIA+ people and their families and allies across diverse relationships to the LDS faith (active, questioning, post-Mormon, interfaith).

## 3) What’s Welcome

- Lived experience, thoughtful questions, and resource sharing.
- Good-faith disagreement stated respectfully and on-topic.
- Correct names and pronouns; honoring self-determination.
- **Information-only posts from LGBTQ-affirming partner organizations** that share news, events, or resources **without donation, ticketing, or sales asks.**

## 4) Not Allowed (Content or Conduct)

We remove content that includes:

1. **Harassment or Bullying** — personal attacks, insults, dogpiling, brigading.
2. **Hate or Dehumanization** — slurs; misgendering/deadnaming after correction; denial of LGBTQIA+ dignity; racist, sexist, ableist, or xenophobic content.

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3. **Incitement or Threats** — violence; credible threats of harm; stalking; doxxing.
4. **Proselytizing or Condemnation** — attempts to convert or shame based on theology; “love the sinner, hate the sin” framings; targeted condemnation of LGBTQIA+ identities.
5. **Misinformation that Risks Harm** — false claims about LGBTQIA+ people, healthcare, or safety.
6. **Privacy Violations** — sharing private info without consent (screenshots, emails, DMs, addresses).
7. **Spam/Disruption** — repetitive posts, unrelated links, mass posting, AI-generated junk, flooding, derailment.
8. **Copyright/Illegal Content** — pirated material, unlawful activity.
9. **External fundraising, sales, or monetized promotions** by any person or organization **other than Affirmation** (donation links, ticketed events, merchandise, crowdfunding, affiliate/referral codes, solicitations for money/goods/services).
10. **Impersonation or false affiliation** — claiming to represent Affirmation, our leaders, or partners without authorization. Verified communications use @affirmation.org emails or official pages.
11. **Fraud or phishing** — fake fundraisers, spoofed domains, QR scams, malware links.

### 5) Limited Exceptions (Pre-Approval Only)

In rare cases (e.g., official co-sponsored events or urgent safety initiatives), Affirmation may allow **one** external fundraising or ticketing post. **Written pre-approval is required before posting:** community@affirmation.org. Approved exceptions will be clearly labeled by moderators.

### 6) How Partners Can Share

Partners are welcome to post **information-only** updates (no donations/tickets/merch asks).

- Disclose any **conflicts of interest** (employment, volunteering, financial ties).

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- Posts with “sneaky asks” (e.g., a “learn more” link that lands on a donate/ticket page) will be removed.
- **No endorsement implied.** Allowing a link or post does not equal endorsement. You’re responsible for evaluating third-party content and security.
- If you believe your item requires a limited exception (e.g., official co-sponsored event), email [community@affirmation.org](mailto:community@affirmation.org) for **written pre-approval** before posting (see §5).

## 7) Moderation & Enforcement

To protect community safety, moderators may take any of the following actions at our sole discretion and without prior notice:

- **Hide/Remove** comments or posts
- **Warn** privately or publicly (when educational)
- **Limit** replies, mute, or **temporarily restrict** participation
- **Ban/Block** accounts or disable comments on a post
- **Report** to platforms or authorities if safety is at risk

**No duty to publish or monitor.** We may turn off comments, slow or limit posting, or close threads at any time. We do not promise to review every post or respond within a set time.

**Zero tolerance for targeting staff/volunteers.** Doxxing, stalking, contacting personal phones/emails, or showing up at private residences leads to an immediate ban and reporting.

**Fundraising rule:** External fundraising/sales posts are removed. Repeated violations may result in restrictions or bans.

## 8) Appeals

If you believe a moderation action was in error, email [community@affirmation.org](mailto:community@affirmation.org) within **7 days** with a link/screenshot and brief context. We review **one appeal per action**; decisions are final.

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## 9) Reporting Harm

If someone is in immediate danger, contact local emergency services first.

Also email [safety@affirmation.org](mailto:safety@affirmation.org) with links/screenshots.

**Affirmation reports Documented Threats to the appropriate law-enforcement authorities and preserves relevant records** (posts, DMs, logs) as allowed by law. We may restrict accounts during an investigation.

*(“Documented Threats” includes credible threats of violence or harm; stalking; doxxing intended to facilitate harm; credible threats of property damage; and targeted harassment that meets applicable legal thresholds.)*

## 10) Licensing & Use of Your Comments

By posting, you grant Affirmation a non-exclusive license to display and archive your comment in our channels. We may edit for length or clarity when quoting publicly; we will not alter meaning.

## 11) Privacy

Comments are public. Don't share your—or anyone else's—private information.

We may disclose information to protect safety, comply with law, or respond to lawful requests from authorities (see §7 and §9).

**Retention.** We keep moderation records only as long as needed for safety, compliance, or legal reasons, then delete them on a rolling basis.

## 12) Health/Legal Advice Disclaimer

Community content is informational and **not** a substitute for individualized medical, mental-health, legal, or financial advice.

## 13) Minors & Safeguarding

- **Protect minors.** No sexualized content involving minors; no identifying info that could locate a minor offline.
- **Images of minors.** Do not post photos/videos of minors without the consent of a parent/guardian and, when appropriate, the minor.

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- **Mandatory reporting.** Suspected child abuse/exploitation will be reported to authorities.

### 14) Inbound Communications (Email & DMs)

**Scope.** Applies to emails sent to *@affirmation.org* and DMs to official accounts.

**Expected.** Be respectful, on-topic, concise; do not include third-party private info without consent.

**Not allowed.** Same prohibitions as comments: harassment; hate/dehumanization; threats/stalking; doxxing; harmful misinformation; fraud/phishing; impersonation; copyright violations; **external fundraising/ticketing/sales solicitations.**

**Safety & reporting.** We **report Documented Threats** to law enforcement and **preserve relevant records** (emails, headers, IPs, logs) as allowed by law.

**No duty to respond.** We may decline, filter, or block abusive or off-topic correspondence.

**Privacy & retention.** Email isn't a secure channel—don't send sensitive data. We retain only as long as needed for safety/operations/legal reasons, then delete on a rolling basis.

**Fundraising boundary.** We do not entertain external donation/ticket/merch solicitations via email/DM.

**Impersonation.** Official decisions are issued from *@affirmation.org* mailboxes; report suspected fraud to [safety@affirmation.org](mailto:safety@affirmation.org).

**Do-Not-Contact.** We honor lawful DNC requests and may block abusive senders.

### 15) Copyright / Takedowns

Post only content you have the right to share. To request a takedown for alleged infringement, email [copyright@affirmation.org](mailto:copyright@affirmation.org) with the link, description of the work, and your contact information.

### 16) Jurisdictions & Local Laws

Our community is global. You're responsible for complying with the laws where you live and where you post.

### 17) Translations & Controlling Language

Translations are provided for convenience. **If there's any inconsistency, the English version controls.**

### 18) Updates

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This policy may change; the “Last updated” date reflects the current version.

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## **TL;DR (place near comment boxes & in email signatures)**

**Be kind, on-topic, and respectful.** No harassment, hate, scams, impersonation, or **external fundraising** (only Affirmation may fundraise). We report **Documented Threats** to law enforcement and preserve evidence. Email/DMs are covered by these standards.

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## **Group Rules (7-slot version)**

1. Be respectful; no harassment or personal attacks.
2. No hate, slurs, or misgendering/deadnaming.
3. Stay on topic; support LGBTQIA+ dignity and self-determination.
4. No proselytizing or shaming based on theology.
5. Protect privacy; no doxxing or screenshots without consent.
6. **No external fundraising, ticketing, or sales.** Only Affirmation may fundraise here. **Exceptions require written pre-approval** (community@affirmation.org).
7. Mods may remove content, limit replies, or ban. Appeals: community@affirmation.org