



# UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE Office of Institutional Equity

## ALLYSHIP NEWSLETTER

November 2020

### WORLD KINDNESS DAY - NOVEMBER 13, 2020

#### *How to be an Ally*

**Now more than ever, it is important to be kind. Celebrate today by learning how to be an ally for marginalized groups.**

#### **What is an ally?**

An ally is a member of a non-marginalized group who uses their privilege to advocate for and partner with marginalized individuals in dismantling systems of oppression and promote equality and equity in our society.

#### **Who can be an ally?**

Because everyone has some form of privilege in one way or another, anyone can be an ally.

**For example:** An able-bodied person can be an ally for people with physical disabilities, a white person can be an ally for people of color, and a straight person can be an ally for the LGBTQ community.

#### **What is a marginalized group?**

A marginalized group is a group of people who encounter barriers in achieving their potential due to self-identities they have no control over. It is not uncommon for people from these groups to be targets of hate from other members in society.

#### **Why do we need allies?**

Because marginalized groups are targeted and treated unfairly in society, they need support from those who are not to influence others and make change.

**Some examples of marginalized groups include but are not limited to:**

- LGBTQ Community
- Senior Citizens
- Military Combat Veterans
- Persons in Poverty
- Physically, Hearing, and Visually Challenged Individuals
- People on the Autism Spectrum
- Minorities
- Substance Abusers
- People with Cognitive Impairments

A few of the disparities that people from marginalized groups may experience are healthcare, human rights, employment, access to services, and more. Additionally, they can be victims of violence, discrimination, and social stigma.

**“We are all guaranteed that over our lifespan we will all have physical, mental, and emotional issues that will make us a marginalized person as well. None of us are immune from injury, disease, mental illness, and changes due to aging” (Garret, 2020).**



Office of Institutional Equity

[evansville.edu/offices/titleix](https://evansville.edu/offices/titleix) • 812-488-5261