

## Making the Grade: Gender Rights in Schools



Less than 10 years ago, no institution of higher education included *gender identity or expression* in its non-discrimination policy. Today, **more than 75 schools have acted** – due largely in part to **LGBT, feminist and progressive student leaders who have helped make gender rights the new edge of ‘best practice’ in non-discrimination policies.**

In October 2006, the Gender Public Advocacy Coalition released its **GENIUS Index (Gender Equality National Index for Universities & Schools)** which tracks and evaluates schools’ efforts to ban discrimination and promote awareness of gender rights in their policies and practices.

The report highlights the successes of student leaders who have been instrumental in expanding their school’s non-discrimination policies and practices to include gender identity and expression, gender-neutral restrooms, gender-blind housing, and resource centers for gender non-conforming and GBLT students. Just this year alone, 16 schools expanded their non-discrimination policies, including Yale University – which became the 8th and final Ivy League school to add gender identity and expression to its non-discrimination policy after a successful campaign by GenderPAC’s campus chapter.

*This really is what change looks like. To view a complete list of schools who have expanded their policies and read the GENIUS Index, visit [www.gpac.org/genius](http://www.gpac.org/genius).*