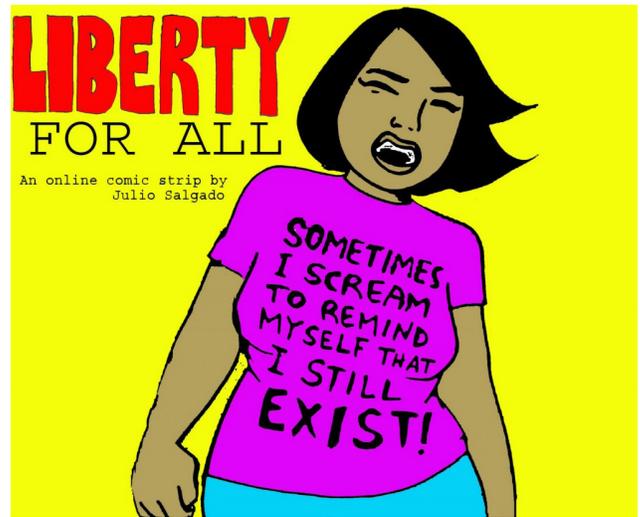


LGBTQ Rights—Writing Prompts

1. Regarding Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) issues, what changes have you noticed in your family or community? Share a story from your life about how someone (or some group of people) fought for their rights around gender and/or sexuality. What did they win in the process of fighting?
2. Artist and activist Julio Salgado says, “The way I speak up is through art.” He explains that art helps us tell the stories of people whose stories are sometimes invisible or never heard (p. 22). In his comic “Liberty for All” (dreamersadrift.com/julio-i-exist/liberty-for-all-16), Julio tells the story of a young person who is queer and undocumented. In the picture above Julio’s character “Liberty” is wearing a t-shirt that says, “Sometimes I scream to remind myself that I still exist!” Julio reminds us that “speaking out on anything can be a little hard to do.”
 - a) Why would Liberty need to scream to remember that she exists?
 - b) Describe why artwork is important to social and cultural change.
 - c) What are ways you have used art to tell your story? Create a piece of art that tells part of your story.
 - d) What cultural norms does Julio challenge with his artwork?



3. Read this excerpt on LGBTQ Marriage Equality and respond to one or more of the questions below it.

“AIDS broke the silence about gay people’s lives and really prompted non-gay people to think about gay people in a different way. It prompted gay people to embrace this language of inclusion, most preeminently marriage. That, in turn, accelerated our inclusion in society and the change in attitudes” (p.9).

 - a) What “change in attitudes” do you believe have taken place in your lifetime regarding LGBTQ people?
 - b) What difficult silences have you broken to reach justice or equality for yourself or others?
 - c) How have you challenged gender or sexuality cultural norms in your life?

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 4, 2016. A \$50 stipend will be paid to each adult education student whose work is accepted for publication.

PLEASE SEND MATERIAL TO: Cynthia Peters at cpeters@worlded.org. Questions? Visit our website changeagent.nelrc.org or call 617-482-9485.

DON'T FORGET to include contact information on every submission.