

Shayna Medley
7 Chauncy St.
Cambridge, MA 02138
smedley@jd17.law.harvard.edu

March 23, 2016

James Esseks
American Civil Liberties Union
LGBT & HIV Project
125 Broad St., 18th Floor
New York, NY 10004

Dear Mr. James Esseks,

I am a second year student at Harvard Law School interested in pursuing a post-graduation public interest fellowship in impact litigation related to LGBTQ equality. I had a wonderful experience as a legal intern last summer at the LGBT & HIV Project and would love the opportunity to apply the skills and experiences I gained through that position to a fellowship project.

My educational and work experiences have centered on issues of discrimination based on gender and sexuality. During my internship at the LGBT & HIV Project I did research for a number of cases, including *G.G. v. Gloucester County School Board*. I also worked on issues relating to employment discrimination, procedures for gender marker changes, and religious exemptions to anti-discrimination laws. Over the winter term, I worked at GLAD through a clinical placement, where I got to work on issues relating to family law and protections for transgender youth in schools. This coming summer I will be interning at the Center for Reproductive Rights.

My interest in gender issues also extends to my academic studies and extracurricular involvement. I have taken courses on Title IX, LGBT Flashpoints, and Reproductive Rights and Justice. I am the Vice President of Harvard Law Students for Reproductive Justice and I am one of the Editors-in-Chief of the *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*. I have also explored gender issues through my own academic writing. My student note on sex discrimination in college admissions will be published in the *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review* later this spring.

Much of my work with the LGBTQ community has focused on protections for transgender youth in schools, particularly with access to sex-segregated facilities. I have written two papers on sex-segregated restrooms in schools, one for my Title IX course and one for my clinic with GLAD. I would be interested in creating a project at the ACLU that develops litigation strategies to address exclusionary school policies or legislation that harms transgender youth in schools. I would love the opportunity to speak with the attorneys on the Project about what needs they are looking to fill in the near future and am open to adjusting my proposal accordingly.

Thank you so much for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email with any questions or to request any additional materials.

Sincerely,

Shayna Medley