

## **Statement on YU's Request for US Supreme Court to Block Undergraduate Pride Alliance Student Organization**

This week Yeshiva University filed an application for emergency relief to the United States Supreme Court, asking the Court to block a lower court order requiring the University to recognize an undergraduate Pride Alliance LGBTQ+ student organization. The University's policies and legal actions regarding the undergraduate LGBTQ+ student group do not pertain to Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology and have no impact on Ferkauf school policies.

However, we understand that as a community it is jarring to read that an LGBTQ+ student organization does not align with the "values" of our parent institution. We are especially holding in mind the LGBTQ+ members of our student body and faculty and staff in light of this event.

One of the core 5 principles of the American Psychological Association, which is the accrediting body of the three doctoral programs at Ferkauf, is a commitment to cultural and individual differences and diversity, which includes, "age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, language, national origin, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status."

Ferkauf remains committed to ensuring a diverse and inclusive learning environment. We are proud of our long history of welcoming differences in perspectives and encourage the open expression of ideas and productive dialogue.

We are committed to treating all individuals, including our LGBTQ+ faculty, staff, and students, with respect and dignity so that they may work and learn proudly in a safe, unbiased, and growth-promoting environment. Experiencing the celebration of one's identity and the compassion of others is vital for one's mental health, hence, we welcome all members of the Yeshiva University community to contact our Parnes Clinic should they be in need of compassionate mental health services.