

**NOT
IN OUR
TOWN**

Working Together for Safe, Inclusive Communities.



From [CBS](#): "OSLO, Norway - Facing terror with music, tens of thousands gathered in squares across Norway to sing a children's song that gunman Anders Behring Breivik claimed is being used to brainwash young Norwegians."

April was an exciting month in the anti-hate movement. In our last eNews, we shared with you how [Tulsa came together to heal after the Good Friday shootings](#) and how [Trayvon Martin's killing has sparked an important and overdue conversation about race in this country](#). Since then, we have seen 40,000 Norwegians stage a sing-along near the court house where [the man accused of murdering 77 people last summer is on trial](#). The protests, organizers said, showed he had not broken their tolerant society. [Click here to watch the video](#).

As *Bully* opened in theaters nationwide, Gunn High School in Palo Alto, CA continued to be an inspiration for safe and inclusive schools, hosting its annual [Not In Our School week](#) from April 9-13. Not In Our Town joined New York City for its Immigrant Heritage Week from April 18-24. Not In Our Town films were [screened](#) in schools and at six venues around the city.

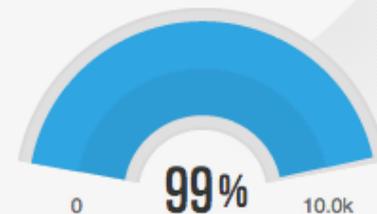
Nathan Cummings Foundation Arts and Culture Program presented a wonderful profile of Not In Our Town and NIOT.org on the [NCF website](#). We were pleased and proud to learn that NIOT will receive continued support from NCF in 2012.

In this eNews, you'll find three inspiring stories of young people standing up for change.

As always, thank you for helping us stop hate, together.

Help Us & Win a DVD

Facebook Page Fans for Not In Our Town 



Our goal is to reach 10,000 friends on Facebook. We're SO close, help us get there!

Refer friends to Not In Our Town, [let us know](#), and we'll enter your name in a drawing to win a [Not In Our Town DVD of your choice](#). Winner announced in our next eNews!

Connect with NIOT

[Find us on Facebook](#) 

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[View our videos on YouTube](#) 

Conversations on NIOT.org

"Bullying by coworkers and school administrators or supervisors is also very common. I am a bus driver in one of the largest school districts in Texas..." [Read more](#)

"I completely agree here with the N-word being thrown out like it's a hello, however it isn't socially correct..."

Ohio State Students Sit-In for Hate Crime Alerts



From *The Lantern*

Students at Ohio State University use new media technology to take a stand against a series of hate crimes that took place on their campus over the past few weeks.

On April 5, students were horrified to learn that the words "Long Live Zimmerman" were spray-painted on the wall of the Black Cultural Center. Shortly after this incident, three swastikas along with the word "N-----rs" were spray painted over a mural of President Obama.

These hate incidents prompted students to respond quickly, organizing a sit-in that resulted in more than 150 students demanding that the school create a text alert system that would inform students of recent hate crimes that took place on campus. [Read more about OSU...](#)

"MacDonald's essay made me reflect on my home training and how my parents instilled in me the importance of treating others as I wished to be treated. When my mother told me of the good Samaritan..." [Read more](#)

The Bully Project



THE MOVIE

Conversing Online: The N-Word is Not OK



Ryan Leach, University of Virginia student, speaks up online

Being an upstander is not easy. Just ask J. Ryan Leach, a student at the University of Virginia, who has been a rare voice in online forums to speak up for tolerance. In his hometown of Mechanicsville, VA, crime stories in the news attract racist comments.

"The biggest concern I have is that even though many of these crimes were not racially motivated, the comments are definitely racially motivated," Leach wrote to Not In Our Town. In comments he shared with us, people praise white supremacy. The N-word is used freely and ill-wishes of tragedy and damnation are offered heartily. "When my friends and I told these people that their use of the N-word and racial prejudice was wrong, they attacked us."

We met Ryan at a screening of *Light in the Darkness* in Charlottesville. [Here is his story.](#)

New Video: A Middle School GSA



At Hoover Middle School in the San Francisco Unified School District, teacher Janet Miller learned frightening statistics about her district's Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) students at a district training.

She discovered that transgender youth were the most likely students to attempt suicide. Impassioned, Janet explains that she got on a table and shouted to the staff, "It's our job and the job of every single person in this room to enforce safety for all students, not just straight ones, so any time you are not doing it, you are not doing your job!" She convinced the staff that Hoover needed to do something about this serious issue. Read about Janet's efforts and watch our [new video, "A Gay Straight Alliance Creates Unity and a Culture of Acceptance."](#)

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