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California State Assembly

PRIVACY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION



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INFORMATIONAL HEARING

Wednesday, May 13, 2026
1:30 p.m. -- State Capitol, Room 437

The Impact of Social Media on LGBTQ+ Youth: Benefits, Risks, and Safeguards

PANELIST BIOS

Panel 1: Overview of the types of parental controls, challenges, and reasons for failure

1. Mari Wrobi (they/them), Marketing Manager, Alliance for TransYouth Rights

Mari Wrobi is a queer and trans advocate who has worked to advance LGBTQ+ rights through policy advocacy, online education, professional workshops, community outreach, and digital organizing. Currently, Mari serves as the Marketing Manager at Alliance for Trans Youth Rights, a nonprofit organization that advocates for policies and legislation across the country centered on the rights, liberty, and justice of trans and nonbinary youth.

2. Shae Gardner (she/her), Director of Policy & Research, LGBT Tech

Shae Gardner (she/her) is the Director of Policy & Research at LGBT Tech, a national non-profit working at the intersection of LGBTQ+ rights and technology. She is a longtime advocate for her community's right to digital safety, privacy, and equitable access, with over a decade of experience in industry research and policy, and works to elevate the needs of LGBTQ+ youth and adults alike in national and state-level conversations on tech regulation and digital infrastructure.

3. Casey Pick (she/her), Senior Director of Law & Policy, The Trevor Project

Casey Pick (she/her) is the Senior Director of Law and Policy for The Trevor Project, the leading suicide prevention and mental health organization serving LGBTQ+ young people. Casey has been recognized as a leading voice on the emerging issue of youth online safety, serving in Spring 2025 as visiting Tech & Public Policy fellow for the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University. Casey holds a bachelor's degree in Government from Claremont McKenna College and a juris doctorate from the UCLA School of Law. She currently resides in Alexandria, VA.

Panel 2: LGBTQ+-Specific Online Resources and Research on LGBTQ+ Youth and Social Media

1. Supreet Mann, Ph.D. (she/her), Director of Research, Common Sense Media

Supreet Mann is director of research at Common Sense. She holds a PhD in communication and a master's degree in child development from the University of California, Davis. Her research uses a developmental lens to consider the role of social influences on children's socio-emotional outcomes, including prosocial behavior, risk-taking, and learning. In addition to presenting her work at national and international conferences, Supreet has published her work in a variety of academic journals, including *Journal of Children and Media*, *Human Behavior and Emerging Technologies*, and *Journal of Child and Family Studies*.

2. Sean Young, PhD, MS, Professor, UC Irvine Departments of Emergency Medicine and Informatics; Executive Director, UC Institute for Prediction Technology

Sean D. Young, PhD, MS, is Executive Director of the University of California Institute for Prediction Technology and Professor in the UC Irvine Departments of Emergency Medicine and Informatics. His research focuses on digital health and AI, including how people use social media, health technologies, and artificial intelligence, and how these technologies can be designed to improve health behavior and reduce harm.

Dr. Young is the author of the #1 Wall Street Journal bestselling book *Stick With It*, on the science of behavior change. He received his PhD in Psychology and MS in Health Services Research from Stanford University, previously worked on technology and human behavior at NASA Ames Research Center and Cisco Systems, and has advised top technology and health companies. He has presented internationally, including at the European Parliament, CDC, and World Congress, and serves on a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine board within the Division of Health and Medicine, where his work has included helping prepare a committee to review the science on social media and youth mental health. His research focuses on vulnerable populations, including Black, Latino, LGBTQ+, and substance-using communities.

3. Amy Green, Ph.D., Head of Research, Hopelab

Dr. Green is a clinical psychologist with over two decades of experience advancing research on youth mental health and digital well-being. Dr. Green held a faculty appointment in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego, where her work centered on adolescent mental health and implementation science. Most recently, she serves as Head of Research at Hopelab, a Bay Area-based nonprofit foundation leveraging research, investments, and convenings to improve the mental health and well-being of young people. In this role, she leads a portfolio of national studies on how social media, AI, and digital platforms shape youth development and works closely with partners to translate evidence into practice and policy that can be implemented in real-world settings. Dr. Green resides in Los Angeles, where she collaborates closely with California partners across academic, nonprofit, and community settings to advance youth mental health.

4. Nicky Bath (she/her), Chief Executive Officer, LGBTIQ+ Health Australia

Nicky Bath joined LGBTIQ+ Health Australia in August 2018 as Chief Executive Officer and brings with her experience she gained from roles such as the Associate Director, LGBTI Health Programming and Development at ACON, Manager of the Harm Reduction and Viral Hepatitis Branch at the NSW Ministry of Health as well as several senior positions in State and National drug user organisations including CEO of the NSW Users and AIDS Association.

Prior to moving to Australia in 2000, Nicky worked as the Manager of an innovative harm reduction service which was part of the National Health Service in London. During this time she was also involved in international work including projects commissioned by the World Health Organisation.

Nicky is committed to advancing the health and human rights of marginalised communities through co-design and working in partnership.