

Catalina (O.S.)

I HAVE A FRIEND WHO'S IN KINDERGARTEN AND HE WEARS DRESSES AND HE'S A VERY NICE LITTLE BOY. AND I WAS TO FIRST SHOCKED TO SEE HE WORE DRESSES CAUSE THERE WASN'T MANY BOYS LIKE THAT.

Kamea (O.S.)

WHEN I WAS LITTLE I DIDN'T WEAR DRESSES BECAUSE I THOUGHT THEY WERE STUPID AND UGLY.

Sabeena (O.S.)

I WAS ON A SOCCER TEAM AND SOME BOYS SAID "ONLY BOYS CAN PLAY SOCCER" BECAUSE BOYS ARE BETTER AT SPORTS THAN GIRLS.

Jalen (O.S.)

WHEN I WAS YOUNG I WOULD LIKE STEAL MY SISTER'S DRESSES OR SOMETHING. AND LIKE I WOULD PUT IT ON AND SORT OF LIKE PRETEND TO ICE SKATE.

Jasmine (O.S.)

SOME PEOPLE THINK "OH BOYS SHOULD ONLY DO THIS" AND "GIRLS SHOULD ONLY DO THAT" OR "GIRLS SHOULD THINK THIS" AND "BOYS SHOULD THINK THAT" IT'S NOT TRUE, SOME PEOPLE HAVE OPINIONS OF THEIR OWN.

TITLE CARD: CREATING GENDER INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS

Principal (V.O.)

THE DIVERSITY OF OUR STUDENT POPULATION EXPANDED SO THE ISSUES OF SAFETY THAT WE WORKED SO HARD TO MAINTAIN HERE NOW INCLUDE...

Principal (O.S.)

...STUDENTS WITH GENDER FLUID UH OR TRANSGENDER UH IDENTITIES

Pam Lucker (O.S.)

I THOUGHT OH MY GOSH ALL OF A SUDDEN WE'RE HAVING ALL THESE TRANSGENDER KIDS HERE IS THIS A FAD?

Linda Thomas (O.S.)

WHEN I SAW THE CURRICULUM ABOUT GENDER AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT WAS A LITTLE ROUGH I WAS LIKE OOH AH OOH I CAN'T DO THIS.

Joel Baum

GENDER UNFORTUNATELY IS AN AREA WHERE THERE'S NOT AS MUCH KINDNESS AND RESPECT AS WE MIGHT LIKE AND THEREFORE...

Principal (V.O.)

PARENTS PRESENTED US CASES OF...

PRINCIPAL (O.S.)

...REAL SUFFERING THAT THE CHILD AND FAMILY HAD GONE THROUGH

Principal (V.O.)

...AND THE STAFF AND I THOUGHT IMMEDIATELY THAT WE NEED MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO BETTER SUPPORT THIS CHILD, THEIR FAMILY, AND ALL OF OUR CHILDREN.

TITLE CARD: PERALTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN OAKLAND, CA, IS TRAINING PARENTS, TEACHERS, STAFF AND STUDENTS TO CREATE A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL FORMS OF GENDER EXPRESSION AND IDENTITY

Principal (O.S.)

IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT FOR US TO INCLUDE EVERYBODY IN THIS COMMUNITY WORK BECAUSE EVERYBODY INFLUENCES THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN.

Natalie Walchuk (O.S.)

YOU CAN'T JUST WORK WITH ONE POPULATION CAUSE IF EVERYONE'S NOT LEARNING THE LANGUAGE AND WORKING TOGETHER THEY UNDERCUT EACH OTHER.

Marie Stewart (O.S.)

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO IS THINK ABOUT YOUR OWN ISSUES THINK ABOUT WHAT IT BRINGS UP FOR YOU, THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT FOR YOUR CHILDREN IN THE CLASSROOM. THINK ABOUT WHAT KIND OF WORLD YOU WANT IT TO BE.

TITLE CARD: TEACHER TRAINING

Joel Baum (V.O.)

WE STARTED BY TALKING ABOUT...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...THE BIOLOGY OF GENDER THIS IDEA ABOUT TYPICALLY

Joel Baum (V.O.)

...FEMALE BODIES AND TYPICAL MALE BODIES

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...AND THAT'S WHAT THE BINARY SYSTEM IS BASED ON, BUT IN FACT THERE'S A WHOLE RANGE OF NATURALLY OCCURRING VARIATIONS SOMETIMES CALLED INTERSEX CONDITIONS THAT REPRESENT...

Joel Baum (V.O.)

...THE PHYSICAL PART. GENDER'S ABOUT ALSO, GENDER EXPRESSION, AND THE...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...WAYS IN WHICH PEOPLE PERFORM GENDER, IF YOU WILL. OUR DRESS OUR CLOTHING OUR...

Joel Baum (V.O.)

...MANNERISMS, ACCESSORIES. UM ALSO...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...MANY OF THE EXPECTATIONS THAT OTHER PEOPLE HAVE OF US, BASED ON OUR GENDER, OR THAT WE HAVE OF OTHER PEOPLE.

Pam Lucker (O.S.)

YOU KNOW I'M IN MY SIXTIES, I WAS USED TO THINKING OF GENDER AS A BIOLOGICAL THING AND I WASN'T REALLY...

Pam Lucker (V.O.)

...AWARE OF THE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS.

Linda Thomas (O.S.)

SHE'S A GIRL AND SHE IDENTIFIES AS A BOY AND SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE A BOY AND SHE DOESN'T GET UPSET, WHICH, I HAD PROBLEMS WITH IDENTIFYING, AND SHE LOVES BOY THINGS, SHE DRESSES LIKE A BOY BUT SHE'S HAPPY AS

CAN BE AND SHE TOLD HER PARENTS. THEY'RE THE ONES HAVING THE PROBLEM BUT SHE'S JUST FINE WITH IT.

Joel Baum (O.S.)

THIS BINARY MODEL WE TALK ABOUT IS SOMETHING WE ALL COME BY, QUITE HONESTLY, IN THIS CULTURE, AND WHEN YOU ADD OTHER KINDS OF LENSES, THE FAMILIES WE GREW UP IN...

Joel Baum (V.O.)

...THE COMMUNITIES WE GREW UP IN, OUR OWN RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS AND SPIRITUAL PATHS...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...I DON'T WANT YOU TO BE TOO HARD ON YOURSELF...

Joel Baum (V.O.)

...AROUND THAT AND I REALLY WANT TO APPRECIATE YOUR WILLINGNESS TO BE LIKE "YEAH I WANNA THINK MORE ABOUT THAT" BUT I DO FIND THE UNIVERSAL EXPERIENCE OF MEETING...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...THE KIDS IS LIKE "OKAY" NOW I...

Joel Baum (V.O.)

...GET IT. FINALLY THE LAST ASPECT OF...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...GENDER IS THIS NOTION OF GENDER IDENTITY...

Joel Baum (V.O.)

...GENDER IDENTITY REFERS TO THE INTERNAL SENSE. WHO SOMEONE KNOWS THEMSELVES TO BE. AND WHILE A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL THINK OF THEMSELVES AS A BOY OR A GIRL, THERE'S ALSO INDIVIDUALS WHO'LL SAY "YOU KNOW WHAT? I KIND OF...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...MOVE BETWEEN THE TWO, OR MAYBE EVEN, I DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT MYSELF AS GENDERED, I THINK OF MYSELF AS JUST A PERSON, I DON'T REALLY LOOK AT GENDER."

Marie Stewart (V.O.)

STAFF DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL TEACHERS IS IMPORTANT AROUND THIS ISSUE I THINK.

Marie Stewart (O.S.)

THIS IS NOT SOMETHING YOU CAN JUST GIVE A PIECE OF PAPER TO A TEACHER AND SAY "OK READ THIS AND YOU'LL BE ALL, Y'KNOW, OR READ THIS BOOK AND YOU'LL BE ALL TOGETHER."

TITLE CARD: KINDERGARTEN

Cassie Powell (V.O.)

WHAT I WANNA DO NOW IS, I WANNA SORT SOME OF THESE COLORS...

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

...SO IF I GIVE YOU A MARKER I WANT YOU TO LOOK AT THAT COLOR OF MARKER AND THINK TO YOURSELF, "IS THIS A BOY COLOR OR IS THIS A GIRL COLOR OR COULD THIS BE BOTH" AND WHAT I MEAN BY THAT IS COULD...

Cassie Powell (V.O.)

...BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS LIKE THIS COLOR? ...

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

...WHAT DO YOU THINK? YOU THINK ONLY GIRLS CAN LIKE PINK?

Little Boy (O.S.)

I LIKE PINK!

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

ONLY BOYS OR BOTH PEOPLE?

Cassie Powell (V.O.)

IT WAS INTERESTING CAUSE THE KIDS, LIKE...

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

...SOME OF THEM SEEMED TO BE REALLY THINKING ABOUT IT, LIKE WHEN A GIRL GOT A LIGHT PINK COLOR AND SO, THERE WERE LIKE FRIENDS AROUND HER WHO WERE LIKE "BOTH, BOTH" AND THEN THERE WERE OTHER FRIENDS AROUND HER WHO WERE LIKE "GIRL GIRL" AND...

Cassie Powell (V.O.)

...SO AT THAT MOMENT I ASKED...

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU LIKE PINK. LOOK AROUND THE CIRCLE.

Cassie Powell (V.O.)

...AND BASED ON THAT EVIDENCE OF WHO LIKED PINK SHE CHOSE...

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

...AND SO THERE WERE LOTS OF GIRLS AND LOTS OF BOYS RAISING THEIR HANDS AND SO SHE PUT IT IN BOTH.

Cassie Powell (V.O.)

ALL THE COLORS ARE IN THE MIDDLE IN...

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

...BOTH. DOES THAT MEAN THERE ARE COLORS JUST FOR BOYS?

Kids (O.S.)

NOOO!

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

DOES THAT MEAN THERE ARE COLORS JUST FOR GIRLS?

Kids (O.S.)

NOOO!

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

OR ARE COLORS JUST COLORS?

Kids (O.S.)

COLORS ARE JUST COLORS!

Cassie Powell (O.S.)

COLORS ARE JUST COLORS.

Sabeena (V.O.)

MY SISTER CUT HER HAIR SHORT...

Sabeena (O.S.)

...AND SHE DYED IT AND SHE WEARS A LOT OF BOWTIES AND WHEN I WAS OUT, MY FRIEND WHO'S KIND OF MEAN SOMETIMES SAID "OOH YOU'RE WEARING A BOWTIE AND YOU GOT YOUR HAIR DYED AND IT'S SHORT" AND THAT I THINK HURT HER FEELINGS.

Producer (V.O.)

DID YOU SAY ANYTHING TO YOUR FRIEND?

Sabeena (O.S.)

I SAID THAT IS WRONG, DON'T JUDGE MY SISTER LIKE THAT, THAT'S CALLED STEREOTYPING.

Pam Lucker (V.O.)

ONE STEREOTYPE IS...

Pam Lucker (O.S.)

...BOYS DON'T PLAY HAIRDRESSER, ARI TOLD ME THAT. "ONLY GIRLS LIKE DOLLS" THAT, THIS IS A STEREOTYPE.

Pam Lucker (V.O.)

IS THIS NECESSARILY TRUE?

KIDS (V.O.)

NOOOO!

Zoly (V.O.)

IF YOU HAVE REAL SHORT HAIR THAT DOESN'T MAKE YOU A BOY...

Zoly (O.S.)

MY GRANDMA, SHE HAS SHORT HAIR ABOUT TO HERE.

James (V.O.)

GIRLS CAN WEAR ALL COLORS SO CAN BOYS...

James (O.S.)

...I'M WEARING MY SISTER'S STUFF, THIS IS MY SISTER'S. SHE WEAR THIS EVERYDAY.

Jasmine (V.O.)

I LIKE DOING THINGS THAT...

Jasmine (O.S.)

...BOYS LIKE DOING LIKE, CLIMBING TREES, MAKING PAPER AIRPLANES,
FLYING TOY HELICOPTERS, THINGS LIKE THAT.

Sadie (O.S.)

MY OTHER GIRLY-GIRL FRIENDS AREN'T REALLY GIRLY ANYMORE BUT
THEY'RE NOT YET BOY-GIRLS, THEY'RE LIKE IN THE MIDDLE.

TITLE CARD: FIRST GRADE

Linda Thomas (O.S.)

NOW SOMETIMES WE SEE PEOPLE, WE LOOK AT THEM...

Linda Thomas (V.O.)

...AND THINK WE KNOW ABOUT THEM BECAUSE OF THE WAY THEY LOOK...

Linda Thomas (O.S.)

...THEIR GENDER, THE GROUP THEY'RE IN OR THE LANGUAGE THEY SPEAK.

Linda Thomas (V.O.)

ALRIGHT, TODAY I'M GONNA READ YOU A STORY ABOUT...

Linda Thomas (O.S.)

...SOMEONE WHO WAS STEREOTYPED. OK ARE YOU READY TO LISTEN?

Kids (O.S.)

YES!

Linda Thomas (O.S.)

OK CLICK ON YOUR LISTENING EARS!

Linda Thomas (V.O.)

WHENEVER I READ THE BOOKS, THE CHILDREN WERE VERY QUIET. USUALLY
THEY'RE VERY LOUD OR THEY INTERRUPT, THEY WANNA ASK QUESTIONS
BUT I THINK THIS WAS NEW FOR THEM TOO.

Linda Thomas (V.O.)

OLIVER BUTTON GOT A NICE BLACK SHINY PAIR OF TAP SHOES...

Linda Thomas (O.S.)

...AND HE PRACTICED, AND HE PRACTICED...

Linda Thomas (V.O.)

...BUT THE BOYS, ESPECIALLY THE OLDER ONES IN THE SCHOOL YARD TEASED OLIVER BUTTON. "WHAT ARE THOSE SHINY SHOES, SISSY!?" WHY COULDN'T HE DO DANCING?

First-grade girl (O.S.)

BECAUSE HE WAS A BOY!

Linda Thomas (V.O.)

BOYS, YOU CAN'T DANCE? RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU'RE A BOY AND YOU CAN DANCE! YOU DON'T NECESSARILY HAVE TO TAP DANCE. BOYS CAN YOU DO A LITTLE DANCE FOR ME RIGHT NOW, A COUPLE OF YOU? STAND UP. GIRLS CAN YOU DANCE WITH THEM? STAND UP! EVERYBODY CAN DANCE! DO A LITTLE DANCE COUNT TO 10. 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10.

Star Lightner (V.O.)

I THINK IT HAD NEVER OCCURRED TO HIM THAT YOU COULD LOOK AT THE WORLD...

Star Lightner (O.S.)

...THIS WAY. THAT YOU COULD TAKE OFF THESE LABELS AND TRY AND LOOK AT IT FROM A NEUTRAL PERSPECTIVE.

TITLE CARD:

PERALTA'S GENDER INCLUSION EFFORTS INCLUDED A PARENT COMMUNITY EVENT PRIOR TO WORKING IN CLASSROOMS

Joel Baum (V.O.)

YOU KNOW AT THE END OF THE DAY WE HOPE THERE'S THREE THINGS PEOPLE LEAVE FROM THESE TRAININGS: GENDER IS NOT JUST ABOUT BODIES...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...GENDER IS NOT BINARY AND GENDER IS NOT ABOUT SEXUAL ORIENTATION.

Allison Wellsfry (V.O.)

THE PARENT TRAINING REALLY...

Allison Wellsfry (O.S.)

...HELPED ME FEEL LIKE I WASN'T ALONE...

Allison Wells (V.O.)

...BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY OF US WHO DIDN'T QUITE FIT INTO THE RIGID BOX.

Irene Yen (V.O.)

I NOTICED THAT YOU NEVER SAID...

Irene Yen (O.S.)

...FEMININE OR MASCULINE AND I'M GUESSING THAT YOU INTENTIONALLY AVOIDED THOSE WORDS AND I'M WONDERING WHY

Joel Baum (V.O.)

WELL WHAT WE...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...START TO FEMININE OR MASCULINE BECOMES VERY VERY...

Joel Baum (V.O.)

...CONSTRICTING. WE MAKE FEMININE BECOME A SET OF RULES THAT BECOME REALLY REALLY...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...STRAINING FOR FOLKS WHO MIGHT SEE THINGS DIFFERENTLY.

Dad 1 (V.O.)

MY SON...

Dad 1 (O.S.)

...SEVENTY-FIVE-ISH PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE WE COME INTO CONTACT WITH WHO DON'T KNOW HIM OR ARE MEETING HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME DON'T RECOGNIZE HIS BIOLOGY AND SO HE'S ASKED ME...

Dad 1 (V.O.)

...ON MANY OCCASIONS, OR IT'S A REGULAR THING, DADDY, PLEASE CORRECT.

Dad 1 (O.S.)

BEING ABLE TO, AGAIN, HAVE THE SPACE OF THIS HELPED ME TO REFLECT ON MY EXPERIENCE AND COME BACK TO WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT EARLIER, AROUND HOW DO WE SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN?

Mom 2 (V.O.)

SO WHERE DOES THE BULLYING COME FROM? IF WE'RE ALL BORN AS AN INCLUSIVE SPECIES?...

Mom 2 (O.S.)

...WHAT'S THE POINT?...

Joel Baum (V.O.)

THAT'S A GREAT QUESTION. KIDS ARE IN THIS BINARY SYSTEM LIKE FISH ARE IN WATER, I MEAN IT IS JUST, THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW IT'S THERE. SO UNLESS WE...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...INTENTIONALLY INTERRUPT IT AND SAY "WAIT WAIT WOAH WOAH WOAH WE CAN'T MAKE THESE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT KIDS" THEN THEY'RE GONNA OPERATE THAT WAY AND THAT'S WHERE A LOT OF THE BULLYING COMES FROM...

Joel Baum (V.O.)

...IS THE POWER STUFF IN "WHO'S THE RIGHT WAY WHO'S THE WRONG WAY"...

Joel Baum (O.S.)

...BUT AS SOON AS YOU GIVE THEM A LITTLE BIT OF INFORMATION THEY'RE LIKE "OH OK I GOT IT."

Allison Wellsfry (V.O.)

AND IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT THAT WE UNDERSTAND ALL OF US HAVE...

Allison Wellsfry (O.S.)

...PARTS OF BEHAVIOR THAT MIGHT BE IDENTIFIED AS BOY AND PARTS OF BEHAVIOR THAT MIGHT BE IDENTIFIED AS GIRL, IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THAT RIGID.

TITLE CARD: THIRD GRADE

Marie Stewart (V.O.)

WE'VE BEEN DISCUSSING A LOT OF THE GENDER ISSUES IN CLASS. I TOLD THE KIDS THAT THEY'D BE BREAKING INTO THEIR GROUPS AND ACTUALLY JUST TALKING AMONGST THEMSELVES. AND TO BE HONEST I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THAT...

Marie Stewart (O.S.)

...WELL IT TURNS OUT THAT, THEY COULDN'T STOP.

Third Grade Girl 1 (O.S.)

I LIKE TO WEAR SNEAKERS, JEANS AND I DON'T LIKE DOLLS I HATE THE COLOR PINK, I LIKE THE COLOR BLUE I PLAY SOCCER.

Third Grade Girl 2 (O.S.)

BLUE IS NOT A BOY COLOR. PINK IS NOT A GIRL COLOR. ERIN'S WEARING JEANS, LOTS OF GIRLS LIKE TO WEAR JEANS. SOME GIRLS LIKE TO WEAR SKIRTS.

Marie Stewart (V.O.)

AND THEY WERE ALL SORT OF TALKING ABOUT SORT OF PERSONAL EXPERIENCES AND EXPERIENCES THEY HAD IN THEIR FAMILY IN TERMS OF GENDER ISSUES...

Marie Stewart (O.S.)

...AND SO I FOUND MYSELF BEING IN THE POSITION OF NOT REALLY HAVING TO LEAD ANYTHING. IF ANYTHING I GOT FROM THEM, THIS IS THE POWERFUL THING FOR ME AS A TEACHER, THAT, HOW MUCH THEY TEACH US. HOW MUCH THEY TEACH ME, PERSONALLY.

Third Grade Boy 1 (O.S.)

I ALWAYS WANTED TO LIKE, BE A BALLERINA, SO MY MOM SIGNED ME INTO LIKE, THESE LITTLE CLASSES.

Third Grade Girl 3 (O.S.)

AS YOU GET OLDER YOU LIKE TO Y'KNOW, LIKE BOTH THINGS, LIKE YOU LIKE BOY THINGS AND GIRL THINGS OR MAYBE YOU JUST LIKE BOY THINGS OR MAYBE YOU JUST LIKE GIRL THINGS.

Third Grade Girl 1 (O.S.)

EXCEPT SOMETIMES WHEN YOU GET EVEN OLDER LIKE IN HIGH SCHOOL OR MIDDLE SCHOOL THEN YOU TEND TO LIKE MORE GIRL THINGS.

Marie Stewart (V.O.)

THEY REALLY TAUGHT ME THAT THEY ARE FURTHER AHEAD ON THE CONSCIOUSNESS ARC IF YOU WILL THAN I WAS AT THAT AGE AND CERTAINLY IN THAT, IT JUST KEEPS ME UP TO DATE WITH THINGS. AND REALLY THE OVERARCHING THING FOR ME IN THE CLASS...

Marie Stewart (O.S.)

...AND THE REASON I LOVE THIS IS BECAUSE I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT, TO GET AWAY FROM ALL THAT BULLYING STUFF, I MEAN I'D SAY NINE-TENTHS OF IT WOULD DISAPPEAR IF WE'D DEAL WITH EACH OTHER'S DIFFERENCES IN A DIFFERENT WAY.

TITLE CARD: FOURTH GRADE

Susan Killebrew (V.O.)

ONE OF THE THINGS WE TALKED ABOUT YESTERDAY WAS...

Susan Killebrew (O.S.)

...ABOUT THE BOXES THAT CONFINE US.

Susan Killebrew (V.O.)

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN PRETTY PASSIONATE ABOUT TALKING ABOUT THINGS LIKE STEREOTYPES AND EMPOWERING ALL PEOPLE. BUT THIS UM FRAMEWORK REALLY HELPED ME TAKE THE CONVERSATION TO ANOTHER LEVEL.

Susan Killebrew (O.S.)

WE'VE LABELLED KAMEA WITH ALL THESE LABELS JUST BECAUSE OF HER GENDER RIGHT? IT SAYS HERE UM THAT SHE IS TOO WEAK TO STAND UP FOR HERSELF. ARE YOU TOO WEAK TO STAND UP FOR YOURSELF?

Kamea (O.S.)

NO!

Susan Killebrew (O.S.)

NO. DEFINITELY NOT. BUT SEE WHEN WE PUT THAT LABEL ON HER AND WE DON'T GET TO SEE WHO SHE REALLY IS RIGHT?

Kamea (V.O.)

IF YOU TEASE SOMEBODY ABOUT WHAT THEY WEAR, WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE...

Kamea (O.S.)

...YOU WON'T HAVE AS MANY FRIENDS, YOU WON'T BE THAT MUCH HAPPIER IN LIFE IF YOU TEASE SOMEBODY ABOUT THAT KIND OF STUFF.

Susan Killebrew (O.S.)

ROSON WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME PLAYIN, PLAYING SOCCER OR OTHER THINGS THAT HE LIKES TO DO WITH THAT BOX ON HIS HEAD. AND THE LABELS THAT WE PUT ON PEOPLE MAKE IT HARD FOR THEM TO BE WHO THEY ARE.

Susan Killebrew (V.O.)

IT MAKES IT SO WE CAN'T SEE HOW FABULOUS THEY REALLY ARE. IT ALSO MAKES IT HARD FOR THEM TO LIVE THEIR LIVES THE WAY THEY WANT TO LIVE THEM.

Cyprus (V.O.)

MY CLOSET WAS LITERALLY PINK...

Cyprus (O.S.)

...AND NOW I LOOK AT MY CLOSET AND IT'S ALMOST ALL BLUES BLACKS AND BROWNS.

Chayenne (O.S.)

I THOUGHT THAT IT WAS DIFFERENT, THAT YOU SHOULD DRESS LIKE A GIRL IF YOU'RE A GIRL. BUT I DON'T THINK THAT ANYMORE. LIKE A LOT OF EVEN PARENTS THINK THAT WAY CAUSE THAT'S WHAT THEIR PARENTS TAUGHT THEM.

Sidney (O.S.)

IF THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS BOY THING AND GIRL THING THEN PROBABLY HALF OF MY FRIENDS WOULD BE WEARING DRESSES

Jaden (O.S.)

OVER THE YEARS LIKE MY FAVORITE COLOR IS PURPLE AND I TOLD MY DAD I WAS LIKE "I WANT SOME PURPLE SKINNY JEANS" AND HE WAS LIKE "ARE YOU CRAZY?"...

Jaden (V.O.)

...I PUT THE JEANS ON, I WAS KINDA AFRAID WHAT OTHER PEOPLE WERE GONNA SAY ABOUT THEM...

Jaden (O.S.)

...BUT I JUST WENT WITH IT. AND THEY KINDA ACTUALLY LIKE, ONCE I STARTED WEARING THEM, IT KINDA FELT NORMAL. I'M WEARING WHAT I WANNA WEAR.

Sophie (O.S.)

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT GENDER YOU ARE. IT MATTERS WHAT KIND OF PERSON YOU ARE. LIKE YOU'RE A BOY WHO ACTS LIKE A GIRL, IT DOESN'T MATTER! YOU'RE A GOOD PERSON AND THAT'S WHAT MATTERS.

Sidney (O.S.)

MAYBE THE PRESIDENT CAN MAKE A LAW. LIKE YOU CAN'T MAKE FUN OF BOYS WHO LIKE TO WEAR DRESSES OR GIRLS WHO LIKE THE COLOR GREEN, AND GIRLS WHO LIKE LOVE MONSTER TRUCKS.

TITLE CARD: FIFTH GRADE

Kelly Rozario (V.O.)

WE REMEMBER THAT GENDER IS NOT BINARY RIGHT?

Kelly Rozario (O.S.)

WELL, WHAT DOES BINARY MEAN?

Fifth-grade boy 1 (O.S.)

IT MEANS THAT THERE THERE'S NOT JUST TWO TYPES OF GENDERS THAT THERE'S LIKE THERE'S VARIANCE OF BOY GIRL THERE'S LIKE THERE'S A SPECTRUM.

Kelly Rozario (V.O.)

GOOD, VERY GOOD YEAH. LOTS OF PLACES IN-BETWEEN WHERE YOU COULD FALL. SO TODAY WE'RE GOING TO BE LOOKING AT GENDER IN...

Kelly Rozario (O.S.)

...3D, MEANING GENDER ISN'T JUST ABOUT OUR BODIES, BUT IT IS ABOUT, IT'S THREE DIMENSIONAL. WE'VE GOT, THE BIOLOGY OF GENDER, OR OUR

ASSIGNED GENDER WHEN WE'RE BORN, WE'VE GOT OUR GENDER IDENTITY AND...

Kelly Rozario (V.O.)

...OUR GENDER EXPRESSION.

Kelly Rozario (V.O.)

YOU KNOW YOU COULD FALL ANYWHERE ON THE SPECTRUM,

Kelly Rozario (O.S.)

YOU COULD BE A BOY BIOLOGICALLY, YOU COULD EXPRESS LIKE A BOY, BUT FEEL LIKE A GIRL. IT DIDN'T SURPRISE ME BUT I JUST NEVER THOUGHT OF IT...

Kelly Rozario (V.O.)

...IN THOSE TERMS OF THOSE THREE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS.

Joel Baum (V.O.)

DOING THIS WORK IS CRITICAL BECAUSE IT NOT ONLY CREATES SAFE SPACE FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO MAY BE PARTICULARLY GENDER DIVERSE, BUT REALLY FOR ANY CHILD WHO IS SIMPLY TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A BOY OR A GIRL OR MAYBE SOMETHING DIFFERENT UM AS THEY GO TO SCHOOL.

Kelly Rozario (V.O.)

DOES ANYBODY WANNA COME UP AND TALK ABOUT WHERE THEY FALL ON THE GENDER SPECTRUM?

Fifth grade Girl (O.S.)

I WAS BORN AS A GIRL, UM I USUALLY EXPRESS MYSELF IN THE MIDDLE. NOT USUALLY AT SCHOOL, I'M MORE LIKE OVER HERE...

Fifth grade Girl (V.O.)

...BUT OTHER PLACES I'M IN THE MIDDLE. AND THEN ON THE INSIDE...

Fifth grade Girl (O.S.)

...I FEEL, IN THE MIDDLE.

Natalie Walchuk (O.S.)

IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO BUILD A CULTURE OF INCLUSIVITY FOR ALL CHILDREN BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY FOR GENDER NON-CONFORMING CHILDREN BECAUSE THEY'RE FACING IT IN ALL PARTS OF THEIR WORLD, AND WE KNOW VERY CLEARLY THAT CHILDREN CAN'T LEARN IF THEY DON'T FEEL SAFE AND SEEN.

Linda Thomas (O.S.)

WE'RE TEACHING KIDS THAT THERE'S PEOPLE OF DIFFERENCES IN THE WORLD AND WE SHOULD RESPECT THEM AND LOVE THEM AND TREAT THEM KINDLY, AND THAT'S IT.

Catalina (O.S.)

CAUSE IF THEY DON'T PUT LABELS THEN EVERYONE CAN BE FREE, THEY DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WHAT THEIR GENDER IS AND HOW THEY CAN'T DO THIS AND HOW THEY CAN'T DO THAT THERE'S NO COMPLETE BOUNDARY TO STOP YOU BY YOUR GENDER.

Jevante (O.S.)

IT'S OK TO BE WHAT YOU WANNA BE INSTEAD OF JUST LISTENING TO OTHER PEOPLE.

Kelly Rozario (O.S.)

AS A RESULT OF THIS WORK I THINK MY STUDENTS FEEL HAPPIER IN THAT THEY HAVE PERMISSION TO BE WHO THEY ARE. IT MAKES ME REALLY SAD TO THINK THAT THERE ARE, IN MOST PLACES IN OUR COUNTRY THAT, I MEAN PEOPLE COMMIT SUICIDE BECAUSE THEY DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE BEING WHO THEY ARE.

Star Lightner (O.S.)

I WOULD SAY TO OTHER PARENTS: DON'T BE AFRAID OF THIS: GO AHEAD AND TAKE THE PLUNGE AND START LEARNING ABOUT THIS, YOU'D BE SURPRISED AT HOW OPEN-MINDED PARENTS ARE AND EVEN MORE SO, HOW WELCOMING CHILDREN ARE TO LEARNING ABOUT THIS AND I THINK THAT IT'S GONNA CREATE A SAFER ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERYBODY AND THAT'S ULTIMATELY WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR, FOR OUR CHILDREN AND OUR FAMILIES.

Rue Mapp (O.S.)

YOU SEE KIDS OF ALL DIFFERENT RACES, ALL DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS, ALL DIFFERENT CLASSES, ALL THE DIVERSITY THAT WE CAN SEE, EMBRACING EACH OTHER, LOVING EACH OTHER, HAVING A GREAT TIME, AND THAT'S THE

KIND OF COMMUNITY THAT WE WANT TO FOSTER AND MODEL, NOT ONLY FOR
HERE, IN PERALTA, BUT FOR THE WORLD.