

EQUALLY

Stories by Friends of the Queer World



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Pride Circle presents “**EQUALLY: Stories by Friends of the Queer World**”, a first of its kind anthology of powerful personal stories by individuals who have stood up, spoken up for the LGBT+ community and created safe spaces at home, schools, colleges, workplaces and in society.

In the book, we get a truly ring side view to what it means to be an ‘ally’.

There are **45 stories** written from a first-person perspective, not just by influencers like **Anjali Gopalan, Nandita Das, Suneeta Rao**, but also by Corporate Leaders, Teenagers, Parents, Teachers, from different walks of life.

We celebrate and spotlight the life experiences, perspectives, and sentiments of these individuals on their journey to ‘allyship’.

The book is our token of appreciation for their acceptance, influence, and support.

"Each tale in this book is an inspiration, a motivation and a reminder that there are people across the country for whom the aspect of an individual's identity and existence is of utmost importance. Conveying their solidarity towards the LGBT+ community through their written experience of realisation and transformation into an Ally makes this more than just a book - it is a milestone on the path towards Inclusion." - **Ramkrishna Sinha, Co-Founder Pride Circle**

Why the Book?

Everyone has ‘ally’ stories to tell and we recognise that with each retelling, these stories create stronger connections, inclusion and bring about change. This is not just a book, but a movement!

The change we want to see is a world where no one has to sacrifice their family, freedom, safety, or dignity because of who they are or who they love.

Therefore, the inspirational and authentic stories in “**EQUALLY**” are curated with the aim to shift readers' perspectives on what it truly means to work towards a more inclusive and just society.

So, while the 2020 Edition of “**EQUALLY**” marks a beginning, with every fresh edition we will encourage more individuals to come forward with their ‘ally’ stories and add to the building blocks of a decidedly Indian approach to mobilising LGBT+ allies.

Every upcoming edition will:

- Celebrate more stories of individuals who become proud allies.
- Highlight the courage and support of those who lent their names to the movement.
- Reward those who lead from the front as unsung catalysts.
- Inspire others to consciously embark on the allyship journey.

What being an Ally means to us!

"What does it mean to be an Ally? It means living in a world where humanity exists in different shapes, sizes, colours, views, thoughts, genders, sexualities, and regions. Co-existence is what must enrich our soil to grow bonds of respect, dignity, and love between humans. I wish to reach out to other like-minded individuals to create an environment, a society, where we ensure the safety and dignity of the LGBT+ community, until a stage of widespread equity is achieved where the label of being an 'Ally' is dropped." - **Srini Ramaswamy, Co-Founder Pride Circle**

An “ally” is someone who supports LGBT+ people — both publicly and privately.

The key qualities of an ally are a desire to learn and understand, to help LGBT+ people feel supported and included and work towards fairness and justice for each and every one.

Calling yourself an ‘ally’ is only the first step. It requires active participation and visible gestures of support for the people around us. It is about using your own position of power or privilege to elevate the unheard voices and to foster not only diverse but truly inclusive environment.

Allyship is a journey of acceptance, advocacy, and action.

So, an Ally is

Doting mother who understood her child over “log kya kahenge”.

Loving sibling who was the first confidant.

Caring teacher who educated the bully in school.

Supporting co-worker who addressed the trans colleague with the right pronoun.

Encouraging Vice President who wore the Pride T-shirt at work.

Discerning movie maker who brought authentic representation of the love story of the lesbian couple.

Enterprising journalist who made space for the queer story in the publication.

It is the small everyday things allies do that makes the big difference. Everyone can be an ally, what is your way?

About the book

Publisher: Rupa Publications

Book Style: B/W

Book Size: 7.5-inch x 6.0-inch

Distribution/ Platform: Amazon

Format: Paperback & Kindle version

Book Launch Date: Friday, April 9, 2021

Book Launch Time: 1.30pm to 3.00pm

Expected/ Targeted Pax: 500

Event: Virtual over Zoom

Registration: FREE & Open to All

[\(Click here\)](#)

Interested to learn more?

Organize a book reading for your team?

Gift books to your colleagues & loved ones?

Discuss collaboration?

Get in touch with Srini Ramaswamy

srini@thepridecircle.com

Pride Circle is India’s premier Diversity & Inclusion organization with a mission to enable and empower LGBT+ people and support organizations in fostering a culture of belonging for all. We partner with over 250 companies across India to provide executive leadership development, comprehensive D&I training and consultation, and professional networking opportunities that build inclusive and welcoming work environments. With our experience & growing roster of national & international partner companies, governments & non-profit organizations, Pride Circle is leading the LGBT+ inclusion revolution in India.

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[Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

Contributors/ Authors of EQUALLY



Anjali Gopalan
Human Rights & Animal
Rights Activist,
Founder - Naz
Foundation



Argho Sen
Head Commercial
Products, Service and
Operations, India
Natwest Group



Aruna Desai
Co-Founder,
Sweekar - The Rainbow
Parents



Ashish Kumar Jha
Director - Automation
Solutions
Invesco



Dilip Chenoy
Secretary General
FICCI



Ernesto Noronha
Professor
IIM Ahmedabad



Gunveen Ahuja
Head of Contact Center,
Bangalore,
Pride India Lead
HSBC



Harish Narayanan
Head of Marketing
Myntra



Hemal Shah
Asia Pacific CIO, and SVP
of Data,
Dell Digital



Ishita Katyal
Author & Public Speaker



Dr. Jyotsna Suri
Chairperson & Managing
Director,
The Lalit Suri Hospitality
Group



Kanak Sahoo
Parent & Homemaker



Karan Virwani
CEO,
WeWork India



Kevin G Kochar
Managing Director,
Goldman Sachs



Koushumi Chakraborti
Senior Lead
Compensation &
Benefits,
Infosys BPM



Madhavi Dahanukar
Country Executive & CEO
Northern Trust India



Meetul Patel
Executive Director,
Strategic Growth,
Microsoft India



Mishkkaa Verma
Grade 9 Student
The Future Kid's School



Mohit Malhotra
MD and CEO,
Godrej Properties Ltd.



Mohit Shukla
Managing Director,
Head – India Legal and
Lead – India Regulatory
& Government Affairs,
Barclays



Nandita Das
Actor and Filmmaker



Dr. Nilakshi Roy
Associate Professor &
Head of Department, English
Kerkar College



Nitya Bhalla
Data Science Leader &
Diversity and
Inclusion Leader,
Nielsen South Asia



Nivruti Rai
Country Head, Intel
India and Vice President,
Data Platforms Group,
Intel Corporation



Pankajam Sridevi
Managing Director,
CBA India

Contributors/ Authors of EQUALLY



Pavan Vaish
Head of Driver and Supply
Operations,
Uber India and South Asia



Payal Pasha
Parent, Poetess,
Animal Activist &
Homemaker



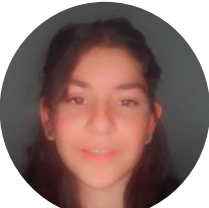
Ramkumar Narayanan
VP Technology &
Managing Director,
VMware, India



Sanjay Murdeshwar
Country President &
Managing Director,
Novartis, India



Saptorsi Hore
Head of Operations
ThoughtWorks, India



Shaina Shingari
Student, Breaking Barriers
Campaigner, Kick Start
Equality Campaigner and
Special Olympics Bharat
Campaigner



Simar Singh
Managing Director,
Group Operations,
Hyderabad,
UBS India



Sindhu Gangadharan
SVP and MD,
SAP Labs India



Sreekanth Arimanithaya
Global Talent &
Enablement Services
Leader,
EY Global Delivery Services



Sudhir Shenoy
CEO and Country
President,
Dow Chemical
International Pvt. Ltd



Sudish Panicker
Managing Director and
Head,
BNY Mellon International
Operations, India



Dr. Sukanyya Misra
Senior Vice President
-India Technology Hub,
Mastercard



Suneeta Rao
IndiPop Singer, Dancer,
Actress



Surekha Shenoy
Corporate Leader



Tanisha Vinod
Student, LGBT+ Ally,
Chocolate aficionado



Tanvi Choksi
Head - Human Resources,
India and JLL Business
Services, Global,
JLL



Taru Dahiya
Director, Asia Pacific,
Google Cloud,
Google



Tina Muthanna
Vice President
- Business Analytics &
Research,
Fidelity India



Trinetri Arora
Corporate Leader



Vedica Saxena
Project Director,
Tagore International
School
