Simple lesson with pointed immediate action to reduce persecution.

Lesson

Grade: 5th

Objectives:

Students will understand the struggles of gay individuals by watching Out of the Past

Students will strive to overcome gay bullying by making a plan to create a gay-straight alliance

Vocabulary:

Homosexuality

Alliance

Launch: Write the phrase "That's so gay" on the board.  Ask students what this phrase means.  Why do they feel it means something similar to "lame" or "uncool"?  Discuss the real meaning behind the term gay, why they're using the word to mean something else, and why it's offensive.

Procedure:

1. Student's will watch Out of the Past.  A movie about a high school girl and her journey to establish a gay-straight alliance mixed with stories from World War I era and Henry Gerber's attempt to start a gay-rights organization.

2.  Student's will work in groups to create a plan on how to start an alliance in their own school.

3.  Student's will create a list of reasons why this club would be beneficial

Assessment:

60% Plan to start a gay-straight alliance club

40% List of at least five reasons why this club would be beneficial to the school