



SUBSCRIBE TO THE ADVOCATE

ADVOCATE



TRENDING ▶

Politics

Out 100

Voices

Culture

Photography

Video

POLITICS ▶

Speaker Mike Johnson Roundly Condemned by LGBTQ+ Groups, Biden Campaign, and Democrats



There's much backlash to the election of U.S. Rep. Mike Johnson, a homophobe, transphobe, and election denier as speaker of the House.

BY TRUDY RING
OCTOBER 25 2023 8:45 PM EST

LGBTQ+ groups and other progressive forces, including President Joe Biden's reelection campaign, are denouncing the elevation of far-right U.S. Rep. Mike Johnson to speaker of the House of Representatives.

ADVOCATE

Don't miss our latest news!
Sign up today for our free newsletter.

SIGN ME UP!



Watch Now: Advocate Channel
Trending Stories & News

For more news and videos on [advocatechannel.com](https://www.advocatechannel.com), click [here](#).

Johnson, a Louisiana Republican, strongly opposes LGBTQ+ equality, abortion rights, and gun restrictions. He is a close ally of former President Donald Trump and opposed the certification of Biden's election as president. He not only voted against certification but led a friend-of-the-court brief in a case that sought to undermine the results in Georgia, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Michigan, all states that Biden carried. The case was dismissed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"I would be hard-pressed to think of a worse member to be elected speaker of the House, not simply for LGBTQ communities, but for the American people," said a statement from Allen Morris, policy director for the National LGBTQ Task Force. "Many of my family members have resided in the Fourth Congressional District of Louisiana for decades, so I know from personal experience his track record on civil rights and minority issues is clear and stark as our community continues to find itself under attack."

Morris added: "Americans should consider his track record on the preservation and maintenance of our very democracy as one that should concern us all. This entire process of choosing a new speaker of the house has only served to expose even more how MAGA extremism continues to degrade our ability to allow Congress to reconcile the important issues impacting us."

TRENDING STORIES

'Supporters of Robyn' Is the
New 'Friends of Dorothy'
Out

NHL Reverses Pride Tape Ban
After Backlash From Fans and
Players: 'A Win For Us All'

HIV Advocate, Journalist Josh
Kruger Murdered in His Home
P

Related: [How Anti-LGBTQ+ Is Newly Elected House Speaker Mike Johnson? Very.](#)

A spokesperson for Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris's reelection campaign, Ammar Moussa, said the elevation of Johnson to Speaker shows the deep control MAGA Republicans have in the House.

"MAGA Mike Johnson's ascension to the speakership cements the extreme MAGA takeover of the House Republican Conference. Now, Donald Trump has his loyal foot soldier to ban abortion nationwide, lead efforts to deny free and fair election results, gut Social Security and Medicare, and advance the extreme MAGA agenda at the expense of middle-class families. 22 days before Congress must act to avoid a government shutdown and while our allies overseas at war depend on our help, extreme MAGA House Republicans elevated a man to second-in-line to the presidency who still won't admit President Biden won the 2020 election. The American people have rejected the extreme MAGA ideology at the ballot box because they understand what's at stake. And so to every MAGA Republican who supported this choice: We'll see you in November."

"It is deeply troubling to witness Johnson elected as speaker, especially considering his vote against bipartisan legislation to codify same-sex marriage, which is foundational to ensuring equity and the staying power of constitutional rights upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court," said a statement from David J. Johns, executive director of the [National Black Justice Coalition](#). "His repeated support for anti-LGBTQ+ bills, including the Stop the Sexualization of Children Act of 2022, which many have aptly labeled a federal 'don't say gay' measure, highlights his disdain for the LGBTQ+ community. Our non-queer, trans, and gender-expansive siblings must understand Republican leaders like Representative Johnson are targeting us because we're a minority, and their attacks will NOT stop with our community. History has taught all of us that they will come for you."

“This election represents the full and complete takeover of the Republican Party by MAGA extremists, with the American people destined to bear the cost,” said Patrick Gaspard, CEO of the Center for American Progress Action Fund. “House Republicans chose a speaker who wants to gut Americans’ health and financial security by slashing Medicare and Social Security by trillions of dollars. He also spearheaded efforts to overturn the results of the 2020 election and is at the extreme fringe of right-wing intolerance when it comes to LGBTQ rights. His extremism, evidenced by a record of voting with Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA) 95 percent of the time, is anathema to who we are as a people.”

Democratic U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, chair of the [Congressional Equality Caucus](#), had this to say: “Today, the House had the opportunity to elect a speaker of the House who could lead in a bipartisan manner to move America forward. Instead, extreme MAGA Republicans elected a speaker who has dedicated his career to attacking LGBTQI+ people and pushing an anti-equality agenda. The House has already taken more than 10 anti-equality votes this Congress. By electing Mike Johnson — a vehement opponent of LGBTQI+ equality — as speaker, his supporters have signaled they want these attacks against our community to continue.”

Former House member Mondaire Jones, a Black gay man who is seeking election to the body again, noted that Mike Lawler, the Republican he’s running against in New York State, voted for Johnson as speaker.

Johnson is “the election denier who was an architect of House Republican efforts to overturn the 2020 election and the author of a federal ‘don’t say gay law,’” Jones said in a statement. “Rep. Johnson is an extremist who supports a national abortion ban and an out-of-touch representative who wants to cut Social Security and Medicare. This vote makes clear that while Lawler likes to masquerade as a moderate, he is a reliable vote for the extreme MAGA Republicans.”

RELATED

[How Anti-LGBTQ+ Is Newly Elected House Speaker Mike Johnson? Very.](#) >

[Federal 'Don't Say Gay' Bill Introduced by House Republicans](#) >

[House Republicans Spew Transphobia in Hearing on Gender-Affirming Care](#) >

[Yes, New House Speaker Mike Johnson Once Wrote in Support of Criminalizing Gay Sex](#) >

[Gay Rep. Robert Garcia Explains the Homophobes Who Ran to Be Speaker](#) >

[Kevin McCarthy Ousted from Speakership in Historic Vote, GOP Fractured](#) >

[House Democrats Support Gaetz’s Motion to Remove McCarthy as Speaker](#) >

[Who Is Acting House Speaker Patrick McHenry and How Antigay Is He?](#) >

[Kevin McCarthy Elected Speaker of the House on 15th Vote](#) >

[Jim Jordan, a Far-Right MAGA Republican, Wins Nomination for Speaker of House](#) >

RECOMMENDED STORIES FOR YOU

Gays Thirsted After NFL Player & Skims Model Nick Bosa—Then Found Out He’s a ...

Out

George W. Bush Calls Out Republicans Trying to End HIV Program PEPFAR

P

Off-Duty Pilot Tries to Take Down Alaska Airlines Flight

of

TAGS: POLITICS, REPUBLICAN PARTY, POLITICIANS, JOE BIDEN, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, REPUBLICAN PARTY, CONGRESSIONAL EQUALITY CAUCUS, NATIONAL LGBTQ TASK FORCE, NATIONAL BLACK JUSTICE COALITION, CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS, MARK POCAN, MONDAIRE JONES

Be sure to follow Advocate on your favorite social platform



Want more breaking equality news & trending entertainment stories?

Check out our NEW 24/7 streaming service: the Advocate Channel!

Download the Advocate Channel App for your mobile phone and your favorite streaming device!

APPLE STORE - GOOGLE PLAY
ROKU - APPLE TV - FIRE TV - GOOGLE TV

FROM OUR SPONSORS

MOST POPULAR

TRAVEL

50+ Woof-Worthy Pics From Provincetown Bear Week 2023

JULY 21 2023 2:37 PM

PEOPLE

27-Year Age Gap Is No Match for Love Say Chris Stanley & Bret LaBelle

AUGUST 19 2023 11:00 AM

POLITICS

Lauren Boebert Caught Fondling Date's Genitals During Family-Friendly Musical: Video

SEPTEMBER 15 2023 11:20 PM

FILM

Red, White, & Royal Blue's Steamy, Sexy, & Adorable Trailer Is Finally Here

JULY 06 2023 11:14 AM

PEOPLE

Gay Soccer Star Jake Daniels, 18, Shares About His Partner, 46

MAY 22 2023 1:35 PM

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

9 LGBTQ+ Hallmark Stars You Should Know

JUNE 28 2023 12:47 PM

PRIDE

63 Photos of Kamala Harris's 2023 Pride Month Celebration

JUNE 29 2023 6:26 PM

NEWS

KKK Members in Kentucky Pull Gun on LGBTQ+ Activists — Police Let Them Go

JUNE 17 2023 10:00 AM

PHOTOGRAPHY

13 Historic Photos of Men in Love, 1850s to 1950s

JUNE 21 2023 9:03 AM

PHOTOGRAPHY

30 Steamy Photos of Folsom Street Fair 2023 Debauchery

OCTOBER 15 2023 11:06 PM

LATEST STORIES

POLITICS

Kyrsten Sinema Unfazed by Re-election Prospects, 'Can Do Anything,' According to New Book

53 SECONDS AGO

LAW

Tennessee Hit by Federal Lawsuit Over Discriminatory HIV Sex Worker Statutes

45 MINUTES AGO

POLITICS

Tennessee City Overwhelmingly Rejects Mayoral Hopeful With Neo-Nazi Connections

17 HOURS AGO

NEWS

Meta Under Fire After Suspending & Reinstating 'Gays Against Groomers' on Instagram

17 HOURS AGO

VOICES

Watching the 'Armageddon' of the House GOP and Speaker Johnson

16 HOURS AGO

PLUS

Poz Nights at Gay Bars Were Wonderful — And Now Outdated

18 HOURS AGO

THE ADVOCATES

Nancy Pelosi's Possible House Successor Places His Gay Identity Front and Center

18 HOURS AGO

LAW

Former NBA Star Dwight Howard Denies Sexually Assaulting Another Man

17 HOURS AGO

MEDIA

Washington Times Writer Condemns Trans Kids' Parents With Bible Verse Suggesting Execution

22 HOURS AGO

NEWS

Instagram Suspends 'Gays Against Groomers' Amid Scrutiny of Meta's Moderation Policies

20 HOURS AGO UPDATED

POLITICS

Yes, New House Speaker Mike Johnson Once Wrote in Support of Criminalizing Gay Sex

19 HOURS AGO

NEWS

Libs of TikTok's Chaya Raichik Threatens Anti-Defamation League Over Extremist Label

23 HOURS AGO

LAW

Meet the Texas Judge Who Refuses to Marry Same-Sex Couples

OCTOBER 25 2023 11:31 AM

POLITICS

How Anti-LGBTQ+ Is Newly Elected House Speaker Mike Johnson? Very.

20 HOURS AGO

SPORTS

NBA Referee Che Flores Comes Out as Transgender and Nonbinary

OCTOBER 24 2023 6:55 PM

CRIME

Albuquerque Trans Woman Sherlyn Marjorie Murdered, Her Former Partner Charged

OCTOBER 24 2023 5:57 PM

LAW

Ohio Man Pleads Guilty to Firebombing Church Over Drag Queen Events

23 HOURS AGO

NEWS

Spotify Removes Offensive Imagery But Keeps Transphobic Song Despite Outcry

OCTOBER 24 2023 5:24 PM

POLITICS

The Tennessee Mayoral Candidate and Her White Supremacist Friends

OCTOBER 24 2023 4:46 PM

CRIME

No Hate Crime Charges in Shooting Death of California LGBTQ+ Advocate Despite Antigay Slur

OCTOBER 25 2023 11:19 AM