Guest blogger guidelines

Thank you for offering to share your story with us! Here are our guidelines for publication:

- **Article length:** 600-900 words.
- **Editing:** You must be amenable to editing for spelling, grammar, punctuation, length or content.
- **Photos:** You are welcome to submit a photo/image for publication with the blog, but be aware the editor may choose to use a different image. If you submit an image, you must be the owner/rights holder of the image and by submitting it, grant OurPath royalty-free use of the image in conjunction with the blog post.
- **Author Name:** you may publish under your real name, your first name alone, or a pseudonym. OurPath will verify your real name and contact information.
- **Anonymity:** Please change the names/locations of your spouse/partner and any children in your article.
- **Publication:** OurPath will consider both unpublished and previously published material. If your article has been published elsewhere, you must verify that you have the right to publish it with OurPath. If you would like to publish it elsewhere after publishing with OurPath, please kindly link back to the original publication on the OurPath blog (hyperlink: "This article originally appeared in the OurPath Blog on Day/Month/Year").
- **Social Media:** Our blog posts are published on our website and then shared via our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts, and other social media accounts that may be utilized in the future.
- **Personal perspective:** Your submission must be written from your personal perspective and experience (unless you are a professional who has been invited to comment on an area of your expertise). You are the expert on your own life and we encourage Straight Partners and Partners of Trans People to share their voices and stories.
- **Veracity:** Autobiographical submissions need to be true to your experience! Setting aside pseudonyms and other non-substantive details that might be altered to protect privacy, your submission should reflect reality as you experienced it.
- **Teachable moments:** Articles that offer some valuable learning or teachable moment give hope to readers. We encourage you to emphasize key takeaways in your story that others may find helpful in their own lives. Avoid, however, giving advice.

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- **No "outing":** Articles that attempt to out partners or spouses will not be considered for publication.
- **No "trashing":** Articles that read as trashing or venting about a partner or spouse will not be considered for publication.
- **Homophobia/Transphobia:** OurPath is a pro-equality organization. Articles that make sweeping generalizations about LGBT+ people will not be considered for publication. Articles that disparage all LGBT+ people or use hurtful language will not be considered for publication.
- **Reaction:** Be prepared for varied reactions to your submission from the reading public and any friends or family members who may read it. Once it's on the internet, it's there forever.
- **Comments:** Comment sections are open but moderated. If someone takes exception with your article and makes a comment, measured responses are fine, but the comment section is not the place to start an argument.
- **Religion:** Although it is perfectly fine to talk about how having an LGBT+ Partner has impacted your individual faith, articles proselytizing religious views will not be considered for publication.
- **Politics:** OurPath has taken public positions on Marriage Equality, The Equality Act, and Conversion Therapies. It is acceptable to write about the personal effect LGBT+ issues/ legislation have on you as an individual Straight Partner or Partner of a Trans Person. Articles making political endorsements of any kind, however, will not be considered for publication.

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