

Planned Parenthood
Federation of America

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter as my highest support for Alex Edelman's nomination for the Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40 Class of 2013 at the National LGBT Bar Association. I am acquainted with Mr. Edelman through my previous work as the Manager of Government Affairs at Planned Parenthood of Kansas and Mid-Missouri and the Regional Field Organizer for PROMO, Missouri's LGBTQ equality organization.

Mr. Edelman has demonstrated a deep commitment to not only LGBT equality, but to the complex and intersection issues of justice for Kansas City's queer community. Even before becoming an attorney, Mr. Edelman was active with PROMO, Planned Parenthood, and the ACLU of Kansas and Western Missouri. During my time at Planned Parenthood, I was particularly struck by his understanding of the intersections of reproductive justice and queer lives. Mr. Edelman – through his work with EQUAL, PROMO, the ACLU, and informal groups – has frequently helped community activists identify their civil liberties and seek additional resources when necessary. He is generous with his time and just as comfortable helping young gender-queer activists organize a spirited protest as he is interviewing high-level political candidates to determine their understanding of and commitment to the LGBT community. On a more personal note, I have admired his willingness to share his faith with friends and colleagues. Smaller Midwestern cities are not metropolises for queer Jews, and while I cannot speak to his experience, Mr. Edelman has always answered my own dumb questions with compassion and grace. Mr. Edelman has a keen ability to speak and work across all kinds of difference, even within our community, in order to stay focused on building a beloved community, a community both committed to and recipients of justice.

I am proud to call Alex Edelman both a colleague and a friend and to recommend him as a Best LGBT Lawyer Under 40.

Sincerely,



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