

The Welcoming Project  
Volunteer Script for Mobilization Day

When you enter a business, introduce yourselves and ask to speak with the owner. If the owner is not in, ask for the manager on duty.

Here is a script that might be useful, feel free to use your own words:

*"Hi, I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am \_\_\_\_\_ and we are here representing The Welcoming Project, a Norman-based non-profit that offers free welcoming signage and website placement of local businesses who are supportive of the gay community. We are going "door to door" to share The Welcoming Project with local businesses and ask if they are interested in joining The Welcoming Project for free."*

*"Here is our sign (show sign) that we are asking local businesses to display in their windows. We also list all welcoming businesses on our website. We feel that the Norman community is a great place to show support for the gay community and The Welcoming Project is proud to support this goal."*

*"Do you think you might be interested in joining The Welcoming Project?" or "Do you have any questions?"*

**TROUBLE SHOOTING:**

Business Owner: "I thought Norman was a really progressive place, is this something that we really need?"

TWP Volunteer Response: *"While Norman is a wonderful place, there are still many gay community members that don't feel safe here. By displaying this sign, you can really show the gay community and their allies that you support them as patrons in your business. It is a simple gesture that can really make a difference."*

Business Owner: "Is this something that is bad for business?"

TWP Volunteer Response: *"While you might lose some customers, we like to think that you will gain many more. There are currently more than 100 welcoming places in the U.S., Canada, and Europe, and more than half are in the Norman area. We think that this is the perfect time show the gay community and their allies that you support them as patrons in your business. It is a simple gesture that can really make a difference."*

If the business owner offers too many challenging or confrontational questions, feel free to tell them to contact us for further information at [contact@thewelcomingproject.org](mailto:contact@thewelcomingproject.org). This info is on our business card so leave the business card and put the ball in their court.