

Disowned

When Molly came back to campus for her sophomore year, a friend snapped some pictures of Molly and her girlfriend, Kate. The friend tagged Molly and posted it on social media. Molly's mom saw the pictures and Molly's world turned upside-down.

Molly's mom demanded that she leave her college and come home so that she could get into therapy, enroll at a local community college and "get back to normal." Her dad told her they were disgusted with her lifestyle. When Molly refused to come back, her dad brought all of her belongings to her residence hall and dumped them in her suite's common room. When Molly came back from class, her friends were trying to organize her belongings. When Molly told them what had happened, they all began to cry.

Molly owned her own car, but her parents cancelled her car insurance policy and took her license plates. Her mom texted, "Well, I am done with you. As of right now, declare yourself independent. You are on your own. Please don't contact us or your siblings."

Molly's parents had helped her pay for tuition that wasn't covered by student loans and scholarships. Being a student at her college meant everything to Molly. She was not sure how she could afford her spring semester tuition.

For Discussion:

- What would you do if Molly asked for your help?
- How can you support LGBTQIA+ students who are not accepted by their families?
- How can your institution support students whose financial situation rapidly changes?
- What resources on your campus would be helpful for Molly?

Note: Case inspired by <https://bit.ly/2Vo7bTI>