



ten more good years

A poignant documentary about the lives of a generation of LGBT elders in their 70s and 80s, who have grown up in a time of discrimination and the struggle to attain a health system that is more caring and responsive. *Vancouver Sun*

The film's survivors mirror a larger survival and triumph. In the lives of a handful of LGBT elders in their 70s and 80s, we see these stories, the film insists, and not only experience them as archival pieces for the people, the essence our heroes, who lived through them and survived. It's rough to encounter, hopefully, old age's rewards but also its fresh hardships. With the recent and current civil rights battles in a new light when introduced to the lives of living, often tragically and solitary, in a society whose institutions and services largely lead them back toward the closet. In this way, *Ten More Good Years* counts a constantly shifting LGBT community, how will inform the future and health and visibility of LGBT communities to come. *The San Francisco Film Society*

sobering *Time Out, London*

NOW SHOWING
In Your Classroom

 © 2008 All Rights Reserved Color 71 minutes Closed Captioned for the Hearing Impaired
LOOKOUT FILMS, INC. Presents ten more good years A Documentary by Michael Jacoby

- ▶ Featuring: James Bidgood, Miss Major: Jacki Ogg, Harry Barrton
- ▶ Original Music: Soren Sorensen & Kurt Dellested
- ▶ Editor: Michael Jacoby & Jennifer Roggero
- ▶ Audio Mix: Bryant Falk
- ▶ Line Producer: Staci Sarkin
- ▶ Co-Executive Producer: Scott Holliman, Jon Lasser, George Zuber
- ▶ Story by: Michael Jacoby
- ▶ Executive Producer: Dr. Louis C. Rose
- ▶ Produced and Directed by: Michael Jacoby

EDUCATOR GUIDE



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HOW TO USE THIS STUDY GUIDE AND FILM



Educators can use this guide to support viewing of “Ten More Good Years” while engaging students & participants in discussions about civil rights, First Amendment freedoms, the role of cultural competence in medical practices and ethics, religious tolerance and personal belief systems. The film and education guide activities foster discussion about these topics within families and in the broader community so that students, teachers and community members may gain a greater understanding and appreciation of LGBT history, LGBT Elders and tolerance for those who differ from us. Because this film is 71 minutes in length it is best viewed in two parts. Part 1 of the film should be viewed through the 2005 White House Conference on Aging and end there

(approximately 48 minutes through the film). The second part should begin at the chapter titled “Gay and Lesbian Elder Housing” under the “Housing” section in the DVD menu and carry through to the end of the film.

GRADE LEVEL'S

9–12, College/University

SUBJECT AREAS

Gerontology, Civil & Human Rights, LGBT Studies , Ethics, Psychology, Sociology, Current Events

ACTIVITIES

The activities in this Educator Guide are presented in the following order:

Activity 1: LGBT History:

This lesson looks at the lives of some of the main characters in the film and examines the role of dishonorable discharges in the military, Drag Queen culture, HIV and the Arts in influencing LGBT Civil Rights. Educator's can encourage students/ participants to discuss past lgbt civil rights issues and compare and contrast them with today's lgbt civil rights issues. After watching the film the educator can review scenes in the film specific to these issues. Chapter markers are inserted next to the scene description in the activity. At the end of the activity suggested questions are posed.

Activity 2: Government and Policy Issues in LGBT Lives:

This lesson looks at current US national policies that adversely affect the LGBT community. Without equal rights on a Federal level LGBT elders are faced with a myriad of challenges that the heterosexual community simply does not have to deal with. Students and participants are encouraged to examine these differences and discuss how these challenges directly affect LGBT elders. After watching the film the educator can review scenes in the film specific to these issues. These scenes are recapped in Part 1 of the activity. Part 2 of the activity provides the educator with more information about the subject and can be used to guide classroom discussion and/or provide a guideline for homework. At the end of Part 2 suggested questions are posed.

Activity 3: Social Relationships and Family of Choice

This lesson sheds light on how intimate connections between the LGBT population differ from that of the heterosexual population and defines “family of choice” in relation to blood family. By taking a closer look at how the LGBT community interacts with one another both intimately and familiarly students and participants should begin to understand more about the unique and special dynamic that begins to occur among marginalized groups. After watching the film the educator can review scenes in the film specific to these issues. These scenes are recapped in Part 1 of the activity. Part 2 of the activity provides the educator with more information about the subject and can be used to guide classroom discussion and/or provide a guideline for homework. At the end of Part 2 suggested questions are posed.

Activity 4: Cultural Competence

This lesson is set up to educate students and participants on the need for Cultural Competency within all areas of the care-giving field. Personal beliefs on part of the care-giver can greatly affect an LGBT elder. Without specific regulations set in place an LGBT elder can often find him or herself retreating back to the closet should they find themselves in a threatening situation. After watching the film the educator can review scenes in the film specific to these issues. These scenes are recapped in Part 1 of the activity. Part 2 of the activity provides the educator with more information about the subject and can be used to guide classroom discussion and/or provide a guideline for homework. At the end of Part 2 suggested questions are posed.

Activity 5: Housing

This lesson looks at the need for LGBT specific housing options for elders and also takes a look at what options are currently available. After watching the film the educator can review scenes in the film specific to these issues. These scenes are recapped in Part 1 of the activity. Part 2 of the activity provides the educator with more information about the subject and can be used to guide classroom discussion and/or provide a guideline for homework. At the end of Part 2 suggested questions are posed.

Activity 6: Intergenerational Relationships

This lesson takes a look at how agist thoughts and perceptions directly affect how America ages and more specifically how it relates to the LGBT community. While HIV and AIDS is no longer thought of as a “gay cancer” it did impact the LGBT community in a severe way. This chapter explores why HIV has robbed many members of the LGBT community of the opportunity to explore intergenerational relationships and offers examples of how to rebuild this bridge between generations. After watching the film the educator can review scenes in the film specific to these issues. These scenes are recapped in Part 1 of the activity. Part 2 of the activity provides the educator with more information about the subject and can be used to guide classroom discussion and/or provide a guideline for homework. At the end of Part 2 suggested questions are posed.

GET THE “TEN MORE GOODY YEARS” DVD OR DOWNLOAD THE FILM FOR YOUR IPOD OR COMPUTER:

Should students or participants wish to purchase a home use version of Ten More Good Years to help with their studies or discussions copies of the DVD are available via the website at www.TenMoreGoodYears.com. Downloads are also available via the same web address for a reduced price.



ABOUT THE FILM

In the latter part of the 1960's the Civil Rights Movement made its way into the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Community. Across the country LGBT persons defiantly stood up and fought for the right to be out, proud, and equal. In 2006, the LGBT Community is out and definitely proud; however, they are far from equal. Those who "could not take it anymore" some 40 years ago at Compton's Cafeteria in San Francisco, The Stonewall Inn in New York City, and elsewhere across the United States, are older now and are facing an onslaught of discrimination from their government, social service networks, and even from their own Community.

"Ten More Good Years" introduces remarkable LGBT Elders who share inspiring stories of their lives and Queer History. It is through these stories that the governmental and social injustices quietly reveal themselves, shedding light on what it is now, and what it will be to grow old and Gay in America. Outdated tax laws, Medicaid and Medicare regulations, Social Security and inheritance laws, a lack of Cultural Competency within Social Services, and the need for non-discriminatory housing are all issues currently facing the Elder LGBT population. "Ten More Good Years" corroborates these injustices through coast to coast interviews with gerontologists, social service workers, Lawyers from NCLR, Senior Strategists from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, along with a host of other credible figures. "Ten More Good Years" also investigates the process and outcome of the 2005 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA); an event scheduled every ten years to guide national policy.

Due to the outcome of the 2005 WHCoA the very elders who fought for the right to be out, proud and equal could be forced back into the closet and silenced once again. The Elders interviewed in this film share their concerns for their own future as well as for future generations of LGBT men and women. Along with their concerns, they gently provide guidance to a younger generation who often times seems to have become complacent.

It is the hope of "Ten More Good Years" that through the stewardship of those that have come before us we will realize that the fight for LGBT rights is far from over and that the gaps that exist between the old and the young can only hinder our ability to progress as a unified family.

Activity 1

LGBT History



"They came for the Communists, but I didn't speak up because I was none of those. Then they came for the Jews and I didn't speak up because I was not a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists and I didn't speak up because I didn't practice a trade. Then they came for the Catholics, and I was a Protestant so I didn't speak up. Then they came for me... by that time there was no one left to speak up."

Martin Niemoller

Army Discharge

Watch “Meet Harry” under “Meet the Heros”
play for approximately 1:15 minutes

Harry Bartron said that he joined the navy because he liked the uniform. He continued his story by saying that he was proposed with sexual advances by his battle station partner. However, he was reported by the same battle station partner. After being reported he was discharged to Treasure Island in San Francisco, California. On the train ride back home to the east coast he tore his yellow discharge papers up and threw them out the window. Harry later reveals that he was never entitled to Veterans benefits because of the dishonorable discharge. He feels they were mistaken in giving him this type of discharge because he has in fact been very desirable.

Drag Queen Culture

Watch “Meet Miss Major” under “Meet the Heros”
play for approximately 1:45 minutes

Miss Major was a regular at The Stonewall Bar in New York City. When Judy Garland (June 10, 1922 – June 22, 1969) passed away she, along with many other transgendered men and women, spent that evening mourning her death at the bar. She explains that police often raided the bar and everybody would have to leave and go home, but on that particular evening nobody left and a three day riot ensued at 53 Christopher Street in the West Village. Miss Major also explains that drag queens and transgendered men and women where often stopped on the streets because dressing up as the opposite sex was illegal. To make it legal, a drag queen or transgendered person would have to be sure to wear one article of clothing that would identify them as a member of their birth sex; if they did not have this on they were forced to remove all of their clothes right then and there, put them in a bag, and would then be thrown in jail.

HIV

Watch “HIV’s Role in the Generation Gap” under “Bridging the Gap”
play for approximately 2 minutes

Watch “The Money” under “The Legal and Financial Realities”
play for approximately 1 minute

Jack Ogg and his partner lived in the heart of the Castro district in San Francisco throughout the eighties and early nineties. Jack managed and lived in a building with over 35 units and explains that most of the people living in that building were gay. When HIV hit, Jack and his partner Don held the hands of many of their tenants as they died. Jack says gay men began to withdraw. The government was extremely slow in coming to the aid

of gay men and it was the lesbian women who stepped up to the plate. This was first time that gay men and women worked closely together. In the past, lesbians and gay men stayed away from one another and Jack credits lesbian women, such as Ivy Bottini, for saving gay men all together. Oddly enough, the onset of HIV/AIDS gave transgendered men and women an opportunity to work in a legitimate field for the first time. Miss Major explains the reason for this was that nobody wanted to get near an infected homosexual, so hospice jobs and caregiver positions were given to members of the trans community who were anxious to have a job that was not hooking or performing.

Art

**Watch “Meet Jim” under “Meet the Heros”
play for approximately 1:15 minutes**

James Bidgood had a vision back in the sixties; he wanted to film a boy swimming through his tiny New York City apartment. He did exactly that. With these first photographs, he became the inspiration to such artists as Pierre et Gilles and David LaChapelle. Jim then began making a film that would go on to become one of the great cult classics of queer cinema, *Pink Narcissus* (1971). The film was made during a very conservative time and because of the very explicit nature of the film, James Bidgood felt he should remove his name from the project. He also felt that the film was not edited the way in which he had originally intended. Jim blames the era in which the film was made on his not becoming a famous director. Despite the fact that most of Hollywood was in fact gay, nobody wanted to be identified as gay, and therefore nobody wanted to get close to *Pink Narcissus*. Sadly, Jim has never received the credit he deserves for his work, even while many young artists have made millions on copy cat photos.

****Three of the main subjects in the film worked as artists in one way or another during the birth of the gay revolution: Jim was a photographer and film maker, Miss Major was a drag performer and Harry Bartron was a pantomime. As stated by Jim Bidgood in the film, artists work for themselves and often go long periods of time between jobs. They are often taken advantage of by agents and most of them never paid into social security or pensions. As they age there is not much money in their coffers.*

For Discussion or Questioning:

- How is today different from the era’s discussed in the film?
- What would be different about being a gay serviceman/woman today as opposed to serving during WW2?
- What is different about life as a gay artist in today’s world as opposed to yesteryear?
- How far have we come when thinking about hiring transgendered men and women in the workplace?
- What role has HIV played in bringing a sense of “family” to the LGBT Community?

Activity 2

Government and Policy Issues in LGBT Lives



“Younger people can feel confident that Social Security will still be around when they need it to cushion their retirement.”

Ronald Reagan, 1982

Part I

- **Legal issues and the need for protection**

Watch “As a Result of the Law” under “The Legal and Financial Realities”
play for approximately 4 minutes

Jack Ogg was not able to remain in his apartment after the death of his partner. Without the steady stream of income that his partner contributed to their lives, Jack needed access to his partner’s social security and pension benefits. However, because the federal government will not grant this form of income to same sex partners, Jack had to resort to leaving his apartment and moving into a homeless shelter with his two cats. Eventually he moved into SRO (Single Room Occupancy) housing. Following the SRO living quarters, he received a Section 8 voucher and moved into a roomier apartment.

Many LGBT elders are marginalized and do not even know that they need to set up a living will. A will needed to be devised to ensure property is not taken away from the surviving partner by family members who may have never approved of the relationship to begin with, or from other government agencies.

- **Financial Issues**

Watch “The Money” under “The Legal and Financial Realities”
play for approximately 7 minutes

Dr. Brian de Vries, Professor of Gerontology at San Francisco State University, states that many LGBT elders move into communities that are more likely to be accepting of homosexuality, such as San Francisco. Research shows that LGBT people in San Francisco are more educated than their heterosexual counterparts, but make less money. One of the reasons may be that these LGBT elders may have made a choice to live in an environment that is LGBT friendly, in lieu of living in a city that might be more suited toward the career they were intending, or educated for.

LGBT elders make between \$16k and \$21K per year. A common misconception is that all LGBT elders are wealthy, when in fact this is not the case at all.

Part II

Government and Policy Issues in LGBT Lives

States with Marriage Laws

States with full marriage equality

Massachusetts (2004)

States with broad recognition laws

Civil unions: Vermont (2000), Connecticut (2005), New Jersey (2006), New Hampshire (2007)

Domestic Partnerships: California (2005), Oregon (2007)

States with limited relationship recognition laws

Domestic Partnerships: District of Columbia (1992), Maine (2004), Washington (2007)

Reciprocal Beneficiaries: Hawaii (1997)

The Human Rights Campaign states that the Domestic Partner Health Benefits Equity Act would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to end the taxation of health insurance benefits for domestic partners and treat them the same way health benefits for legal spouses and dependents are treated.

Reasons for Businesses to Endorse the Domestic Partner Health Benefits Equity Act

- By ending the taxation of domestic partner benefits, this bill will save the company money
- Eliminating the tax on domestic partner benefits will relieve the administrative burdens of:
 - Calculating the imputed value of domestic partner benefits for each of a company's health plans;
 - Coordinating enrollment elections with payroll to ensure proper administration;
 - Updating human resources information systems to account for the different tax treatment of some employees; and
 - Updating other systems to assess taxes on other monetary benefits.
- Reinforce corporate reputation as a champion of workplace fairness and drive recruitment and retention of dedicated employees.
- Companies should not be taxed for providing the health insurance benefits that an increasingly diverse workforce needs.
- Individuals should not be taxed for obtaining health insurance for a loved one.
- This bill would impact the taxation on both same-sex and opposite-sex couples, thus providing greater savings to the company.
- The business reasons for supporting the Domestic Partner Health Benefits Equity Act are compelling. The bill will reduce the corporation's tax burden and will alleviate the administrative burden of establishing separate payroll and taxation schemes.

- A summary analysis of an information technology firm that employed 140,000 people found that the likely cost to the company in taxes on domestic partner benefits was low compared to the many other tax burdens that the company faces. However, over time, passage of this bill could represent substantial cost savings to companies. The time spent supporting it will pay dividends in terms of corporate reputation in the GLBT market and on diversity and equity matters.
- Take the time to educate them about the following:
 - The taxation of domestic partner benefits, including:
 - The current IRS code.
 - How much it costs employees to take advantage of domestic partner benefits.
 - How it affects employers' payroll taxes.
 - How it will relieve administrative burdens on the company.
- The Domestic Partner Health Benefits Equity Act affects every industry because it affects all employees across the United States.

“Younger people can feel confident that Social Security will still be around when they need it to cushion their retirement.” – *Ronald Reagan, 1982*

According to the Human Rights Campaign, gay and lesbian Americans contribute to Social Security throughout their working lives and their families are denied the same benefits heterosexual Americans receive upon the death of a spouse. Specifically:

- Partners who are retired or disabled are denied surviving spouse benefits because they were denied the right to marry.
- Partners raising children are denied Social Security surviving parent benefits because they were previously denied the right to legally marry.
- Children may also be denied Social Security surviving child benefits if the deceased parent was barred from securing a legal relationship to his or her child through second-parent adoption.

This loss of income can be substantial. For example, surviving partners who are 60 years old will lose an average of \$9,780 a year – or approximately \$166,000 if they live to the average life expectancy of 77. (Based on Social Security Administration calculations that Social Security survivor benefits averaged \$815 per month in 2002.)

- Two years ago, in 2006, legislation introduced in the U.S House of Representatives as reported by [The Advocate](#), “Would amend the Social Security Act to afford same-sex couples the same benefits, responsibilities, and obligations as others who pay into Social Security. The Equal Access to Social Security Act, H.R. 5152, would add the term ‘permanent partner’ to the Social Security Act in addition to the terms ‘husband’ and ‘wife,’ which are already present in the legal code.”
- H.R. 5152 [109th]: Equal Access to Social Security Act of 2006
To provide for entitlement to dependents' and survivors' benefits under the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program under title II of the Social Security Act based on permanent partnership as well as marriage.

- A [National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Study](#) reports, “Transgender elders may or may not be able to access Social Security spousal, survivor or disability benefits. Heterosexual transgender elders are often unable to marry because their state does not recognize their gender transition. Likewise, transgender elders in same- sex partnerships cannot marry unless their state does not recognize their transition. While transgender people who can currently marry will receive the same spousal retirement, survivor, and disability benefits that non-transgender married people receive, even these marriages may be threatened, depending upon judicial interpretations of new anti-marriage laws.”
- There is also the idea that one can bypass the issues surrounded SS by looking into: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Security_debate_\(United_States\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Security_debate_(United_States))

The Pension Protection Act

To Ensure A More Secure Retirement For All Americans, We Must Also Prepare For The Impact Of The Baby Boom Generation's Retirement On Entitlement Programs Like Social Security And Medicare.

www.whitehouse.gov

- Entitlement programs are projected to grow faster than the economy, faster than the population, and faster than the rate of inflation. If we fail to act, Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid will be almost 60 percent of the entire Federal budget in the year 2030. President Bush continues to call on Congress to meet its duty to reform these programs so we can ensure a secure retirement for all Americans.

Advance Directives or Living Will

- Advance directives were developed as a way for people to retain autonomy and control over their medical care by specifying their treatment values and choices by naming someone to make medical decisions once they are no longer able to do so.
- The purpose of advanced directives enables individuals the proper treatment of their own design. This means that the hospital staff must follow the instruction of the patient. Within the medical profession, it is the job of the doctors and nurses to keep you alive. The advanced directive indicates what life-sustaining treatment the patient does and does not want when someone is near the end of life. The advance directive speaks on your behalf when you or your caregiver cannot speak for you, and still gives you a voice to know that any decision that is made was your own decision.
- A Do Not Resuscitate Form (actual title: “Emergency Medical Services Prehospital Do Not Resuscitate Form) is an official State document, when completed correctly, allows a patient with a life threatening illness or injury to forgo specific resuscitative measures that may keep them alive. These measures include: chest compressions (CPR), assisted ventilation (breathing), endotracheal intubation (a medical procedure in which a tube is placed into the windpipe. This is done to open the airway to give you oxygen, medication, or anesthesia), defibrillation, and cardiostimulant drugs, which are drugs that stimulate the heart. The form does not affect the provision of other emergency medical care, including treatment for

pain (also known as “comfort measures”), difficulty breathing, major bleeding, or other medical conditions. Many patients make their DNR wishes officially known because they do not want to be placed on life-assisting equipment in the event that their heart or breathing ceases.

- Providing your loved ones and caregivers with the information they need to make medical decisions for you is one of the greatest gifts you can give. It will spare them emotional anguish and conflict. Making end-of-life decisions for anyone else is difficult and painful. You can make those decisions much easier for your family by talking about your wishes while you are able to do so. If your loved ones do not know your preferences, decisions are even harder to make and serious conflicts can arise between your family and medical caregivers or within your family itself. Without clear evidence about a patient’s wishes, some care providers will continue treatment, not only because they are trained to do so, but also to protect them from any liability. Even if your loved ones believe that you would not want a treatment, they might not be able to stop it without some direction from you.
- Without advance directives, those making decisions for us might not be ones we would choose or might not make the choices we would make. Furthermore, decisions made might not be made by people who know us, but possibly hospital risk managers, lawyers or even the courts and those decisions are our decision to be made.
- Advance Directive forms by state can be located here: <http://www.uslivingwillregistry.com/forms.shtm>
<http://www.caringinfo.org/stateaddownload>
http://www.gaylegaldocuments.com/free_advance_directives.htm

Durable Power of Attorney

- A legal document that allows one person to act in a legal matter on another's behalf regarding to financial or real estate transactions.
- It is important for the community of LGBT elders to obtain the durable power of attorney form filed in a court of law, so individuals can name a member of their “chosen family” as having control over the financial aspect. Without this form being filed, the durable power of attorney will default to your “biological family.”
- The Human Rights Campaign has a sample durable power of attorney form which can be downloaded here: http://www.hrc.org/documents/Durable_Power.pdf

Transgender Civil Rights Project

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force 2007 Year in Review State and Local Trans-Inclusive Legislation

- In 2007, the number of people who reside in a city, county or state that has explicit coverage for transgender people in its anti-discrimination law, rose by 12 million people. The total number of people now living in a jurisdiction with a transgender-inclusive anti-discrimination law in the United States is 107 million, 38% of the U.S. population. (Data according to 2000 Census)

Statewide Victories for LGBT Individuals against discrimination

Oregon enacted a law prohibiting discrimination against LGBT people:

Passed Senate – Vote 19-7 – April 19, 2007

Passed Assembly – Vote 35-25 – April 17, 2007

Signed by Governor Ted Kulongoski on May 9, 2007

Iowa enacted a law prohibiting discrimination against LGBT people:

Passed House – Vote 59-37 – April 25, 2007

Passed Senate – Vote 34-16 – April 25, 2007

Signed by Governor Chet Culver on May 25, 2007

Vermont passed a law prohibiting discrimination against transgender people:

Passed House – Vote 118-28 – May 2, 2007

Passed Senate – Vote 27-1 – March 16, 2007

Signed by Governor Jim Douglas on May 22, 2007

Colorado enacted a law prohibiting discrimination against LGBT people:

Passed House – Vote 44-18 – May 1, 2007

Passed Senate – Vote 20-15 – April 17, 2007

Signed by Governor Bill Ritter on May 25, 2007

Workplace Discrimination

According to Lambda Legal, there is no federal law that expressly forbids workplace discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. Less than half of all states specifically ban workplace discrimination in the private sector based on sexual orientation. Only a handful of states ban discrimination based on gender identity, but many courts have held that transgender employees are protected under sex discrimination laws. The federal Americans with Disabilities Act and similar state laws do protect people with HIV from discrimination, but they are often misunderstood or ignored by employers. While a growing number of employers and city and local governments have enacted policies and laws to address discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and HIV status, many people across the country, even where laws and policies exist, still have little recourse when they are fired or their benefits are attacked.

For Discussion or Questioning:

- **How can a straight person go to Las Vegas, get legally married by an Elvis impersonator, and receive every benefit by law within the sanctity of marriage. However, how is it possible if someone who is not straight, partnered for decades, will not receive the same benefits as their straight counterpart?**

Resources:

www.thetaskforce.org

Activity 3

Social Relationships and Family of Choice



“What is true of friendship is true of jazz: ‘If you need a definition for it, you’ll never understand it.’

Donelson & Gullahorn

Part I

Social Relations/Family of Choice

- **Intimate Connections**

Watch “Jim and Kelly” under “Family of Choice”
play for approximately 6:30 minutes

Jim Bidgood and Kelly McKaig are perfect examples of how the LGBT community can redefine the way we see family. In the gay community, individuals have to invent and reinvent family definitions according to Glenda Russell, Executive Director of IGLSS, because so many of us do not have full acceptance from our blood family. LGBT elders have to then make up their own families or Family of Choice. Jim Bidgood proudly says, “Kelly is my family, without him I would be nothing.”

Watch “John Burnside” under “Family of Choice”
play for approximately 2:30 minutes

John Burnside has many people who look after him and he feels as though they are more than just caregivers, they are part of the same family. Dr. Brian de Vries, Professor of Gerontology at San Francisco State University (SFSU), makes the point that one in four LGBT persons is a care giver and that many of those are care givers to friends, because often time traditional organizations such as blood or biological families, fail to meet that challenge. For older LGBT people knowing that this family exists is an incredible source of support.

- **Isolation and Loss**

Watch “Understanding the How? and the Why” under “Isolation and Loss”
play for approximately 2 minutes

James Bidgood lost his partner and fell into a deep depression. James, like many LGBT elders, found he was completely alone and isolated after the death of his partner. Joe Niessen, Executive Director of New Leaf Services for Our Community, makes the point that many LGBT elders age with a partner, or at most a select small group of friends so when a partner dies, or a couple of close friends pass on, they find themselves completely isolated because they have not established community. Also, when looking at what LGBT elders have gone through in terms of discrimination, it is not uncommon at all to find these elders without community because they never had the opportunity to gather a family in the first place.

Watch “Jack’s Story” under “Isolation and Loss”
play for approximately 2:30 minutes

Jack Ogg is another example of an LGBT elder who found himself completely alone and without family to fall back on after the death of this partner. He only had his cats to remind him of his past life with his lover Don. Those cats were a “living links to the past” for Jack, and all the family he had left. Jack also says many of the men that lived his building that were his friends had died from HIV.

Watch “HIV’s Role in the Generation Gap” under “Bridging the Gap”
play for approximately 1 minute

Dr. De Vries makes the point that many of the men who survived the pandemic of HIV/AIDS feel abandoned; they assumed that they would grow old with their friends and now that they are all gone, each person has to consciously (re)examine what later life will look like, and who they journey through later life with.

Part II

Friendship

- “What is true of friendship is true of jazz: ‘If you need a definition for it, you’ll never understand it’ (Donelson & Gullahorn, 1977, p. 156)
- The mutual exchange of support can be developed and fostered through friendship(s) and we are all sexual beings, regardless of our sexual orientation
- Individuals become friends with others with whom they share similar attributes and values and for many LGBT seniors, the role of friends is likely to be more complex and broadly based. Many older LGBT adults have fled their families of origin to seek refuge in urban centers, where both anonymity and others like themselves could be found.
- As Weston (1991) has commented, chosen families resemble social networks in the sense that they permeate household lines and that they, “radiate outward from individuals like spokes on a wheel” (p109).

- Weston (1991) continues with friendship as a part of love and as a shared history, stating: “What might have represented a nightmare to an anthropologist in search of mappable family structures appeared to most participants in a highly positive light as the product of unfettered creativity. The subjective agency implicit in gay kinship surfaced in the very labels developed to describe it: “families we choose,” “families we create.” Participants tended to depict their chosen families as thoroughly individualistic affairs, insofar as each and every ego was left to be the chooser. Paradoxically, the very notion of idiosyncratic choice—originally conceived in opposition to biogenetic givens—lent structural coherence to what people presented as unique renditions of family.”
- LGBT adults not only have to deal with their sexual orientation, but also understand that their sexual orientation can and more than likely will, influence relationships among other biological family members as well.
- According to Manasse and Swallow (1995), they detail that friendships exist at the core, reporting, “They way a lot of gay men and lesbians come out in the world is very alienating. For many of us, building families of linkage and connection is very healing. It’s important for us to feel that love and connection because it’s the antithesis of the alienation of homophobia. It’s important for us to say, ‘This is the innermost circle.’”
- The complexity in patterns of friends as family is proposed into three categories: friends as substitute family members; friends as a challenge to the core structure of the family; and friends as in-laws (Weinstock, 2000).
- The hetero-normative and family-of-origin-centric bias of North Americans social outlook, precludes the asking about the role of friendship in LGBT older adults, thereby restricting the range of social support and acknowledgement of how these seniors define family.

Companion Animals

Taking care of what you truly care for, extends not only to chosen family, but within that family is also the extensive involvement with animal companions.

For Discussion or Questioning:

- How are families constructed outside of traditional norms and legal means?
- Who is included in the definitions of families offered by older adults?
- What role do friends play in the lives of older LGBT adults?

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Activity 4

Cultural Competence



cul·ture n

1. a group of people whose shared beliefs and practices identify the particular place, class, or time to which they belong
2. a particular set of attitudes that characterizes a group of people

com·pe·tence or com·pe·ten·cy n

1. the ability to do something well or to a required standard
2. a person's internalized knowledge of the rules of a language that enables them to speak and understand it.

Part I

Cultural Competence

- **Laguna Honda & Cultural Competence**

**Watch “Laguna Honda” under “Cultural Competence”
play for approximately 5 minutes**

Laguna Honda is a great example of cultural competency working as best it can within the guidelines set by state licensing boards. One good case in point of cultural competence is the Rainbow Group, led by Bill Kirkpatrick from New Leaf Services. Volunteers like Jack Ogg can come in and give gay patients from the hospital a safe environment to express themselves, despite having to live in a large institution. John T. Kanaley explains the difficult challenges that come with the transgendered populations who may not have undergone operations, but identify as the opposite sex. State licensing boards require the patient to be placed in the ward for which their gender is determined by their genitalia, rather than their personal identity.

- **Miss Major’s Relationship with Cultural Competence**

**Watch “Miss Major’s Dilemma” under “Cultural Competence”
play for approximately 1:15 minutes**

Miss Major, in order to age successfully, must live near a large city which is accepting of GLBT people in order to receive proper health care. If she lives outside a city such as San Francisco, she finds that doctors do not know how handle any of her medical issues. It is mandatory for Miss Major to live near a clinic that handles transgender issues, or she must educate her provider, or be lucky enough to have a provider who is willing to be educated by a patient.

- **Pre-White House Conference on Aging**

**Watch “Pre-White House Conference on Aging” under “Cultural Competence”
play for approximately 2 minutes**

In 2005 a pre-conference to the White House Conference on Aging, was held to examine the needs of the GLBT elder population. The hope was to have these needs addressed at the upcoming White House Conference, where policy changes are made once every ten years. Those who attended expressed the need for changes in the following arenas:

- The Older Americans Act to include the words GLBT Elders
- Partner relationships recognized at the federal level

- Social Security benefits for surviving partners
- Specific funding and programs to reduce isolation for the GLBT community
- Train health care workers in care facilities to be positive, understanding, and sensitive when it relates to sexual expression among GLBT elders
- Training for service providers to be sensitive to all GLBT elder needs
- More cultural competence across the board for the needs of GLBT seniors

- **2005 White House Conference on Aging**

**Watch “2005 White House Conference on Aging” under “Cultural Competence”
play for approximately 5 minutes**

However, at the actual White House Conference on Aging held a few months later, only one delegate out of 1,200 delegates was present to represent the GLBT community. The delegates had been hand selected by State Governors and The White House Policy Committee, but at the end of the conference, none of the resolutions sent back to the White House included provisions for GLBT seniors.

Part II

The Human Rights Campaign outlines the ideology behind Cultural Competence:

- Cultural competence, at the provider level and at the institutional level, is increasingly becoming a key goal of education on GLBT health issues. A physician’s lack of cultural competence has been shown to negatively affect not only physician-patient interaction and thus care-giving, but also the patient’s care seeking behavior
- The Importance of Language. Many such issues can be alleviated with training on the importance of language, and choosing words carefully during clinical encounters. Transgender people find that physicians confuse gender identity with biologic sex or sexual orientation. For example, there are reports of physicians referring to patients as “he” although the patient is in fact a transgender MTF (male to female) and prefers to identify as “she.”
- Similar language issues are also faced by gay men, lesbians and bisexuals. It is important for physicians to be aware of this during interactions with patients. For example, instead of asking about the patient’s “spouse” and assuming heterosexuality, the word “partner” should be substituted. The use of this more affirming language acknowledges the existence of the GLBT population, and this acknowledgement is the first step to culturally competent care

Cultural Competence and Health Care

- “The legacy of discrimination and harassment endured by many of the older members of today’s lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community cannot be overstated. Perhaps nowhere is this legacy more pronounced than in health care settings, where institutionalized heterosexism and related negative experiences – which may have included involuntary medical interventions – have led to feelings of shame and guilt and reasonable apprehension and suspicion on the part of the elders as they access care.” (Adelman, Gurevitch, de Vries, & Blando, 2006, pp. 247-248)
- Several authors have made reference to a medically-based “ideology of pathology” has been used against LGBT people, who until 1973 were labeled “mentally ill” (i.e., homosexuality was included as a psychiatric diagnosis in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders—the standard guide used by the American Psychiatric Association). Recent surveys reveal ongoing discrimination and bias: A 1998 survey of nursing students found that 8-12% “despised” lesbian, gay, and bisexual people; 5-12% found them “disgusting,” and 40-43% thought they should keep their sexuality private (Gay and Lesbian Medical Association).

Hernandez and Fultz reviewed several studies which suggested similar sentiments among other health care providers. For example, a 1995 survey of California health care providers revealed that 40 percent reported they “sometimes or often felt uncomfortable treating LGBT patients” (Hernandez & Fultz, 2006).

A 1999 study of second year medical students found that 25% believed homosexuality to be “immoral and dangerous to the institution of the family.” (Gay and Lesbian Medical Association)

- GLBT Cultural Competence and Care-Seeking Behavior. A consumer survey showed that 31%-89% of healthcare professionals displayed negative reactions to the revelation that patients were gay or lesbian. As a consequence of such negative physician-patient interactions, GLBT patients often avoid even routine medical visits, further jeopardizing their health. In addition, homophobia and the lack of sensitivity and knowledge about the unique health issues of GLBT patients can lead to inadequate care resulting in clinicians failing to screen, diagnose, and properly treat medical problems

The Hidden “T”

- The transgender community often has a precarious fit under the “LGBT” umbrella for many reasons. Most importantly, lesbian, gay, and bisexual are sexual orientations, while transgender is the separate concept of gender identity. Transgender people come in all sexual orientations, including heterosexual. Transgender people also blur the sexual orientation lines themselves. When a husband transitions to be a woman and her wife stays with her, are they now both lesbians? Is a couple consisting of an FTM and a woman heterosexual? What if the female partner identifies as a lesbian?

Cultural Humility—a new concept

- Is “defined not by a discrete endpoint but as a commitment and active engagement in a lifelong process that individuals enter into on an ongoing basis with patients, communities, colleagues, and with themselves...a process that requires humility in how physicians bring into check the power imbalances that exist in the dynamics of physician-patient communication by using patient-focused interviewing and care” (Tervalon and Murray-Garcia, 1998).
- Cultural Humility should be seen as a lifelong process of self-reflection and self-critique. As individuals, we should be exploring the similarities and differences that exist within us and within others, while constantly trying to understand our own self awareness and being capable of more acceptances toward others.

For Discussion or Questioning:

- What is your understanding of cultural competency?
- Can you give an example of cultural competency that is currently affecting your life personally?
- What is your role in being culturally competent?
- What might the White House Policy Committee have done differently to be inclusive of all elder groups?
- What can be done locally for some of those ideas to be implemented in your community?

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Activity 5

Housing



“Until I feel safe walking down the street holding a woman’s hand...and not feel like I’m going to offend even one person, there is a need for a retirement community of like-minded people.”

Bonnie McGowan of Birds of a Feather Senior Home

Part I

Need For Affirmative Housing Options

Watch “Harry’s Concerns” under “Housing”
play for approximately 2 minutes

Watch “Harry Makes a Decision” under “Housing”
play for approximately 2 minutes

Harry Bartron hoped to move into the nations first low income assisted living facility in America, Gay and Lesbian Elder Housing (GLEH). He admitted that the idea of moving into a traditional elder home did not appeal to him because he felt he would not be comfortable there. Before GLEH opened in 2007, he was offered a space at Kingsley Manor. He took the room in order to get out of the SRO (Single Room Occupancy) housing he had been in for years. Once Harry arrived, he found himself surrounded by elders who let him know that he made them uncomfortable. In order to deal with this, he left Kingsley Manor every morning. Mercedes Marquez, General Manager of the City of Los Angeles Housing Department, states that returning to the closet is a common occurrence for many LGBT seniors, as those seniors now find themselves living in a housing facility with some of the same people who discriminated against them so many years ago.

Watch “Miss Major’s Concerns” under “Housing”
play for approximately 2 minutes

Watch “The Realities for Miss Major” under “Housing”
play for approximately :30 seconds

Miss Major worried that as she gets older she won’t know where to go. She never really worked in a legitimate paying field until later in life, so she imagines herself living in SRO housing in a major city with all of her belongings thrown into a cart. As mentioned before by Laguna Honda, state licensing boards will keep her from living in female wards should she find herself living in a state run institution.

Options Now Available

Watch “Gay and Lesbian Elder Housing” under “Housing”
play for approximately 2:30 minutes

In the film, Gay and Lesbian Elder Housing (GLEH) is seen as one of the first housing options built with the LGBT elder population in mind. The facility is now complete and is located in Hollywood, California. Facilities such as this one are springing up sporadically, but the problem reaches far beyond the rooms available. Additionally, it is difficult to get funding for such projects and as is often the case, when government agencies refuse to recognize the specific needs of the LGBT community, creative ways to advocate for their own needs must arise. GLEH is a perfect example of this creativity. However, finding property to build on is one challenge, as well as trying to locate subsidies other than a personal donation is also an issue.

Part II

HOUSING

- ElderCare estimates that “by 2030, when the baby boomers reach age 65, one in five Americans will be at least 65, for a total of about 70 million older people.” Within this growing population, the voice of the LGBT community will have to be heard. According to the Gay and Lesbian Task force, there are “currently an estimated 3 million LGBT elders in the United States. By 2030, that number will nearly double.”
- When people are considering the idea of moving to a retirement home, the most important aspect is the feeling of being safe, secure and protected. One step in the process of aging successfully is to create a living facility that is a community of like-minded individuals. Since there is a lack of safe zone environments in nursing homes and retirement communities, many gay elders enter a senior home under the pretense of being someone they are not.
- “Gay elders entering assisted living facilities and other institutions are often presumed to be heterosexual and may feel compelled to hide their sexual identity” (Cahill & South, 2002). Thus, the individual hides under the guise of a heterosexual being, denying their true identity. This enables the harboring of a non-true self that ultimately contributes to unsuccessful ageing. “The fear of experiencing discrimination can reinforce social isolation and keep gay elders from making use of healthcare and other services” (Cahill & South, 2002). This isolation prohibits the full use of accessing the facilities in a senior community.

- The LGBT population has spoken out with stories of having to keep their sexual orientation a secret, of a roommate asking to be transferred, or of having a partner on a separate floor of a senior center. Bonnie McGowan of Birds of a Feather senior home in New Mexico says, “Until I feel safe walking down the street holding a woman’s hand...and not feel like I’m going to offend even one person, there is a need for a retirement community of like-minded people.”
- According to Kaiser Family foundation from a 2001 nationwide survey, 34% of gay individuals have been turned away from renting or buying a home because of their sexual orientation, or have known someone who has. A realty agent told another prospective tenant that they didn’t want “two guys in one bedroom, if you know what I mean.” This mentality leads to the idea that the older LGBT person is someone who is lonely, isolated and depressed which is a myth. The difficulties that are uniquely experienced by the LGBT community are a result of living with and facing discrimination.
- As the LGBT community grows older, they enter a world of services that may not be familiar with its population. One major issue is that conventional elderly providers have limited information and/or training on how to appropriately work with and serve a diverse community, thus enabling the need for there to be LGBT friendly site specific senior centers that can cater to this population.
- An issue that surfaces for caregivers in a senior center setting is whether to disclose their relationship with the partner because of how society may or may not view their place or role. One woman described her need to pass as her partner’s blood relative to “normalize” her behavior for the health care providers. This demonstrates how dominant the idea of what family and marriage is and how hetero-centric our culture is when it enables the suppression of relationships between anyone and their partners.
- Some individuals have had success stories while dealing with staff, but as one woman put it, “Luck really isn’t good enough though is it? I ought to just deserve decent treatment.”
- Discrimination is damaging as individuals have been penalized because of their sexuality. Individuals are not seen as the legitimate caregiver by the staff and this is damaging to the relationship itself as same sex partners have to in essence denounce their relationship and declare themselves as “just friends.”
- “Many gay people may enter retirement without having had regular access to healthcare during their lives” (Cahill & South, 2002).
- In dealing with the day to day life of a transgendered person, the community from which to pull resources is quite limited, both with the lack of understanding by the population as a whole, as well as the support that individuals need. “People also experience gender-related bias because they do not fit into expected male-female gender roles” (Cahill & South, 2002).
- Transgenders have for their whole life not fit into other’s expectations. They have often suppressed who they are, and this contributes to slow disintegration of quality of life as they begin to age.

- One issue that arises for the transgender community in a senior center is that of everyday choices. An example is the use of the restroom. People who are living and seeing themselves as different sex have trouble identifying the proper male/female restroom to occupy. Do I use the restroom to which I identify or do I use the restroom to which I was born? However, coupled with this dilemma is the notion that there is also the cohort that doesn't identify as either male or female, thus contributing once again to trying to transition one's identity to a hetero-conscious society. One way to eliminate this everyday issue is to create single occupancy restrooms which will ensure safety and comfort for a transgender community.
- “Most transsexuals experience a positive development of personal sensuality when they finally are able to live in congruence with their deepest perceptions of their own gender. Professionals can assist in this regard by validating the sexual potential of their older clients, offering counseling and education when needed, and assisting family members to accept their older relative's gender presentation and sexuality” (Outword, 2000).
- According to Joy Silver, President and CEO of RainbowVision Properties, “When I lived in NYC, I passed a residence for the extremely frail in the Village. One night I looked up at the window and saw lights flashing, a mirrored disco ball spinning, heard music blaring, and saw go-go boys dancing. Smiling to myself, I said ‘yeah – that's what I want. I want that party when I get to be that age. Cause if there's no dancing, I'm not going!’”

For Discussion or Questioning

- What kind of homophobia and discrimination might Miss Major be up against should she need to move into an assisted living facility?
- What were some obstacles that Harry faced at Kingsley Manor?
- Why is there a need for LGBT sensitive housing?
- How many LGBT specific housing options are there in America for seniors?
- What types of measures does a LGBT senior have to prepare for when they enter a facility that is hetero-normative? Why is that? What can the housing facility do to be better prepared?
- What can be done within your local community to help prepare for the growing need for LGBT senior housing?
- Why is a home is much more than a roof over our heads?

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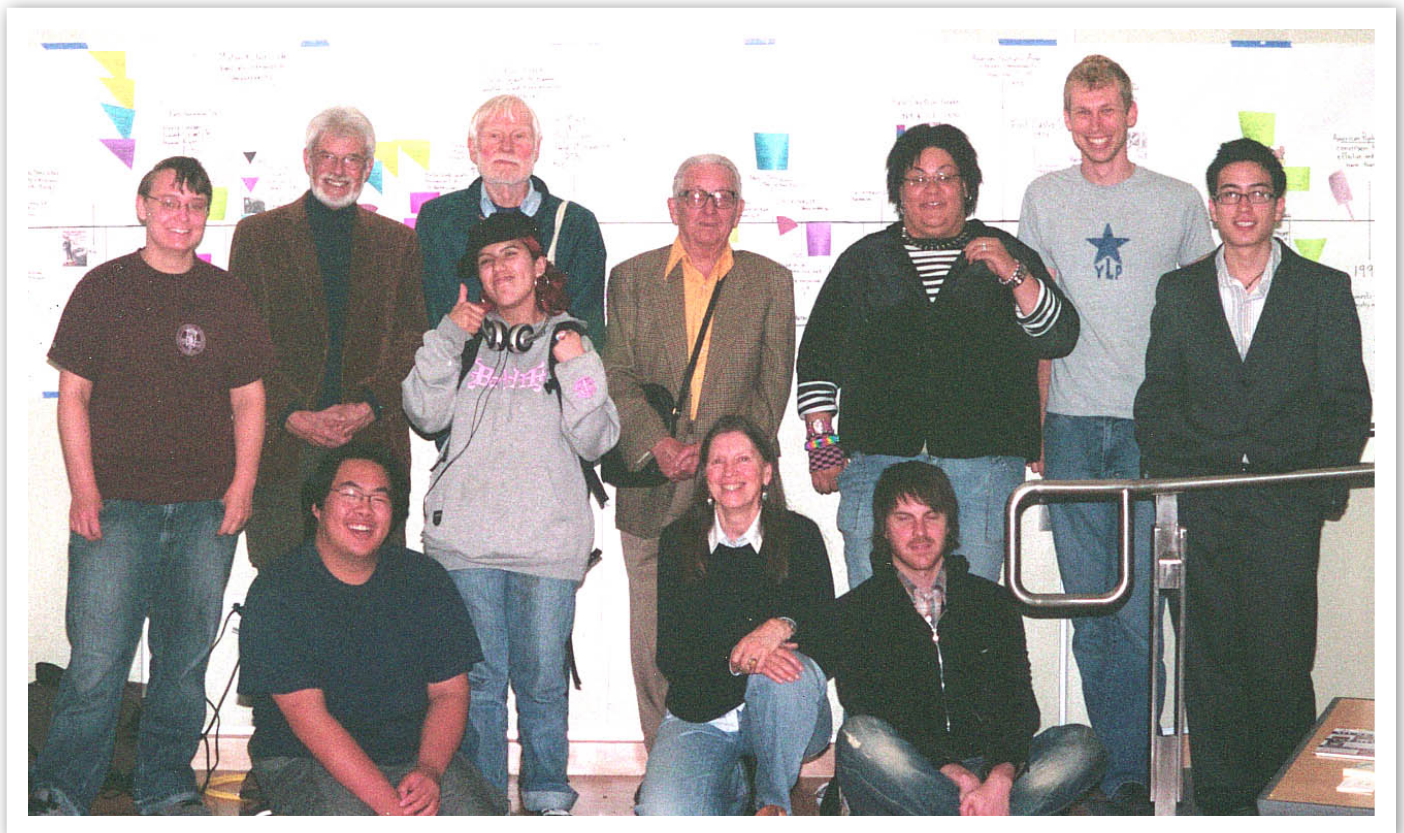
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Activity 6

Intergenerational Relationships



“The Little Boy and the Old Man”

Said the little boy, “Sometimes I drop my spoon.”
Said the little old man, “I do that too.”
The little boy whispered, “I wet my pants.”
“I do that too,” laughed the little old man.
Said the little boy, “I often cry.”
The old man nodded, “So do I.”
“But worst of all,” said the boy, “it seems Grown-ups don’t pay attention to me.”
And he felt the warmth of a wrinkled old hand.
“I know what you mean,” said the little old man

Shell Silverstein

Part I

Intergenerationalism

- **Jim Bidgood and Kelly McKaig**

Watch “Jim and Kelly” under “Family of Choice”
play for approximately 6:30 minutes

Kelly McKaig met Jim at a book signing party at The Bowery Bar in New York City in September of 1999. Taschen Books, www.taschen.com/, created a coffee table book on Bidgood’s work. Kelly befriended Jim and was eventually invited over to Jim’s house where he was shocked to find out how Jim had been living. Jim had been depressed and contemplating suicide because he felt, as an old man, society and the government had cast him aside. Jim felt that older artists were seen as having no value because people have the misconception that older adults have nothing new to say. Kelly, saw who Jim was, offered to help him by applying for artistic grants from Jim’s new show ideas, as well as rework some of his old photographs to be sold in galleries across the country. Kelly is not only Jim’s friend, but he is also Jim’s business manager. While working with Jim, he has helped him to clean up his apartment; removing over 30 contractor bags of garbage that accumulated during his depression. Kelly is now working with Jim regularly, helping him to learn Photoshop to rework some of the Jim’s old photographs. Kelly applies for grants on Jim’s behalf and promotes Jim’s work globally.

- **Patricia Jackson – Programs**

Watch “Intergenerational Programming” under “Bridging the Gap”
play for approximately 2 minutes

Patricia Jackson works for New Leaf Services, www.newleafservices.org, in San Francisco. She heads up a program designed to bridge the gap between the young and the old. Her program is designed to record the history of the elder as they share their past. Young LGBT people are encouraged to share their own personal stories with elders so that the elders can offer their advice and thoughts. Elders are also fascinated by what is happening with today’s youth, since they are so far removed from it. Patricia wants the LGBT community, young and old, to identify as a family. Jackson also explains that LGBT history is not often told and is not included in any history books, so today’s youth are not even given an opportunity to find out who they are by way of learning about their own significant GLBT history. By having intergenerational programs, younger men and women can learn about LGBT history and begin to respect LGBT elders for all they have done for gay culture. By joining hands early enough we can all learn how to combat the problems that lie ahead.

- **Role of HIV**

Watch “HIV’s Role in the Generation Gap” under “Bridging the Gap”
play for approximately 2:15 minutes

Prior to the AIDS pandemic, gay men mingled together in groups that were not so segregated by age. In the film, there were some young men sunbathing in the park who expressed that a roommate of his had lost 20 of his friends to the crisis, and that he cannot fathom what that is like. He later goes on to say that he feels younger gay men do not have any role models, because they have all disappeared. Ivy Bottini who is an artist, actor, comedian, director, mother and political activist, sees hope when she says that as horrible as HIV was, it brought the lesbians and gay men together. At a rally in Brooklyn, New York, Ms. Bottini expressed to an audience of young LGBT people that if there is one thing the AIDS crisis taught our community it is that we take care of our own. She would like to see the examples set back in the eighties applied to the aging crisis and generation gaps of today. Jack Ogg agrees, and hopes that younger men and women and can find common ground with older men and women. He goes on to say that he wants to see everyone make plans for the future together, believing that mentoring is a critical aspect of any culture, especially within gay culture.

- **Overcoming Common Stereotypes**

Watch “Overcoming Stereotypes” under “Bridging the Gap”
play for approximately 2 minutes

Younger LGBT people often feel that if an older man or woman tries to befriend them, that the older person is really only looking for something sexual.

Older LGBT people often feel that if a younger person tries to befriend them they are looking for a financial reward.

Glenda Russell, from The Institute for Gay and Lesbian Strategic Studies, suggests that these stereotypes were invented a long time ago by homophobia and that now it is ingrained in the minds of both the young and old. Ivy Bottini expressed her thoughts on this in the film explaining that, it’s so hard to cross the line because of the fact that she has always been told LGBT people are predators. Matt Lamos, 19 year old in San Francisco, says he would have coffee everyday with an older adult if he felt they wouldn’t see him as a piece of meat.

Part II

Ageist Thoughts and Perceptions

- Shell Silverstein, in his poem “The Little Boy and the Old Man,” clearly captures our society’s view toward the elderly population:

Said the little boy, “Sometimes I drop my spoon.”
Said the little old man, “I do that too.”
The little boy whispered, “I wet my pants.”
“I do that too,” laughed the little old man.
Said the little boy, “I often cry.”
The old man nodded, “So do I.”
“But worst of all,” said the boy, “it seems
Grown-ups don’t pay attention to me.”
And he felt the warmth of a wrinkled old hand.
“I know what you mean,” said the little old man
- The root of ageism is embedded in our language and ultimately, in our fear of growing old and dying. In the past, along with other cultures, our elderly were revered as wise and keepers of society’s autobiography. However, one theory according to Branco & Williamson (1982) was that the printing press was responsible for the decline in the need for elders. With the advent of books, the oral tradition of history was no longer needed to be recited. No longer was there a need for a village historian, as the town’s history could easily be reproduced through the written page.
- Older people tend to accept and believe that they are no longer contributing adults, losing their independence and thus becoming passive citizens. This leads to a decrease in self esteem and reinforces the age myths and stereotypes. It is not always as simple as being told you are ‘old’ and therefore acting ‘old’ and then behaving in an ‘older self image.’
- Language is a big part on how society approaches the elderly. Negative communication contributes to the self fulfilling prophecy of the elderly being second class citizens. One negative stereotype is “over-accommodation.” Over-accommodation is when younger people become overly polite, speak louder and slower, and exaggerate their intonation while talking in simpler sentences with the elderly. Giles, Fox, Harwood, & Williams (1984), indicated that this mode of communication is manifested by the stereotype that older adults have hearing problems, a decrease in their intellect, and possess a slower cognitive functioning.
- So why does this happen? Why do children and thus younger adults behave in this manner toward the elderly? One reason that the negative persistent language occurs toward the elderly, according to Snyder & Meine (1994), is that it serves as an ego-protective function for the individual. This means that the person who is providing the stereotypes is in essence trying to deny his or her own mortality. Stated simple, becoming frail and dying won’t happen to me. The elderly become a threat to their self and toward their perceptions. Stereotypical language is created to serve as an anxiety reducer and to place distance between the age groups, alleviating the need to have to think about one’s own morality. In addi-

tion, the negative stigmatism's attached to old age are in essence creating a negative view of our future selves as adults.

- One way to curb this behavior and the ageist belief that exists is through intergenerational contact. This will alleviate the segregation of youth and the elderly. The interaction between the two groups can help reverse some of the myths and deplete the stereotypes. This will enable a fortification of a relationship and destroying the barrier walls that exists between the two generations. In the article “Youth’s Attitudes toward the Elderly” the authors make mention of the researchers Glass and Knott (1982) who have proposed that one crucial way to help prevent the stereotyping of the elderly is through increased information or knowledge. This information will begin to help reduce the fear and any other misconceptions about aging. A way to do this is with seniors who are engaged and have at least a small part in the central role of raising children. According to a November 2, 2006, New York Times article, it is estimated that by 2030, more than 70 percent of 8-year olds will likely have a living great-grandparent in their lives. As a society we must breakdown the myths of ageism so that our elderly get the care and respect they deserve.

HIV and AIDS

According to the Department of Health and Human Services the following is information on HIV and AIDS:

- HIV is the virus that causes the disease AIDS. Although HIV causes AIDS, a person can be infected with HIV for many years before AIDS develops.
- When HIV enters your body, it infects specific cells in your immune system. These cells are called CD4 cells or helper T cells. They are important parts of your immune system and help your body fight infection and disease. When your CD4 cells are not working well, you are more likely to get sick. In fact, the loss of these cells in people with HIV is an extremely powerful predictor of the development of AIDS. Studies of thousands of people have revealed that most people infected with HIV carry the virus for years before enough damage is done to the immune system for AIDS to develop. However, specific, sensitive tests have shown a strong connection between the amount of HIV in the blood and the decline in the CD4/T Cells and the development of AIDS.
- Usually, the CD4 cell count in someone with a healthy immune system can range from 500 to 1,800 cells per cubic millimeter of blood. AIDS is diagnosed when your CD4 cell count goes below 200. Although, even if your CD4 cell count is over 200, AIDS can still be diagnosed if you have HIV AND certain other diseases such as tuberculosis, whose bacteria attacks any part of the body, but most commonly attacks the lungs.
- There are general stages of HIV infection that you may go through before AIDS develops. The earliest stage is right after you are infected. HIV can infect cells and copy itself before your immune system has started to respond. You may have felt flu-like symptoms during this time. The next stage is when your body responds to the virus. Even if you don’t feel any different, your body is trying to fight the virus by making antibodies against it. This is called seroconversion, when you go from being HIV negative to HIV positive.

- You may enter a stage in which you have no symptoms. This is called asymptomatic infection. You still have HIV and it may be causing damage that you can't feel.
- Symptomatic HIV infection is when you develop symptoms, such as certain infections, including PCP, which is recognizable by a fever, cough, or trouble breathing.
- AIDS is diagnosed when you have a variety of symptoms, infections, and specific test results. Although there is no single test to diagnose AIDS.
- AIDS stands for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. AIDS is the final stage of HIV infection. It can take years for a person infected with HIV, even without treatment, to reach this stage. Having AIDS means that the virus has weakened the immune system to the point at which the body has a difficult time fighting infections. When someone has one or more of these infections and a low number of T cells, he or she has AIDS.
- Whereas there are symptoms of HIV, the only way to know that you are living with the virus is to be tested. Everyone should know their HIV status to protect themselves and others.
- We all must remember that you are caring for a person, not just a body; their feelings are important too. Since every person is different, there are no set rules about what to do or say, just make sure to keep them involved in their care. Don't do everything for them or make all their decisions. Nobody likes feeling helpless

Additional Programs promoting intergenerational programming:

- Center for Elders and Youth in the Arts (CEYA) provides specialized visual and performing arts programming that develop creative expression and help the elder remain connected to the community while enhancing their physical and emotional well-being.

For Discussion or Questioning:

- How do we solve the discrimination against our LGBT elders?
Describe three examples of how you can help to solve this.
- 2. What are the myths and misconceptions involving HIV/AIDS?
- 3. Does the focus on sexual transmission and injecting drug use shift the responsibility of prevention to individuals rather than the system?

References:

Department of Health and Human Services
Center for Disease Control and Prevention
<http://www.cdc.gov>

LGBT TIMELINE

1851 – Sojourner Truth delivers her Ain't I A Woman? speech at women's rights convention in Akron, OH

1860 – Walt Whitman publishes the homoerotic Leaves of Grass, which later inspires numerous gay poets

1869 – Term “homosexual” coined

1871 – homosexuality is criminalized throughout Germany by Paragraph 175 of the Reich Criminal Code

1895 – Oscar Wilde prosecuted for “gross indecency”

1892 - A United States neurologist, Graeme M. Hammond, recommends extensive bicycle riding as a treatment for homosexuality. He believed that homosexuality was rooted in nervous exhaustion and that bicycle exercise would restore health and heterosexuality.

1912 – Harry Hay born

1913 - Alfred Redl, head of Austrian Intelligence, committed suicide after being identified as a Russian double agent and a homosexual. His widely-published arrest gave birth to the notion that homosexuals are security risks.

1914 - In Oregon, a dictionary of criminal slang is published, containing first printed use of the derogatory word "faggot" to refer to male homosexuals

1919 - Magnus Hirschfeld founded the Institute for Sexology in Berlin. One of the primary focuses of this institute was to obtain civil rights for women and gay individuals .

1919 - U.S. military revises the Articles of War to make sodomy a felony

1920 - “Gay” first used to refer to homosexuals in the publication *Underground*

1921 – U.S. Naval report on entrapment of perverts within its ranks

1923 – Magnus Hirschfeld coins the term “transsexual”

1924 - First commercially produced play with a lesbian theme, *God of Vengeance*," the English-translated premiere opens on Broadway; theatre owner and 12 cast members found guilty of obscenity

1924 – The country's earliest known Gay Rights organization, Society for Human Rights, started in Chicago by Henry Gerber who described the organization as an advocacy group for people with “mental abnormalities.” Gerber went on and published several issues of *Friendship and Freedom*, the first American publication for gays.

1925 – After a year of police raids, New York City’s roster of 20 gay and lesbian restaurants is reduced to 3

1926 – The Hamilton Lodge Ball of Harlem attracts thousands of cross-dressing men and women from all over the world

1927 - *Well of Loneliness* by Radclyffe Hall published, all British copies destroyed as obscene

1927 - New York state legislature tries to ban gay-themed plays

1930 – *Encyclopedia of Sexual Knowledge*, by Norman Haire, illustrates first sex-change procedures

1930 – Hollywood studios enact the Motion Picture Production Code, prohibiting all references to homosexuality or “sexual perversion” in the movies

1931 - Jane Addams, a lesbian is the first woman to win Nobel Peace Prize. Addams was the president of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and traveled overseas to meet with officials of other nations to persuade them of the importance of working to preserve world peace.

1932 – *Man Into Woman*, the Story of Lili Elbe’s Life, published the account of an intersexed transsexual woman

1933 – Adolf Hitler bans gay and lesbian groups and any gay press in Germany.

1933 - In that same year, Hitler burns the Institute of Sexual Science library which was founded by Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld in 1918, and over 12,000 books, periodicals, works of art and other materials were burned.

1934 - Gay people were beginning to be rounded up from German-occupied countries and sent to concentration camps. Just as Jews were made to wear the Star of David on the prison uniforms, gay people were required to wear a pink triangle.

1934 - Hollywood studios enact the Motion Picture Production (Hays) Code prohibiting all references to homosexuality

1934 – Lillian Hellman’s *The Children’s Hour* opens on Broadway to rave reviews which includes a lesbian affair

1935 – Successful electric shock therapy treatment of homosexuality reported at American Psychological Association meeting that homosexuality can be overturned

1936-45 - After Germany's Paragraph 175 is expanded which states that: any male who commits a sex offense with another male or allows himself to be used by another male for a sex offense shall be punished with imprisonment of 10 years. By using the term, *Law Against Dangerous Habitual Criminals and Measures for Protection and Recovery*, 100,000 men are imprisoned, several thousand of them in the concentration camps where they are labeled with pink triangles. After the war, many gay men are kept in prison to serve out their sentences under Paragraph 175.

1937 – Morris Kight organizes the Oscar Wilde Study Circle at Texas Christian University

1939 – New York City cleans up in preparation for the World's Fair, closing most of the city's best-known gay bars

1940 – Courts rule New York State Liquor Authority can legally close down bars that serve “sex variants”

1940 – It is revealed that Holocaust victims include LGTs individuals

1940 – WWII was the first time the US military actively sought out and dishonorably discharged homosexuals. Many who were discharged were processed out in San Francisco

1941 – “Transsexuality” is first used in reference to homosexuality and bisexuality

1942 – Switzerland decriminalizes adult homosexuality (men only; lesbianism wasn't outlawed to begin with)

1942 – In Los Angeles, Jim Kepner begins his private collection of gay-related books, clippings, photographs and artifacts, which later becomes the International Gay and Lesbian Archive, the oldest and largest in North America; the archive opens to the public in 1979.

1943 – U.S. military bars gays and lesbians from serving in the Armed Forces

1945 – First known female-to-male sex change surgery performed on Michael Dillon in Britain

1945 – The Quaker Emergency Committee of New York City opens the first social welfare agency for gay people, serving young people arrested on same-sex charges

1947 – Lisa Ben, creating the name from the anagram of the word lesbian, publishes the first *Vice Versa*, which is the first known existing gay American publication, established the basic format for the general gay and lesbian magazines.

1948 - Alfred Kinsey publishes *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*, revealing to the public that homosexuality is far more widespread than was commonly believed. 4% of men identified themselves as exclusively homosexual while 37% had sexual relationships with other men in their adult lives.

1948 - *New York Times* refuses advertisements for Gore Vidal's *The City and the Pillar* which was a definitive war-influenced gay novel

1949 – Harry Benjamin begins to treat transsexuals in San Francisco and New York with hormones

1950 – A Senate hearing reveals the majority of State Department dismissals are based on accusations of homosexuality; Senate approves wide-ranging investigation of homosexuals and other moral perverts in national government

1950 - In Los Angeles, Harry Hay and Chuck Rowland form the Mattachine Society, named after a medieval French history troupe of jesters who always wore masks in public and went from village to village advocating social justice, was one of the first gay organizations in the U.S. to raise consciousness among gay men

1951 – Donald Webster Cory, AKA Dr. Edward Sagarin, Professor of Sociology and Criminology at the City University of New York, publishes The Homosexual in America, which is the first widely read non-fiction book in the United States to present knowledgeably and sympathetically the plight of the homosexual as told from the inside rather than the outside.

1952 – American Psychiatric Association includes homosexuality under “sociopathic personality disturbance” in its first official list of mental disorders

1952 – British mathematician and computer pioneer Alan Turing was found out as having sexual relations with another man and was sentenced because of gross indecency under Section 11 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1885 (the very same law that Oscar Wilde was punished under). He was given the choice between imprisonment and probation, but it was conditional on his undergoing hormonal treatment designed to reduce his libido. In order to avoid going to jail, he accepted the estrogen hormone injections and was sentenced to a year of hormonal treatments causing impotence and breast development. He commits suicide in 1954.

1952 – Christine Jorgensen comes to public attention as an inspiration to so many closeted transgender people. The headline reads: "EX-GI BECOMES BLONDE BEAUTY: OPERATIONS TRANSFORM BRONX YOUTH

1952 - Congress bans lesbian and gay immigrants from entering the country if they have a “psychopathic personality”

1953 – Kinsey report on women’s sexuality, including lesbian behavior

1953 – President Dwight D. Eisenhower orders dismissal of all federal employees guilty of “sexual perversion”

1953 – Twenty-nine out of 30 men arrested during an 8 day period, charged with engaging in homosexual acts in the Atlanta public library restroom, lost their jobs after newspapers printed their names and addresses at least 6 times

1954 – Dr. Evelyn Hooker presents a study showing gay men are as well-adjusted as straight men, at an American Psychological Association meeting

1954 – “I Left My Heart in San Francisco” was written by a gay couple, Douglass Cross and his partner George Cory

1955 – Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon found the Daughters of Bilitis formed taking their name from the book *Song of Bilitis* by French author Pierre Louy, which contains love poems between women. The organization was founded to promote a sense of community, belonging, and political unity for women. They published *The Ladder*, a year later which was a national newsletter for lesbians

1955 - *Howl!* is published and Allen Ginsberg is unsuccessfully prosecuted for obscenity

1955 – In the wake of the murder of a boy, 29 Sioux City, Iowa men suspected of homosexuality are committed to mental asylums as a preventive measure

1956 – James Baldwin publishes *Giovanni's Room*, whose central focus is on the character's struggle with his sexual identity and his tragic romance with a handsome Italian bartender, whose love is ultimately rejected in a fit of self-hating and homophobic rage.

1956 – Dr. Hooker presents her paper, "The Adjustment of the Male Overt Homosexual" to the American Psychological Association (APA) concluding there are no differences between the psychological adjustment of homosexual men and heterosexual men

1957 – The word "Transsexual" is readopted by Harry Benjamin

1957 – American Civil Liberties Union approves a policy statement saying laws against sodomy and federal restrictions on employment of lesbians and gay men are constitutional

1957 – Ann Bannon, the Queen of Lesbian Pulp, publishes *Odd Girls Out* which becomes the first lesbian fiction series

1957 - The Kinsey Report revealed that 10% of the male population is predominantly homosexual.

1958 - U.S. Supreme Court rules that the nation's first gay periodical, ONE, Inc., which was founded by several members of the Mattachine Society, is not obscene and can be distributed through the postal system

1960 – First U.S. public gathering of lesbians, at San Francisco's Daughters of Bilitis national convention

1961 – Jose Sarria, a drag queen, who is running for San Francisco city supervisor, is the first openly gay person runs for U.S. public office

1961 – First use of the term "homosexual" in a feature film shown in the United States. The British movie, *Victim*, is about a prominent lawyer who goes after a blackmailer who threatens gay men with exposure. The motion picture code seal of approval is denied.

1961 - Illinois is first state to abolish its laws against consensual homosexual sex

1961 – First San Francisco, CA leather bars open ("Why Not?" and "Tool Box")

1961 - Largest vice raid in San Francisco history took place at Tay-Bush Inn (an after hours club); 81 men and 14 women were arrested

1962 – First known positive radio program about homosexuality that includes Randy Wicker, who proclaimed himself president of the "Homosexual League of New York" and 7 other gay people, on WBAI in New York City

1962 - Tavern Guild is formed by bar owners to fight discrimination by the liquor board and defend the rights of gay clientele

1963 – American Civil Liberties Union opposes government interference in the private sex lives of consenting adults

1963 - Martin Luther King March on Washington is organized by openly gay civil rights activist Bayard Rustin, who in 1986 claimed: "The barometer of where one is on human rights questions is no longer the black community, it's the gay community. Because it is the community which is most easily mistreated."

1964 – Life magazine runs a positive cover story entitled “Homosexuality in America” and names San Francisco the nation’s “Gay Capital”

1964 – Randy Wicker is the first openly gay person to appear on national television on The Les Crane Show

1965 - Mattachine Society leads first gay rights rally at United Nations

1966 – Creation of the National Organization of Women (NOW)

1966 – The word Lesbian heard for the first time in the Hollywood movie, *The Group*, which follows eight young women who are friends and members of the upper- class group at a private girl's school, about to graduate and start their own lives.

1966 – First transgender public uprising at San Francisco’s Compton’s Cafeteria

1966 – First U.S. gay community center opens, in San Francisco, led by The Society for Individual Rights

1966 – Harry Benjamin publishes *The Transsexual Phenomenon*

1966 - Maud’s Study,” a lesbian bar opens in San Francisco, CA

1967 – “John” turned into “Joan” at John Hopkins Hospital after a circumcision accident. This published case widely impacts gender theory

1967 – England and Wales legalize male homosexuality

1967 – Sexual Offences Act passed in the United Kingdom allowing sex between 2 men who are 21 or over.

1967 – At 15 Christopher Street in New York City, the first gay bookstore in the U.S. opens: Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop

1967 – New York and New Jersey decide that state liquor commissions can no longer forbid bars from serving gay men and lesbians

1967 - “The Advocate” begins publishing in Los Angeles; it is the oldest continuing gay publication in the US

1968 – Bi-Alliance begins at the University of Minnesota

1968 – Metropolitan Community Church formed as a global Christian church with an open, inclusive and loving message for gays, lesbians, bisexual, transgender and all people.

1968 – The American Psychiatric Association moves homosexuality from “sociopathic” category to “sexual deviation”

1969 – Betty Friedan warns feminist movement of the “lavender menace” within its ranks as she felt that lesbians were hurting the NOW movement. Later a group of radical lesbian feminists reclaimed the name and called themselves The Lavender Menace.

1969 - In June, the Stonewall Riots in New York City's Greenwich Village marked the beginning of major resistance by gay men and lesbians to discrimination. Police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay pub, and were caught off guard by the amount of resistance levied by patrons. The police barricaded themselves inside the Inn to protect themselves from the patrons, who were throwing bricks and bottles. This was the first substantial resistance to harassment that gay men and lesbians had put forward.

1969 – National Institute of Mental Health study chaired by Dr. Evelyn Hooker urges decriminalization of private sex acts between consenting adults

1969 – Taking its name from the National Liberation Front in Vietnam, the Gay Liberation Front is founded in New York by participants in the Stonewall riots and others in the gay community

1969 – The CA Sodomy Repeal Bill (Consenting Adults Bill) was influenced by Metropolitan Community Church founder, Rev. Troy Perry, and introduced to the California Legislature by Assemblyman Willie Brown

1969 – Amendments to the Canadian criminal code take effect, legalizing private sexual acts between consenting adults over the age of 21

1970 – Boys in the Band premieres as the first major Hollywood movie on gay life, as true selves are revealed when a heterosexual is accidentally invited to a homosexual party

1970 – Gay “zaps” begin which are designed to disrupt events promoting anti-gay prejudice, in order to raise awareness of their cause and their struggle. The first “zap” is against New York City Mayor John Lindsay, the 103 Mayor, because he refused to grant a permit for a march up Fifth Avenue.

1970 - In New York City, the first Gay and Lesbian Pride March is held to commemorate the Stonewall Riots. Annual freedom parades and pride parades nationwide continue to this day.

1970 - In the summer about 200 Chicagoans took to the streets of their city with signs carrying simple messages such as "I am Gay," "Gay is as Good as Straight," and "I Exist!."

1970 – A gay San Francisco, CA postal worker fights an attempt by Civil Service Commission to fire him for “moral incompetency” and recovers his job which begins paving way for reform.

1970 - The Dick Cavett Show – ABC-TV November 26th. On the show there is the first discussion of gay issues with gay representatives.

1970 – The Vatican issues a statement reiterating that homosexuality is a moral aberration.

1970 – Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) becomes first U.S. mainstream religious group to recognize LGB clergy and laity within its ranks and to demand an end to anti-gay discrimination. Its creed is to affirm the worth of human beings, advocate freedom of belief and the search for advancing truth, and try to provide a warm, open, supportive community for people who believe that ethical living is the supreme witness of religion.

1970 – The Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, CA is founded

1970 – Lesbian bookstores open in Minneapolis (“Amazon Bookstore”) and Oakland (“A Woman’s Place Bookstore”)

1971 - First Gay Liberation National Conference held in Austin, Texas.

1971 - The first BDSM (Bondage/Dominance/Sadism/Masochism) group TES, The Eulenspiegel Society, is formed in New York.

1972 – “Ithaca Statement on Bisexuality,” by the Quaker Committee of Friends on Bisexuality, is published in The Advocate. The National Bisexual Liberation Group forms in New York, establishing a voice for the Bisexuality.

1972 - Barbara Jordan becomes the South’s first black congresswoman, representing Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives. In later years she delivers a keynote address at the Democratic National Convention. But although a lesbian, she was closeted and refused to support gay legislation, going so far as to deny that discrimination against gays was of equal weight to discrimination based on race.

1972 - East Lansing, Michigan, becomes the first city in the U.S. to ban anti-gay bias in city hiring

1972 – William Johnson is the first openly gay man ordained, by the United Church of Christ

1972 – First time a U.S. Democratic national political convention was addressed by gay leaders

1972 - Ohio's sodomy laws repealed. Hawaii decriminalizes consensual homosexual sex acts between adults. New York City Mayor John Lindsay issues an anti-bias order protecting city employees from discrimination based on homosexuality. San Francisco supervisors ban discrimination based on gender and sexual orientation for both the city and those doing business with the city.

1972 - Los Angeles Gay Community Services Center opens.

1972 - The first gay studies program began at Sacramento State University.

1973 - American Psychiatric Association removes homosexuality from its list of mental illnesses

1973 - Founding of the National Gay Task Force, later renamed the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

1973 - Jill Johnston's, "Lesbian Nation: The Feminist Solution" is published.

1973 - Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund incorporates in Albany, New York.

1973 - Lesbian Herstory Archives founded

1973 - Ohio decriminalizes private consensual homosexual acts. North Dakota repeals sodomy laws. Seattle passes an ordinance prohibiting employment discrimination against gays. Berkeley, CA, City Council prohibits companies doing business with the city from discriminating against gays.

1973 - The American Baptist Association, the American Lutheran Association, the United Presbyterians, the United Methodists and the Society of Friends (Quakers) launch the National Task Force on Gay People in the Church.

1973 - U.S. Supreme Court refuses to hear case on the firing of an Oregon teacher for lesbianism

1973 - The American Bar Association passes a resolution recommending the repeal of all state sodomy laws

1973 - In Alan and Susan Raymond's observational documentary, "An American Family," Lance Loud, the oldest son surprised his family as well as PBS viewers by "coming out" as gay on national television

1974 - AT&T becomes first major American corporation to agree to an equal opportunity policy for lesbians and gay men

1974 - Elaine Noble of Massachusetts is the first state-level openly gay person elected

1974 - House Resolution 14752, first gay civil rights bill, introduced in Congress

1974 - Kathy Kozachenko becomes the first openly gay person to be elected to public office in the United States by taking a seat on the Ann Arbor, Michigan City Council.

1974 - Minneapolis City Council passes a gay-rights ordinance. Pennsylvania Gov. Milton Shapp issues the first state executive order banning employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. A U.S. District court judge voids the reversal of a gay-rights ordinance approved by voters in Boulder, CO. City of Detroit bans discrimination based on sexual orientation.

1974 - Ohio Supreme Court rules that even though "homo sex" is legal, the state can refuse to incorporate a gay organization because "the promotion of homosexuality as a valid life style is contrary to the public policy of the state."

1974 - Society of Janus, one of the earliest social/support groups devoted to leather and S/M, is founded as a mixed-gender group by Cynthia Slater.

1974 - The Lesbian Herstory Archives open to the public in the New York apartment of Joan Nestle and Deborah Edel.

1974 - The New York Times runs "Homosexuals in New York: The Gay World."

1974 - Time and Newsweek run "bisexual chic" articles

1974 - WomanShare, a lesbian collective near Grants Pass, OR is founded. It is one of the first in the rural, lesbian separatists' movement in which the trend is toward lesbians moving back to nature to live and work the land in communities. Others include Cabbage Lane in southern OR and A Woman's Place, founded in the Adirondacks in upstate New York, another region for lesbian separatist rural communities.

1974 – First Castro Street Fair took place, initiated by Harvey Milk

1974 – The first issue of the Journal of Homosexuality is published, edited by John DeCecco (SFSU)

1974 – Charles Garfield founds Shanti Project to provide free volunteer counseling to people with life threatening illnesses

1974 – US Representative Bella Abzug (D-NY), along with Representative Edward Koch, introduced the first federal Gay civil rights bill

1975 - Air Force Technical Sergeant Leonard Matlovitch, seeking to contest military's ban against homosexuals, declares he is gay and is discharged. A veteran of three tours in Vietnam and a recipient of a Purple Heart and a Bronze star, he makes the cover of Time magazine, "I Am a Homosexual" as the lead story on the gay-rights movement. After contesting his discharge in court, he finally agrees to a settlement and drops the case.

1975 - Assembly Bill (AB) 489 passes, decriminalizing sodomy in California

1975 - Elaine Noble becomes the first openly lesbian or gay legislator as she takes her seat in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

1975 –David Kopay, a football player who was drafted by the San Francisco 49ers is first major sports star to voluntarily come out publicly

1975 - California decriminalizes all consensual sexual acts between adults. Washington state's sodomy laws are repealed.

1975 - Olivia Records is created to record lesbian feminist music. Artists include Cris Williamson, Holly Near, Meg Christian and others.

1975 - Santa Cruz, CA becomes first U.S. county to ban discrimination against gays and lesbians

1975 - US Civil Service Commission announces it will no longer exclude homosexuals from government employment.

1975 – In Canada, a joint parliamentary committee on immigration policy recommends that homosexuals no longer be prohibited from entering Canada under the revised Immigration Act

1976 - Armestad Maupin's "Tales of the City" is published by the San Francisco Chronicle and the story includes LGBT characters

1976 – Doonesbury is the first mainstream comic strip to feature a gay male character

1976 – First openly gay police officer hired by the city of San Francisco, CA

1976 – Lynn Ransom of California is one of the first openly lesbian mothers to win custody of her children in court

1976 – Renee Richards outed as MTF and barred from a women's tennis tournament

1976 – Dr. Maggi Rubenstein opens the first San Francisco Bisexual Center

1976 - The first Michigan Women's Music Festival is held in Hart, Michigan. The festival is one of the largest and most visible lesbian events in the United States.

1976 - The Reverend Dolores Jackson co-founds Salsa Soul Sisters in New York City, now African Ancestral Lesbians United for Societal Change

1976 – Mayor George Moscone issues the first mayoral proclamation for a gay and lesbian parade

1976 – Montreal Police launch a series of raids on gay bars designed to "clean up" the city before the opening of the summer Olympics; the largest gay demonstration to date is held to protest these raids

- 1977 – 80% of surveyed Oregon doctors say they would refuse to treat a known homosexual
- 1977 – Anita Bryant and Save Our Children succeed in repealing Miami law against discrimination based on sexual orientation
- 1977 – Arkansas re-criminalizes gay sex after two years without such a law
- 1977 – Florida forbids adoption by gays and lesbians
- 1977 - In San Francisco, first openly gay City Supervisor, Harvey Milk, is elected
- 1977 – White House sponsors first-ever meeting with gay activists
- 1977 – Dade County, FL, enacts a Human Rights Ordinance which is repealed in the same year after a militant anti-gay-rights campaign led by the “Sunshine Tree Girl” Anita Bryant
- 1977 – The National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) is founded to secure legal protections and recognize lesbian mothers
- 1977 – Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE) is founded in New York City to serve the social and political needs of older lesbians and gay men
- 1977 – The Province of Quebec (Canada) amends its provincial Charter of Human Rights, adding lesbians and gay men to the list of those protected, thus banning antigay discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations
- 1978 - “Gays and the City,” 13-part series runs in San Francisco Examiner, beginning Oct. 30, the most in-depth look at homosexuality up until now.
- 1978 - A Question of Love, ABC made-for-TV movie airs in November with Jane Alexander and Gena Rowlands and is based on lesbian mother Mary Jo Risher and her struggle for custody of her children. Represents part of trend toward more positive TV images of gays and lesbians as a direct result of gay activists.
- 1978 - California State Senator John Briggs introduces a ballot initiative to ban gay teachers from classrooms, again playing the theme of recruitment, “One third of San Francisco teachers are homosexual. I assume most of them are seducing young boys in toilets.” The measure is defeated by a 60% vote after widespread opposition to it voiced by media and politicians, including Ronald Reagan.
- 1978 - The Gay Freedom Day Parade was funded by the City of San Francisco for the first time; Harvey Milk rode in the parade as the first openly gay elected official. Harvey Milk, also known as "Mayor of Castro Street," was elected on November 7th to the San Francisco board of supervisors. Twenty days later he and Mayor George Moscone are murdered in City Hall by Supervisor Dan White. Milk becomes a gay martyr.
- 1978 - Gay-rights ordinances that were enacted in the past few years are repealed in St Louis, MS, Wichita, KS, and Eugene, OR.
- 1978 - In San Francisco, Rainbow Flag is designed by Gilbert Baker. The colors are Pink (representing sex), Red (life), Orange (healing), Yellow (sun), Green (serenity with nature), Turquoise (art), Indigo (harmony), and Violet (spirit)
- 1978 - Michel Foucault's "The History of Sexuality," Volume I appears in English, translated from French, and creates a sensation in U.S. academic circles.
- 1978 – National Coalition of Black Gays formed in New York City
- 1978 - Jean and Ruth Mountaingrove create feminist magazine, WomanSpirit.
- 1979 - Convicted murderer Dan White, received a verdict of voluntary manslaughter and a sentence of 7-8 years for murdering Harvey Milk. The verdict caused massive protests (“White Night Riot”) throughout the country as gay men and lesbians saw this as yet another blatant example of discrimination.

- 1979 - First attempt to add sexual orientation to protected categories under Fair Employment and Housing Act, introduced as AB 1 by Art Agnos
- 1979 – First National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights; 100,000 individuals attended
- 1979 - Lesbian and Gay Asian Alliance founded, in part, to address impact of racism on gay and lesbian communities and activism.
- 1979 – Moral Majority founded, one of the largest conservative lobby groups in the United States
- 1979 - Off-duty police officers force their way into a San Francisco dyke bar, Peg's, beating the bouncer and harassing the women. This results in an immediate and widespread censure but none of the officers involved are punished.
- 1979 - On May 31, the California Supreme Court made a landmark decision that public utility companies may not arbitrarily refuse to hire homosexuals, nor can they interfere with employee involvement in gay organizations.
- 1979 – In Los Angeles, CA, Stephen Lachs is the first openly gay judge appointed
- 1979 – The Radical Faeries are established by Harry Hay and John Burnside
- 1979 – Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence founded
- 1980 – Aaron Fricke takes Paul Guilbert to his high school prom after winning a lawsuit against the school at Cumberland High School in Cumberland, Rhode Island.
- 1980 – BBC broadcasts “A Change of Sex” the MTF story of George Roberts and his transformation to become Julia Grant.
- 1980 - First Harry Benjamin Standards produced for therapists working with transgender persons to articulate a professional consensus about the psychiatric, psychological, medical, and surgical management of gender identity disorders.
- 1980 - Joanna Clark organizes the ACLU Transsexual Rights Committee
- 1981 - Christine Madsen, a lesbian journalist is fired after seven years employment from Christian Science Monitor because she is gay.
- 1981 - First cases of AIDS are reported
- 1981 - Larry Kramer founded the Gay Men’s Health Crisis which is the first grassroots AIDS service organization in the country.
- 1981 – The Celluloid Closet, by Vito Russo explores the history of how motion pictures portrayed gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender characters
- 1981 - The Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press is founded by Barbara Smith, Cherrie Moraga, Audre Lorde, Hattie Gossett, and Myrna Bain in New York City. That same year, Moraga and Gloria Anzaldua co-edit "This Bridge Called My Back: The Writings of Radical Women of Color" which offered up a challenge to white feminists who were making claims of solidarity based on sisterhood.
- 1981 - Wisconsin became the first state to pass state-wide gay rights legislation.
- 1981 – US Military bars Gay people from serving in the military and begins to ask all recruits about sexual orientation.
- 1981 – Jerry Brown appoints first openly lesbian judge, Mary Morgan, to the California Supreme Court.
- 1981 – Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG) forms in Los Angeles
- 1981 – New York Gay Men’s Chorus becomes first Gay musical group to perform at Carnegie Hall
- 1982 - AIDS makes front page for the first time in a L.A. Times story on May 31st, “Mysterious Fever Now an Epidemic.”

1982 - AIDS Project Los Angeles is founded and later becomes the second largest such organization in the United States.

1982 - GRID (gay-related immunodeficiency disease) is changed to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). The death toll reaches more than 200 with almost 800 infected.

1982 - The first International Gay Games were held in San Francisco. Over 1,300 gay men and lesbian athletes from 28 states and 10 nations participated.

1982 - Wisconsin becomes the first state to outlaw discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

1982 - Quebec passes legislation giving homosexual relationships equal status with heterosexual relationships.

1982 - Bryton High started as the first United States gay high school in Philadelphia.

1982 - Bobbi Campbell and Dan Turner organize People with AIDS in San Francisco, making it the first organization of, by, and for those with AIDS

1983 - Congressman Gerry Studds from Massachusetts declares on the floor of the US House of Representatives that he is gay, becoming the first federal official to come out as gay while in office

1983 - Researchers discover the virus (Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV) that causes AIDS.

1983 - Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center is born in New York

1983 - BIPOL, the first and oldest bisexual political organization forms in San Francisco

1984 - AB 1, first bill to ban discrimination against gays and lesbians, passes legislature but is vetoed by California Governor Deukmajian

1984 - Berkeley California becomes the first city in the U.S. to extend domestic partnership benefits to gay and lesbian city employees

1984 - Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn signs an executive order protecting gays in city employment and city.

1984 - Charles Howard, a 23-year-old gay man was walking with a male friend in Bangor, Maine on July 7, when they were verbal attacked by three teenagers. The two boys were chased and Charles was kicked and beaten and eventually thrown over the State Street Bridge into the Kenduskeag Stream where he drowned. The boys bragged to their friends and were arrested. They were convicted on the charge of manslaughter, a crime that legally implies that they did not act in malice.

1984 - FBI releases 7,500 pages of information gathered over 30 years of watching gay groups

1984 - Martina Navratilova's female lover publicly sits in her section at Wimbledon and the French Open

1984 - San Francisco Department of Public Health closes the city's bathhouses

1984 - The Wall Street Journal changed its editorial policy and now permits the use of the word "gay" as an alternative to homosexual in the news. Previously the newspaper only used gay in quotes. The New York Times and Associated Press still banned the word gay except when meaning "happy" or when in quotes.

1984 - West Hollywood incorporates and a majority of openly gay City Council members are elected, making it the first gay-run city.

1984 - First Folsom Street Fair in San Francisco, CA

1984 - HTLV-III, later renamed to HIV, determined to be the cause of AIDS.

1985 - Harvey Milk School is the first school for openly lesbian and gay teenagers opens in New York City

1985 - In July, actor Rock Hudson acknowledges that he has AIDS and in October is announced dead. This news marks a turning point in AIDS coverage which is prompted by widespread public attention on the AIDS epidemic.

1985 - NAMES Project memorial quilt for AIDS victims launched to provide a creative means for remembrance and healing

1985 - New York gay and lesbian writers organize to create the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Defamation League, which is later changed to the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) to improve public attitude toward homosexuality by protesting negative depictions of GLBTs in the media and for poor coverage of the AIDS epidemic.

1985 - The first test to detect HIV is licensed in the United States. Nearly 9,000 people are diagnosed with the disease, half of them already dead. By end of year, AIDS now has killed 6,000 and 12,000 cases have been reported.

1985 - The Times of Harvey Milk, a documentary about the career and the murder of the gay San Francisco city supervisor, wins an Academy Award.

1986 - GLAAD holds demonstration at the New York Post where 500 demonstrators protested anti-gay op-ed pieces and the editors agree to meet, the first success for GLAAD

1986 - In *Bowers v. Hardwick*, a case against Georgia's anti-sodomy law, the Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution allows states to pass and enforce sodomy laws targeting homosexuals.

1986 - The gay community successfully defeats two LaRouche initiatives, which launched a "Prevent AIDS Now Initiative Committee" (PANIC) that proposed AIDS was a communicable disease and thus warranted quarantining Californians with AIDS and HIV. Out of this effort comes the first statewide advocacy group for gay and lesbian civil rights -- the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE Lobby).

1986 - The Reagan Administration Budget Director James Miller stated that the treatment and care of persons with AIDS was a state and local concern - not a federal one.

1986 - Homosexual Law Reform Act, which legalized consensual sex between men aged 16 and older, passed in New Zealand.

1986 - Quebec, Canada passes gay rights ordinance

1986 - Alan Cranston from California becomes first United States Senator to speak at a gay celebration.

1986 - AZT, azidothymidine, drug becomes available to help reduce the amount of the virus within the body.

1986 - Black Coalition on AIDS founded based on lack of culturally sensitive services to African Americans affected with AIDS and their goal was to create a community-based, coalition-building organization to ensure Black people would receive appropriate services and be adequately represented in policy decisions.

1986 - FTM, a peer organization, supporting female-to-male transsexuals and cross dressers is formed by Lou Sullivan, formally known as Louis Graydon Sullivan.

1987 - ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) is formed after a speech by Larry Kramer as part of the Second Tuesdays lecture series at New York City's LGBT Center. The goal is a non-partisan group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action to end the AIDS crisis.

1987 - National Latino(a) Lesbian and Gay Activists is created which later becomes Latino(a) Lesbian & Gay Organization- LLEGO.

1987 - On October 11, the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights drew over 500,000 people making it the largest civil rights demonstration in U.S. history. This date became National Coming Out Day.

1987 - Professor John Boswell helps form the Lesbian and Gay Studies Center at Yale University.

1987 - Second gay March on Washington features unveiling of the AIDS quilt and attracts 200,000 but no coverage from Newsweek, Time or US News & World Report. At that time, the Quilt covered the area of two football fields containing 1,920 panels.

1987 - BiNet USA formed to create a network to promote visibility and the collection/distribution of education information

1987 - U.S. Congressman Barney Frank outs himself in a Boston Globe interview.

1987 - US Supreme Court rules against using name "Gay Olympics."

1987 - 2,000 Gay couples get "married" on the steps of the IRS offices in Washington, DC to protest tax benefits for heterosexuals based in marriage.

1987 - First AIDS Walk San Francisco involves more than 6,000 participants.

1988 – National Coming Out Day launched

1988 - October, ACT UP stages a "die-in" in the street in front of FDA headquarters in Rockville, Maryland.

More than 1,000 people participate in the nine-hour protest; 176 are arrested.

1988 - The 10th Annual National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays conference takes place.

1988 - The Episcopal Diocese of Newark, New Jersey becomes the first church in the country to support ministers and congregations who condoned and blessed relationships between gay and lesbian couples.

1988 - The governing board of the City College of San Francisco approves the creation of the first gay and lesbian studies department in the United States.

1988 - First World AIDS Day is established as December 1st by the World Health Organization (WHO).

1988 - San Francisco ACT UP chapter formed.

1988 - Oregon citizens repeal ban on antigay job discrimination.

1988 - Canada decriminalizes sodomy.

1988 - Section 28 passes in the UK.

1988 - President Reagan's National AIDS Commission releases a report containing over 500 recommendations for addressing the epidemic. An aid reduces the list to ten.

1988 - OUT/LOOK magazine begins quarterly publication.

1988 – First Lambda Literary Awards given

(http://www.lambdaliterary.org/awards/previous_winners/paw_1988_1991.html)

1989 - Bisexual Political Action Committee (BiPAC) New York, a militant activist political group dedicated to confronting and eliminating biphobia, successfully challenges the Hetrick-Martin Gay and Lesbian Health Clinic to remove a "Bisexual men: Fact or fiction?" workshop from curriculum.

1989 - California Legislature passes comprehensive Hate Crimes law, which includes sexual orientation.

1989 – Jazz pianist and saxophonist, Billy Tipton, born Dorothy Lucille Tipton, dies and is revealed to be FTM

1989 - San Francisco Examiner runs "Gay in America" series from June 4 to June 25, chronicling what it is like to live as a gay or lesbian person in American 20 years after the Stonewall Riots. The series interviewed thousands of people in the Bay Area and across the country to study gay and lesbian Americans, American society and the often uneasy intersection between them.

1989 - Denmark enacts civil union laws for same-sex couples.

1989 - Federal Court forced US Army to reinstate Perry Watkins after dismissing him for being gay, *Watkins v. United State Army*.

1989 - US Supreme Court rules an accounting firm discriminating as it dismissed a woman for "masculine behavior."

1989 - Stonewall Place dedicated in New York by Mayor Ed Koch. US Post office issues a Lesbian and Gay postmark commemorating the event.

1989 - Massachusetts becomes second state to pass gay civil rights laws.

1989 - Over 5,000 ACTUP activists protest The Catholic Church negative attitudes toward homosexuality and AIDS in front and inside New York City's St. Patrick's Cathedral.

1990 - At the 101st Annual Conference of American Rabbis, it was decided that gay men and lesbians would be accepted as rabbis. The resolution states that "...All Rabbis, regardless of their sexual orientation, be accorded the opportunity to fulfill the sacred vocation which they have chosen."

1990 – Federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act passed; first law extending federal recognition of gay men and lesbians

1990 - For the first time, the national census includes a question that identifies gay couples with the category of 'unmarried partner' that was included, allowing for 150,000 same sex partnerships to be recorded

1990 - The Hate Crime Statistics Bill passed through Congress in February. Previous legislation required the collection of data on crimes motivated by racial, ethnic, or religious prejudice. This new law also required that data be collected on crimes motivated by prejudice against people of differing sexual orientations.

1990 - U.S. restrictions against gay immigrants lifted

1990 - Queer Nation founded, symbolizing "reclaiming" the term "queer" to fight society's bigotry.

1990 - OutRage! forms in UK to fight for what they saw as the rights of lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals

1990 - Americans With Disabilities Act, which also includes protection for persons with AIDS against discrimination, signed into law.

1990 - BiPOL sponsors first national Bisexual conference in San Francisco. The North American Multicultural Bisexual Network (NAMBN) formalized there to reflect the diversity of membership.

1990 - Lesbian and the Visual Arts (LVA) founded based upon the exhibit: "The Dynamics of Color: Lesbian Artists Respond to Racism"

1990 - Domestic Partnership registry established in San Francisco, CA.

1990 - Gay Games held in Vancouver, Canada

1991 – Amnesty International decides to work on behalf of those imprisoned for consensual same-sex acts

1991 – Karen Thompson named Sharon Kowalski's legal guardian after an eight-year fight in the Minnesota case that established a lesbian's partner as her legal guardian after she became incapacitated following an automobile accident.

1991 - California Governor Pete Wilson, who claimed he would sign the bill, vetoes AB 101 a gay and lesbian employment rights bill, inciting what some call Stonewall 11, a month of marches and angry protests across the state.

1991 - Dr. Simon LeVay publishes findings supporting biological influence on sexual orientation, which stated "A difference in hypothalamic structure between heterosexual and homosexual men".

1991 - First Black and Lesbian Gay Pride March in Washington, DC.

1991 - Anything That Moves: Beyond The Myths of Bisexuality becomes the first national bisexual quarterly magazine, published by The San Francisco group, the Bay Area Bisexual Network

1991 - San Francisco City and County offers domestic partnership benefits to employees.

1991 - Hong Kong decriminalizes homosexuality

1992 - Canada joined the vast majority of other NATO countries permitting military service by lesbians and gay men.

1992 - Colorado voters ban state and municipal rights laws for lesbians and gay men

1992 - California Governor Wilson signs non-discrimination bill (AB 2601), adding sexual orientation protections to the Labor Code

1992 - On October 11, the AIDS Memorial Quilt was unfolded in its entirety, representing 22,000 people, on the Capitol Mall in Washington, D.C.

- 1992 – Press for Change founded in Britain to work for trans people’s equal rights
- 1992 - The University of Iowa extended its health benefits to the domestic partners of lesbian and gay employees. The University of Chicago is next to follow suit.
- 1992 - The World Health Organization removes homosexuality from its ICD-10 (International Statistical Classification of Diseases)
- 1992 - Transgender Nation organized by Anne Ogborn.
- 1992 - Deaf and Gay Lesbian Center established in SF.
- 1992 - Bill Clinton’s campaign includes promise to repeal military ban on homosexuality if elected.
- 1992 - Digital Queers founded; later evolves into Planet Out.
- 1992 - KD Lang outs herself becoming the first major female recording artist to come out.
- 1992 - Gay and Lesbian persons address the Democratic National Convention in New York.
- 1992 - First National Lesbian Conference draws 2,500 participants in Atlanta.
- 1992 - William Weld, Massachusetts’s governor, grants lesbian and gay state workers same bereavement and family leave rights as heterosexuals.
- 1992 - Antigay initiatives introduced in Oregon and Colorado. Colorado initiative passes, while the more harshly worded Oregon one fails.
- 1992 - Canada grants immigration request for a lesbian lover of a citizen. Also admits to antigay policies toward gays and lesbians during Cold War and lifts ban on Gays and Lesbians in military.
- 1992 - California, New Jersey, and Vermont enact statewide bans on antigay discrimination, while Louisiana’s governor bans discrimination in state agencies, making it the first in the southeast to do so.
- 1993 – Brandon Teena and two SOFFAs murdered in Nebraska
- 1993 - By a narrow margin, voters in San Francisco rejected a city-wide partnership ordinance that would grant legal recognition to the relationships of gay men and lesbians.
- 1993 – Intersex Society of North America founded
- 1993 – March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation held
- 1993 - Roberta Achtenberg is the first openly gay or lesbian person to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate
- 1993 - The first large study of female sexual orientation found that there was a strong genetic component to homosexuality and heterosexuality, as reported by researchers at Boston University and Northwestern University.
- 1993 - The Grammy Awards featured several openly gay and lesbian musicians including k.d. Lang, Elton John, the B-52's and Fred Schneider, Keith Strickland, and the late lyricist Howard Ashman ("Beauty and the Beast").
- 1993 - Third gay rights march on Washington, DC; March organizers included Bisexual but refused to include TransGender in the name of the March
- 1993 - Former San Francisco Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg becomes the highest-ranking open lesbian to serve in the federal government (Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity); referred to as “that damned lesbian” by Senator Jesse Helms
- 1993 - “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, Don’t Pursue” is the compromised policy that was instituted to deal with the ban on gays and lesbians in the military
- 1993 - In a national survey, 55% of all Canadians consider homosexuality “morally acceptable”
- 1993 - An AIDS awareness stamp is issued by the US Post Office
- 1994 - 25th Anniversary of Stonewall Riots draws 1 million marchers
- 1994 - American Medical Association opposes medical treatment to "cure" homosexuals

1994 – At U.S. insistence, United Nations suspends observer status of the International Lesbian and Gay Association

1994 – Olympic gold winner swimmer Greg Louganis comes out

1994 - Sheila James Kuehl elected to California Assembly, first openly lesbian or gay member of the Legislature

1994 - The first-ever school district-sanctioned gay youth prom is held in Los Angeles.

1994 - Lesbian Gay Aging Issues Network (LGAIN) founded.

1994 - Gay Games take place in New York

1994 – American Medical Association (AMA) denounces supposed cures for homosexuality

1994 - US District Judge Zilly orders the Army to reinstate Colonel Margarethe Cammermayer to the National Guard who was a 28-year veteran of the Army and National Guard, and Chief Nurse of the Washington State National Guard. She was the highest-ranking service member to be discharged for being lesbian or gay.

1994 - The Harvey Milk Institute, at 584 Castro Street, is founded in San Francisco, a non-profit community-based institution to provide education about LGBT culture and community

1995 - Coors Brewing Company and Walt Disney Company announce they will offer health benefits to domestic partners of their gay employees. Allstate Insurance changes its policies to offer joint coverage to same-gender homeowner couples.

1995 - First U.S. conference for FTMs

1995 - Million Man March has no openly gay speakers

1995 - President Clinton names the first-ever White House liaison to the gay and lesbian communities

1995 - First year San Francisco Pride changes name to LGBT Pride Celebration

1995 - Texas Representative Dick Armey refers to openly gay Congressman Barney Frank as “Barney Fag,” claiming this to be an “honest slip”

1995 - Gold Medalist Greg Louganis reveals in a television interview with Barbara Walters that he has AIDS

1995 - San Francisco passes ordinance prohibiting discrimination against transgendered individuals

1996 – Congress passes Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), forbidding federal recognition of, and benefits for, married same-sex couples

1996 - First attempt to create state domestic partner registry (AB 2810); vetoed by California Governor Wilson

1996 - In Romer v. Evans, the Supreme Court strikes down Colorado's Amendment 2, which denied gays and lesbians protections against discrimination, calling them “special rights.” According to Justice Anthony Kennedy, “We find nothing special in the protections Amendment 2 withholds. These protections . . . constitute ordinary civil life in a free society.”

1996 - Openly lesbian Carole Migden elected to California Assembly

1996 - The Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would have projected discrimination based on sexual orientation in the workplace, narrowly fails in the U.S. Senate in a vote of 50-49. It is the first time a vote on lesbian and gay civil rights has ever been before the full Senate.

1996 - South Africa extends constitutional protection to homosexuals

1996 - The James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center at the San Francisco Public Library is founded to promote and provide access to the documentation of lesbian and gay history and culture

1997 - Assembly Member Sheila James Kuehl becomes first woman and first openly lesbian Speaker pro Tempore

1997 - Rolling Stones article details failure of John Money's John/Joan case 1967 where an anonymous baby boy was turned into a girl by doctors at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. For 25 years, the case of John/Joan was called a medical triumph showing proof that a child's gender identity could be changed. From this one surgery, thousands of "sex reassignments" were performed.

1997 - South Africa becomes the first country to enact a constitutional ban outlawing sexual orientation discrimination

1997 - Virginia court permits lesbian adoption.

1997 - UK extends immigration rights to same-sex couples akin to marriage

1997 - San Francisco's domestic partnership law went into effect and required companies holding contracts with the City of San Francisco to offer the same benefits to unmarried domestic partners that are offered to the spouses of married employees

1997 - Ellen DeGeneres' character Ellen Morgan "comes out of the closet" as a lesbian on her TV show "Ellen." Historically, she became the first gay leading character to be out in a TV program

1998 - Tammy Baldwin is the first open lesbian elected to federal legislative office

1998 - Matthew Shepard brings hate crimes against gays to the forefront of news. The 21-year-old gay college student in Wyoming was beaten, tied to a fence, and left to die.

1998 - President Clinton signs an executive order outlawing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the Executive Branch

1998 - California law punishes as a misdemeanor a person who uses force against any person because of that person's actual or perceived race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, or sexual orientation. This law, AB 1999, clarifies that a crime committed against a transgender person because of their gender identity is a hate crime.

1998 - Japan allows first legal sex reassignment surgery to be performed on a FTM

1998 - Gay Games take place in Amsterdam; Transgender activists protest exclusion

1999 - Actress Hillary Swank receives an Academy Award for her portrayal of Brandon Teena in "Boys Don't Cry." Brandon was a female to male transsexual who was murdered in 1993.

1999 - Bills in Maryland and Rhode Island were introduced to legalize same-sex marriage for the second year and it failed again

1999 - Billy Jack Gaither was murdered because of his sexuality in Alabama.

1999 - Britain bans discrimination against trans people

1999 - AB 26 is the first statewide Domestic Partnership registration that passes Legislature and is signed by California Governor Davis

1999 - AB 537, protecting gay and lesbian students from harassment, passes Legislature and is signed by California Governor Davis

1999 - AB 1001, adding sexual orientation to Fair Employment and Housing Act, passes Legislature and is signed by California Governor Davis

1999 - Gary Matson and Winfield Mowder are murdered in Redding, CA

1999 - Texas post-op MTF Christine Littleton ruled legally male and not the legal widow of her husband

1999 - California adopts domestic partner law

1999 - President Clinton proclaims June "Gay and Lesbian Pride Month."

1999 - Sexual orientation is added to the Fair Employment and Housing Act.

- 2000 - British ban against lesbians and gay men serving in the military is lifted
- 2000 - Fifteen-year-old Anthony Colin wins a court battle in California after being denied the formation of a Gay Student Alliance group in his high school.
- 2000 - For the first time, the U.S. census attempts to estimate the number of same-sex, or unmarried partners, households.
- 2000 - Openly lesbian Christine Kehoe and Jackie Goldberg are elected to California Assembly
- 2000 - Sheila James Kuehl becomes first openly lesbian elected California Senator
- 2000 - Suspects in the Billy Jack Gaither and Matthew Shepard cases were found guilty and given life sentences in prison for the murders.
- 2000 - U.S. Supreme Court rules, in a 5-4 vote, that the First Amendment allows the Boy Scouts of America to expel a gay Scout leader in New Jersey
- 2000 - Section 28 repealed in Scotland, age of consent equalized in the United Kingdom. German Reichstag officially apologizes to gays and lesbians persecuted under the Nazi regime, and for "harm done to homosexual citizens up to 1969".
- 2000 - Millennium March on Washington focuses on LGBT families hate crimes
- 2000 - California passes the "Limit On Marriage Initiative," known as the Knight Initiative
- 2000 - Vermont became the first state in the country to legally recognize civil unions between gay and lesbian couples.
- 2001 - A federal judge upholds Florida's ban on adoptions by gays and lesbians.
- 2001 - In San Francisco, Diane Whipple dies after being mauled by two dogs outside the apartment she shared with her partner, Sharon Smith. The dogs belonged to Whipple's next door neighbors, Knoller and Noel, who did not try to prevent or stop the attack. Smith filed a wrongful-death suit against the neighbors, in part to hold them accountable for their actions but also to challenge California law, which said same-sex partners have no legal standing to file such suits. Both Knoller and Noel were convicted for murder.
- 2001 - Rev. Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson blame gays and lesbians among other groups for contributing to the September 11th terrorist attacks.
- 2001 - The Netherlands becomes the first country to grant full marriage rights to same-sex couples
- 2001 - President Bush does not issue proclamation of June as Gay Pride Month, breaking with precedent set by President Clinton
- 2001 - City of San Francisco grants insurance coverage to City and county employees who are transgendered for sex reassignment procedures
- 2001 - California Governor Davis signs the Domestic Partner Benefits Expansion Act into law. This act extends protections for domestic partners in California.
- 2002 - A Philadelphia court struck down a 1998 ordinance that recognized city employees' "life partnerships," claiming the ordinance "unsurped" the power of the state to regulate marriage.
- 2002 - California teen Eddie "Gwen" Araujo is fatally attacked by four men who discover "Gwen" is actually a young transgendered male
- 2002 - Comedian and actress Rosie O'Donnell publicly comes out in a television interview.
- 2002 - Finland grants same-sex couples the same legal rights as heterosexual couples.
- 2002 - The Ohio Supreme Court ruled a same-sex couple can adopt a last name they created for themselves, reversing the lower court's decision.

2002 - Age of consent in Austria equalized at 14.

2002 - San Francisco's LGBT Community Center opens to provide a centralized space for the LGBT community

2002 - Harry Hay, known for founding the Mattachine Society in 1950 and the Radical Faeries in 1979, dies at the age of 90

2003 - Belgium and three Canadian provinces extend marriage rights to same-sex couples

2003 - CNBC host Michael Savage is fired after making homophobic remarks to a man who called into his television show, stating "The children's minds are being raped by the homosexual mafia, that's my position. They're raping our children's minds."

2003 - In November, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled that barring gays and lesbians from marrying violates the state constitution. The Massachusetts Chief Justice concluded that to "deny the protections, benefits, and obligations conferred by civil marriage" to gay couples was unconstitutional because it denied "the dignity and equality of all individuals" and made them "second-class citizens."

2003 - Reverend Gene Robinson becomes the first openly gay man to be confirmed a bishop in the Episcopal Church in New Hampshire.

2003 - Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum compares homosexuality to polygamy, incest, and adultery when coming on the sodomy case being heard by the U.S. Supreme Court.

2003 - Texas Governor Rick Perry signs the state's version of the Defense of Marriage Act, denying same-sex couples the right to marry or receive any benefits of marriage.

2003 - The U.S. Supreme Court rules in *Lawrence v. Texas* that sodomy laws in the U.S. are unconstitutional based on infringement of citizens' privacy in their home. Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote, "Liberty presumes an autonomy of self that includes freedom of thought, belief, expression, and certain intimate conduct."

2003 - U.S. Supreme Court strikes down remaining state sodomy laws

2003 - Same-sex marriage in Belgium legalized

2003 - Same-sex marriage in Canada introduced

2004 - President Bush proposes an amendment to the constitution to ban same-sex marriages

2004 - The U.S. Supreme Court refuses to intervene as Massachusetts issues marriage licenses to same-sex couples in the state. Gay and lesbian couples begin exchanging vows

2004 - Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon become the first same-sex couple to marry in the US; almost 5,000 other couples marry before intervention by the Supreme Court

2004 - United Kingdom: trans people allowed to change the gender on their birth certificates

2005 - Civil unions become legal in Connecticut

2005 - New Zealand is the first country to outlaw employment discrimination and hate crimes on the basis of gender identity

2005 - San Francisco County Superior Court Judge Richard Kramer rules that California can no longer justify limiting marriage to a man and woman.

2006 - Civil unions become legal in New Jersey

2006 - South Africa begins recognizing gay marriages

2007 - In November, the House of Representatives approves a bill ensuring equal rights in the workplace for gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals.

2008 - In February, a New York State appeals court unanimously votes that valid same-sex marriages performed in other states must be recognized by employers in New York, granting same-sex couples the same rights as other couples.

2008 - In February, the state of Oregon passes a law that allows same-sex couples to register as domestic partners allowing them some spousal rights of married couples.

2008 - On May 15, 2008, the California Supreme Court rules that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry. When the ruling goes into effect in June 2008, California will be the second state, after Massachusetts, to legalize same-sex marriages.

<http://www.lavenderlibrary.org/announcements/Timeline.html>

<http://www.safeschoolscoalition.org/LivingMemory-lgbtHistoryTimeline.pdf>

<http://www.usc.edu/schools/annenberg/asc/projects/soin/enhancingCurricula/timeline.html>

<http://www.glinn.com/news/tline4.htm>

http://edweb.sdsu.edu/people/cmathison/gay_les/ev9096.html

http://www.gumresearch.org/reference/umc_history/timeline_warning_long_very_detailed/

<http://www.ohio.edu/lgbt/resources/history.cfm>

<http://www.pfc.org.uk/node/905>

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Ally: Any person who supports, respects, and honors the sexual and gender diversity of others. Individuals act according to how best challenge homophobic, heterosexist, and transphobic ideology and behaviors, and is willing within themselves, to discover and better understand the forms of bias within themselves and the surround culture.

Butch/Femme: Describing a relationship in which one person is femme and one is butch. This description is the dynamic between them and the social structure that is prevalent in working-class lesbian bars up through the early 1970s. This structure was strictly enforced by peer pressure. One had to be either a butch or a femme, and butches only dated femmes and femmes only dated butches. There was a lot of backlash against this structure in the 1970s when lesbian feminism emerged, and for a long time butches and femmes were absolutely politically incorrect, and were likely to be shunned by the feminist lesbian community.

Chicken Hawk: An older gay man who pursues boys or very young men.

Chicken: A young gale male, usually in his teens or early twenties. (RS)

Cross-Dressing: To occasionally wear clothes traditionally associated with people of the other sex. Cross-dressers are usually comfortable with the sex they were assigned at birth and do not wish to change it. Cross-dressing is a form of gender expression, is not necessarily tied to erotic activity, and is not indicative of sexual orientation.

Drag: To dress in a way usually identified with the opposite sex. Differs from transvestitism in that drag usually refers to a specific act of cross-dressing, while transvestitism is applied to the general enjoyment of the act. Drag is a cross-dressing parody performance popular in the queer community.

Dyke: Derived from 19th century slang, dike, referring to male clothing and a barrier constructed to control or confine water. Also used as slang for same-sex attracted woman.

Faggot: A bundle (of sticks or wrought iron). Slang which is generally used as an offensive word for same-sex attracted man. Faggots (i.e. sticks) were used during witch-burning times in Europe, when many independent women, herbalists, healers and heretics and sexual non-conformists were condemned as witches.

Family of Choice: Also referred to as “Chosen Family.” Individuals form their own social, emotional, and practical support networks that act as their “new” family, rather than their “biological family” which is often left due to discrimination.

Friend of Dorothy: A code word for a gay person, originating from *The Wizard of Oz*. From "Wizard of Oz", the lion declared "We're friends of Dorothy." Additionally used from "friends of Dorothy Parker" who was known to have many close and flamboyant gay friends.

Gay: Happy. Also used to identify a same-sex attracted man, but often used as a broad term to include gay men and lesbians.

Gender Identity Disorder: A controversial DSM-IV diagnosis given to transgender and other gender-variant people. Because it labels people as "disordered," Gender Identity Disorder is often considered offensive. The diagnosis is frequently given to children who don't conform to expected gender norms in terms of dress, play or behavior. Such children are often subjected to intense psychotherapy, behavior modification and/or institutionalization.

Gender Identity: A person's sense of identity defined in relation to the categories of male and female. The term is primarily used to describe people whose gender identity does not match their biological sex at birth. However, not everybody identifies exclusively with one sex or the other, and some may identify as both male and female, while others may identify as male in one setting and female in another.

Homophobia: An irrational fear of homosexuality and the hatred, disgust, and prejudice that fear brings within the oppression of all individuals.

Intersex: Describing a person whose biological sex is ambiguous. There are many genetic, hormonal or anatomical variations which make a person's sex ambiguous (i.e., Klinefelter Syndrome, Adrenal Hyperplasia). Parents and medical professionals usually assign intersex infants a sex and perform surgical operations to conform the infant's body to that assignment. Sometimes the person's gender identity matches the gender they were assigned, but some intersex people develop gender identity issues because they have been assigned the wrong gender.

Kinsey Six: A person who is completely homosexual, as opposed to one with some bisexual inclinations. Sex researcher Alfred Kinsey developed a scale from 0 to 6 to indicate a subject's sexual orientation. A person with no homosexual feelings was ranked a zero. Someone exclusively homosexual was a 6.

Lesbian: A same-sex attracted woman. The ancient Greek poet, Sappho lived on the island of Lesbos. As Sappho became known for her poems celebrating love between women and ran a school for young women, often writing erotic poetry. The term changed from "one who lives on Lesbos" to "a woman like Sappho and her followers." The poetess Sappho is considered by many lesbians to have been a lesbian, although she was married and had children.

Lipstick Lesbian: A lesbian who behaves in a very feminine manner, not so much because she is a femme, but to distance herself.

Out of the closet A phrase describing a person who no longer attempts to hide being gay, a person who lives life as a known homosexual and has no shame about that fact.

Pink Triangle: The symbol gay men were made to wear in the Nazi concentration camps and became a symbol of gay pride. Now, the downward-pointing, equilateral, pink triangle is a symbol of GLBT pride and the struggle for equal rights.

Queen: Effeminate gay man, from the 16th century. It was a disparaging word for an unpleasant or promiscuous woman.

Queer: This originally derogatory term used to describe gay and lesbian individuals has been reclaimed by some. It is not considered ok for people who are not part of such communities to use the term to apply to others. Some people previously identified as straight claim this term to indicate their rejection of compulsory heterosexuality.

Questioning: Used in the context of sexual orientation, someone who is challenging their inner beliefs and feelings toward homosexuality, dealing with their own homophobia

Sex Reassignment Surgery: Refers to surgical alteration, and is only one small part of the transition. Preferred term to "sex change operation."

Sexual orientation: This is an umbrella term used to describe the whole spectrum of one's core sense of the gender(s) of people toward whom one feels romantically and sexually attracted. The inclination or capacity to develop intimate emotional and sexual relationships with people of the same gender, a different gender or more than one gender.

Transgender: An umbrella term for people whose gender identity and/or gender expression differs from the sex they were assigned at birth. The term may include but is not limited to: transsexuals, cross-dressers, and other gender-variant people. Transgender people may identify as female-to-male (FTM) or male-to-female (MTF). Use the descriptive term (transgender, transsexual, cross-dresser, FTM or MTF) preferred by the individual. Transgender people may or may not choose to alter their bodies hormonally and/or surgically. Some use the term to mean transcendence of binary gender systems altogether, so that individuals identify as neither of a pair of opposites.

Transition: Altering one's birth sex is not a one-step procedure; it is a complex process that occurs over a long period of time. Transition includes some or all of the following cultural, legal and medical adjustments: telling one's family, friends, and/or co-workers; changing one's name and/or sex on legal documents; hormone therapy; and possibly (though not always) some form of surgical alteration.

Transsexual: One who mentally and emotionally identifies as a different sex to the one they have been assigned by birth according to their anatomy. Transsexual people will often undergo hormone therapy and sex reassignment surgery. While the medical establishment claims that transsexual people are suffering from gender dysphoria, many transsexuals reply that the problem is not with their gender but with their sex (their bodies).

Transsexuality: Identification with and a desire to be the opposite sex.

Transvestite: A person who adopts the dress, and sometimes behavior, typical of the opposite gender, generally for purposes of emotional or sexual satisfaction, however, the person still identifies with their biological sex

Two Spirit: one who is of the 'third gender'. Individuals are not categorized, respected, and looked upon as people who are both male and female, making them more complete, more balanced individuals, than simply a man or a woman. A person maintains cultural continuity with past cultures where some individuals possessed and manifested a dynamic balance of both feminine and masculine energies. This gender role is not based in sexual activities or practices, but rather the sacredness that comes from being different.

GUIDE CREDITS

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Brian de Vries, Ph.D., is professor of gerontology at San Francisco State University. He received his doctorate in life-span developmental psychology from the University of British Columbia in 1988 and was a post-doctoral fellow at both Simon Fraser University in Vancouver and the University of Southern California. He is a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) and member of the leadership council of the American Society on Aging (ASA) and co-Chair of the LGBT Aging Issues Network constituent group. Most recently, Dr. de Vries has become a policy advisor for the AARP California. Dr. de Vries editor of the journal, *Sexuality Research and Social Policy*; he is former associate editor of *The International Journal of Aging and Human Development* (2000-2006). He has served as guest editor of *Omega: Journal of Death and Dying* (1997 and 2004) and as a guest co-editor of *Generations* (2001). In addition, he has edited four books, including *Kinship Bereavement in Later Life* (1997), *End of Life Issues* (1999), *Narrative Gerontology* (2001), and *Gay and Lesbian Aging* (2004); he has authored or co-authored over 75 journal articles and book chapters and he has given over 100 presentations to professional audiences on a variety of topics such as the social and psychological well-being of midlife and older LGBT persons, friendships and social relationships across the adult life course, as well as end of life issues and bereavement.

Content Manager

MICHAEL JACOBY

Michael is the producer and director of *Ten More Good Years*. Michael is co-owner of *LookOut Films, Inc.* shared with partner Dr. Louis C. Rose.