Timeline of LGBT History
Virginia adopts “sodomy laws” of England making sex between two men a capital crime
- Elizabeth Johnson was the first women to be punished for violating this law in 1642
- In 1778, Gotthold Enslin became the first American discharged from the Army for sodomy
U.S. Court in Virginia rules that 3rd gender is legal in the case of Thomas and Thomasine Hall

It was decided that Hall was both a man and a woman, despite lack of evidence of female genitals.

The court specified the clothing Hall was to wear, which included both male and female apparel.
Charles Hitchin is convicted of attempted sodomy and put in the pillory
- Friends from the molly houses attempt to protect him from a mob
- Turns into a huge fight and one of the earliest recorded acts of LGBT resistance
Hungarian psychologist Karoly Maria Benkert invents the word “homosexual” to describe people attracted to the same sex.

Shift in thought: now homosexuality is seen as a “psychological condition.”
1885

- The *Labouchere Amendment* is passed in England
  - Also known as the “Blackmailer’s Charter”
  - Every and any form of male homosexual expression that offended the feelings of a jury became criminal
  - The punishment was imprisonment and potentially hard labor
“Boston Marriage” was a term created to refer to two women who have lived together for a long period of time. This term was created because of the large numbers of professional women who did so in Boston.
1897

- Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld founded the first gay liberation organization in Germany - the Scientific Humanitarian Committee.
- He also coined the term "transvestite".
1919

- Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld founds the Institute of Sexology in Berlin
- Primary focus: civil rights for women and the LGBT Community
America’s first known gay rights organization is founded – The Society for Human Rights
It was disbanded after a year due to harassment
Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld performs the first documented sexual reassignment surgery on Dora-R in 1930.
Cantonal Court in Nidwald, Switzerland grants change of “civic status” from male to female for Margirth Businger
U.S. military, under the influence of the psychiatric establishment, revises codes on homosexual behavior

- Army began asking soldiers about their sexual orientation upon entrance
- “Blue Discharges” are presented to soldiers who admit to being gay
1945

- Veterans Benevolent Association is founded to fight the “Blue Discharge” system
The first U.S. lesbian magazine, *Vice-Versa*, was published in 1947.
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the UN

“All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.” –Article 1
Dr. Harry Benjamin begins treating transgender individuals in San Francisco with hormones
John Puerifoy, undersecretary of state, speaks of “pervert peril” in a testimony before Congress. This leads to “witch hunts” for gays who work in the federal government.
The Mattachine Society is created in Los Angeles, which becomes America's first ongoing gay rights organization.
1952

- Christine Jorgensen creates awareness about transgender issues
  - While she was not the first to medically transition, her fame helped others learn about the transgender community for the first time
President Dwight Eisenhower bans employment of gays by the government in *Executive Order 10450*

- Employees of federal, state, and local government must take “loyalty oaths” to gain employment swearing that they are not homosexual

- This was later repealed in 1975
Phyllis Marin and Del Lyon found America’s first lesbian rights organization, the Daughters of Bilitis, in San Francisco.
1955 cont.

- Illinois General Assembly creates procedure to change sex on birth documents
One magazine, a publication affiliated with The Mattachine Society, wins a case against the U.S. Postal Service.

The Postal Service had banned distribution of any publications on homosexuality through the mail as “obscenity” before the Supreme Court.
Illinois is the first state to decriminalize homosexual acts between consenting adults in private.
Congress passes the *Civil Rights Act*

- The act prohibits discrimination based on race, color, sex, religion, or national origin

1964
The world’s first transgender organization is established in San Francisco, the National Transsexual Counseling Unit.
1968

- The District Court of Hennepin County Minnesota grants Sandra Valdesuso, then a performer at the Minneapolis Club the Gay 90s under the stage name Shalimar, a legal name change.
  - The court ruled that Sandra “mentally and physically was not adjusted to male status and was not a perfectly formed male person” and “is hereby declared to be a female person.”
The Stonewall Riots break out in New York when a group of gay customers at a popular gay bar in Greenwich Village, called the Stonewall Inn, who had grown angry at the harassment by police, took a stand.

The riots inspired LGBT people throughout the country to organize in support of gay rights, and within two years after the riots, gay rights groups had been started in nearly every major city in the United States.

Creates a new militant style of protesting
Christopher Street Liberation Day commemorates the one year anniversary of the Stonewall Riots.

The annual gay pride parade will spread to dozens of countries around the world.
1971

- Transsex is added to the dictionary
Switzerland becomes the first in the world to legalize gender reassignments
The American Psychiatric Association votes to remove homosexuality from its lists of illnesses. This ends a century of efforts by psychologists to “cure” gays.
1976

- Harvey Milk is appointed to the Board of Permit Appeals
- He is the first openly gay U.S. commissioner
Phyllis Frye makes trans classification table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRANSVESTITE</th>
<th>TRANSGENDERIST</th>
<th>TRANSGENDERULAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fetish</td>
<td>Role Change</td>
<td>Sex Reassignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Lips, Rump,</td>
<td>(Anti-Macho)</td>
<td>(Different Pathology)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bust, Long Hair)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May dress-up on occasion</td>
<td>Can also be the fetishist and desires acceptable mother who doesn’t want surgery may want secondary's</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for a party or ball and has no strong desire to pass in society as other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Until late 1960's</td>
<td>Very recent category</td>
<td>Many pre-op and some post-op are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Catchall (Stoller)</td>
<td>Very real alternative</td>
<td>post-op are to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society has dictated male ownership of this classification</td>
<td>With respect to social acceptance: female is okay, male is sissified.</td>
<td>Male to female may be larger, but to female to male may be &amp; of plastic surgery (opinion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Largest group is married, heterosexual male (much documentation)</td>
<td>Can be either heterosexual or homosexual male or female (effeminate) (butch)</td>
<td>If left alone in post-op situation, same to heterosexual to homosexual (opinion based on past prejudices)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effeminate homosexual male actually belongs (opinion)</td>
<td>Normal if not threatened by loss of job, friends or church by ignorance, homophobic or Christians</td>
<td>Normal if really a transsexual difficult to suicide to prostitution if to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dade County, FL attempts to pass a civil rights ordinance making sexual orientation discrimination illegal. It doesn’t pass due to the Save Our Children Campaign created by Anita Bryant.

1977
The Supreme Court rules in favor of Renee Richards, a transsexual tennis player, allowing her to play professional women’s tennis.
In California, AB-385 becomes law permitting the Department of Health to issue new birth certificates to post-op transsexuals.
The first March on Washington for Gay Rights draws 100,000 marchers.

In 1987, the second March draws 500,000 marchers.
The Democratic Rules Committee states it will not discriminate against homosexuals.

Thus, the Democrats become the first political party to endorse a homosexual rights platform.
“Gay Cancer” is relabeled with the medical term Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

***President Reagan refuses to acknowledge AIDS as a serious medical issue***
Wisconsin became the first state to ban employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.
Berkley, California became the first city to offer its employees domestic partnership benefits in 1984.
Beck Smith and Annie Afleck became the first openly lesbian couple in the U.S. to be granted legal joint adoption of a child.
1987

- The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) is created
- The organization forces the government to take action to fight AIDS for the first time
1988

- National Education Association adopts a resolution calling for every school district to provide counseling for students struggling with their sexual orientation

- The first National Coming Out Day is held
The Episcopal Diocese of Newark, New Jersey became the first church in the country to support ministers and congregations who condoned and blessed relationships between gay and lesbian couples.

The first World AIDS Day is held.
1989

- Denmark becomes the first nation to legalize gay marriage
- In 1993, Norway becomes the second nation to legalize gay marriage
1989 cont.

- The Stonewall postage stamp is issued.
- The U.S. Postal Service issued a pride postmark to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots.
1990

- President George H.W. Bush signs into law the *Hate Crime Statistics Act*
  - This is the first federal law to include the term sexual orientation

- President Bush also signs the *Ryan White Care Act*, creating a federally funded program for people living with AIDS
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."
1992

- 1st International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy.
- This conference was for “attorneys and other legal professionals; for employment, personnel, and other human resources professionals; and for members of the transgender community.”
Massachusetts becomes the first state to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation against public school students.

This sounds the call for Youth Activism.
“Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy is instituted in the U.S. military. This policy permits gays and lesbians to serve in the military, but bans homosexual activity.
President Bill Clinton signed an executive order barring the Federal Government from denying security clearances to homosexuals simply on the basis of their sexual orientation.
1996

- **Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)** allows states to not recognize same-sex marriages, even when performed legally in other states
In the case of *Romer vs. Evans*, the Supreme Court struck down a Colorado state constitutional amendment, “Amendment 2,” adopted by statewide referendum that prohibited all levels of state government from granting special protections to homosexuals.

It was found that “a state cannot deem a class of persons a stranger to its laws.”
Rita Hester’s murder led to “Remembering Our Dead” web project

It also led to the first International Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) in 1999
California adopts a domestic partnership law granting same-sex partners all the legal rights and benefits of married couples.
2000

- Vermont becomes the first state to legalize same-sex civil unions and registered partnership

- The Transgender Pride flag made its first appearance at a pride parade in Phoenix, Arizona
The Transgender Law center is founded

Their mission is to change law, policy, and attitudes so that all people can live safely, authentically, and free from discrimination regardless of their gender identity or expression.
In the case of *Lawrence vs. Texas*, the Supreme Court strikes down a Texas law banning the private, consensual sex between same-sex adults. All sodomy laws are considered unconstitutional in the U.S.
2004

Massachusetts becomes the first state to legalize same-sex marriage
In California, Insurance Non-Discrimination Act (AB1586) clarifies that state law prohibits gender discrimination by health care companies and service plans.
House of Representatives approved a bill ensuring equal rights in the workplace for gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals
2008

- California voters approve Proposition 8, making same-sex marriage in California illegal
- This inspires the NOH8 campaign
2009

- President Obama signs a referendum allowing same-sex partners of federal employees to receive benefits, but not full health coverage
The Matthew Shepard Act expands the federal hate crime law to include crimes motivated by a victim’s actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.
2010

- President Obama repeals “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”
- Gender identity is added to the federal Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) statement of federal job postings
California Governor Jerry Brown signed the landmark bill requiring public schools to include the contributions of people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender in social studies curriculum.
2012

- Tammy Baldwin becomes the first openly gay politician elected to the Senate

- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) declares transgender employees protected. They also emphasize that discrimination violates Title VII of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964*
The Supreme Court has two days of historical debate over gay marriage
The SC rules that DOMA is unconstitutional
The SC considers overturning Proposition 8, but does not at this time

2013

These Five Justices
Just Made America More Equal
June 26, 2013 | DOMA Is Unconstitutional
2014

- Scotland becomes the 17th country to legalize gay marriage
- The U.S. has yet to be included to this list