

Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered rights

[Sociology](#), [Human Rights](#)



Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Rights Throughout history there has been many different groups that have encountered discrimination. The main group has been the African/African-American population for many years. Other groups have been the Irish, Chinese, Mexicans, and the Jews, just to name a few. Those groups all endured prejudice based on ethnicity; the new group is facing prejudice because of their sexual orientation. The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community experiences many challenges in society globally. It is a shame that we must be told who we can love or what sex we can be. For the GLBT community deserves as much right as the "straight" community because everyone involved is a human being not an object that can be controlled. Over the history of civilization there has been many indications of homosexuality. Some of the main civilizations thought it was honorable to be homosexual or it was encouraged. The Romans welcomed the idea of the soldiers having partners within the troop, a great concept being the soldiers would fight harder to protect the one they loved ("Pride is A Wonderful Thing"). Modern movement of GLBT rights sparked with the Stonewall riots that began on June 27th, 1969 in Greenwich Village, NY ("Stone Wall Riots- 1969"). On that night seven plain clothed detectives came into the gay bar and announced their presence. The detectives demanded identification papers from the customers and then escorted them outside. Some were thrown into the paddy wagon and pushing others off the sidewalk. The "usual-suspects" who fled the scene. gaycitynews.com, stone wall riots scene came back and decided to fight against this injustice (figure 1). After these instances many more were triggered ("Stone Wall Riots- 1969"). Coins, bottles, rocks and other objects

were thrown at the police officers. Detective Inspector Pine, who was the lead in the crackdown, ordered his fellow officers to follow into the empty bar and proceeded to bash and severely beat a heterosexual folk singer who just happened to walk by. D. I Pine and his subordinates were just about burnt alive when lighter fluid was squirted through the door of the Inn and someone attempted to ignite the fluid. Many more events came to follow with the brutal beatings of gays, lesbians, drag kings/queens, and those who seemed "camp" or "femme" were made examples of. www.lgbta.dsu.org.uk, Gay liberation front These horrific events lead to the creation of the Gay Liberation Front (figure 2). The name was chosen for its connection with the anti-imperialist struggles in Vietnam and Algeria. Different sectors of the GLF would go on to organize an alliance for arrested Black Panthers, collect money for workers on strike, and associate the struggle for gay rights to the flag of socialism. The GLF is no longer in existence but the slogan of "Gay Power" is stronger than ever; in countries and cities worldwide "gay pride" comes in the form of an annual gay pride parade ("Stone Wall Riots"). Ridiculous is what homophobia is; the irrational fear of gay persons ("Homophobia"). There is no reason to fear anyone because they are homosexual. The thought is very childish that people think the gay community is out to convert everyone and believing the GLBT community is evil and wrong in their natural actions. Some have even gone to say damnation shall be brought upon all those who follow in the "devil's path" of homosexuality. Bigots who have no idea what they are talking about have brought about un-called for fear of the GLBT community. Looking through history you can see the vast acceptance of homosexuality through the ages

and how the scope has changed and been perceived. The Romans, as mentioned early, welcomed the homosexual way into their troops. Many would say this could not be true since the Romans were a very harsh society and had "strict" rules but in actuality they were loose. Other civilizations, like ancient China and Japan, thought homosexuality was honorable and those who were with the same sex were seen as superior ("Ancient China and Japan"). In ancient China and Japan samurais, craftsmen, artisans, and warriors took on apprentices and taught them their mastery and eventually took them on as lovers (figure 3). At specific times in Japanese history love between two men was viewed as the purest form of love. Homosexuality has never been viewed as a sin in religion but was banned due to prohibition because of the influence western society had over the Japanese at the time period ("Ancient China and Japan"). It can clearly be seen the biggest damper nowadays is religious virtues people hold and the interpretation of the Bible deeming homosexuality the greatest sin to be ever conceived. For hundreds of years, religion has been used to demonize and persecute Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered individuals of the world ("Religion used against homosexuality"). Religion is used all the time to oppress and never used to spread the so-called good-hearted Christian way. Everything the Bible is being used for and stands for is a complete tragedy. Many organizations have been formed to further the movement of GLBT rights since the community consists of human beings who deserve the same individual rights as everyone else they are surrounded by. The vast restriction the GLBT community faces is disgusting and needs reforming. In many countries those

who are caught in the bed with a lover of the same sex are sentenced to death ("Sodomy Laws"). Government should not be involved in deciding who we love. Everyone has the freedom to choose and that is why the United States should take a stand and allow gay marriage ("Marriage and Partnership recognition"), fiscal responsibilities to be shared, the right to step outside and not fear the day, and the right to adopt a child as gay parents. The United States was started on the premise of freedom of choice and this is a huge freedom of choice. With a step towards equality many shall follow suit, but the United States is behind and countries like the Netherlands and England have already given the GLBT their deserved rights. The new leaders in this path to greatness should be followed for it is the step to truly melding the peoples of all nations as one and avoiding separation. Government should be out of the bedroom and lives of its citizens and do more productive things with their precious time. Just recently there was a decision in Australia that said whether or not a female to male transgendered should be allowed to marry a woman since it was practically considered gay marriage ("Transsexual Marriage"). Transgendered individuals will find it hard to assimilate into society because they must change their past and become who they have truly been on the inside and that involves a lot of work. Many will find these individuals who are trapped to be "freaks" and will choose to damn them forever and not accept their way of life. People have no right to say what is right and wrong. Every day more is done to deny the community simple basic rights they deserve. It is the worst crime against humanity ever committed. There is no harm in allotting the GLBT community the same rights as the so considered "

straight" community. Everyone within the community is a brother, sister, mother, pastor, teacher, doctor, and so forth in our world. Change is needed now and stalling is just down right hurtful to these individuals since everyone treats them as outcasts to society because the Bible tells everyone to hate them. Change is needed and the " straight" community has no right restricting love and expression of self. The way to change is to open our eyes, hearts, and minds to the evolving world around us. Nothing can be as simple as black and white. Diversity is what builds the beauty of the world and GLBT rights are the future. Equality should never be tossed aside, for it is on the horizon. Work Cited Wright, Lionel. " The Stone Wall Riots- 1969." July 1999. 15 Nov 2006 . Molack, Christian. " Gay: Homophobia." The Bible Pages. 15 Nov 2006 . Barazoku, Badi. " Japan." Gay Japan and China. 15 Nov 2006 . Unknown. " Religion." Religion. Task force foundation. 15 Nov 2006 . Unknown. " Marriage and Partnership recognition." Task force foundation. 15 Nov 2006 . Stafford, Lindsay. " Pride is a wonderful thang." unknown. 26 Nov 2006 . Unknown. " World Laws." Sodomy Laws. 02, June 2006. 26 Nov 2006 .