

Timeline



1867

1867 “Father of the LGBT Movement” Karl-Heinrich Ulrichs is first to speak out for gay rights

1903 First recorded raid on gay bathhouse, in New York City; 12 men charged with sodomy

1924 Society for Human Rights, first gay rights organization in United States, is founded. It is shut down by police within a few months

1945 Veterans Benevolent Association, first LGBT veterans group, is formed



1952

1952 Christine Jorgensen becomes first American to have gender reassignment surgery

1955 Daughters of Bilitis, first national U.S. lesbian organization, is formed

1958 In first case regarding LGBT rights, Supreme Court protects First Amendment rights of *ONE: The Homosexual Magazine*

1962 Illinois is first state to remove sodomy from criminal code

1966 National Planning Conference of Homophile Organizations is formed

1969 Stonewall Riots in New York gain national attention for gay rights



1969

1970 First Gay Liberation Day March is held in New York City; similar events are held in Los Angeles and San Francisco

1973 American Psychiatric Association removes “homosexuality” as a mental disorder

1974 Kathy Kozachenko (Ann Arbor, Mich., City Council) becomes first openly LGBT candidate to win elective office in U.S.

1978 Rainbow flag is first used as symbol of gay pride

1978 On November 27, 1978, Harvey Milk is assassinated in San Francisco, California



1978

1979 First national gay rights march is held in Washington, D.C.

1980 David McReynolds becomes first openly LGBT person to run for President, for Socialist Party USA

1982 Wisconsin is first state to ban discrimination on basis of sexual orientation in employment, housing and public accommodations

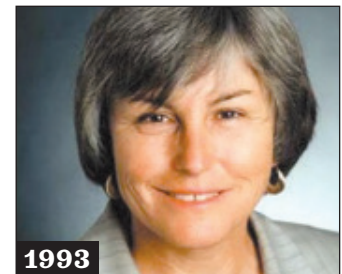
1983 U.S. Representative Gerry Studds (Mass.) becomes first openly gay member of Congress

1986 In *Bowers v. Hardwick*, Supreme Court upholds Georgia law banning homosexual sex

1989 Denmark becomes first country to legalize same-gender partnerships

1991 First TV kiss between same-gender couple: two women on *L.A. Law*

1993 “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy allows gays/lesbians to serve in U.S. military as long as they are closeted



1993

1993 Minnesota passes first statewide law prohibiting discrimination against transgender people

1993 Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Roberta Achtenberg becomes first openly LGBT official confirmed by Senate



1994

1994 Deborah Batts becomes first openly LGBT federal judge

1996 In *Romer v. Evans*, Supreme Court says gays and lesbians have same right to be protected against discrimination as non-LGBT people

1996 President Clinton signs Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) into law

1999 California becomes first state to legalize domestic partnerships for same-gender couples

2000 Vermont becomes first state to legalize civil unions for same-gender couples

2000 President Clinton declares June Gay and Lesbian Pride Month

2003 In *Lawrence v. Texas*, Supreme Court overturns 1986 ruling and declares anti-sodomy laws unconstitutional

2004 Massachusetts becomes first state to legalize same-gender marriage

2007 DiversityInc requires domestic-partner benefits as a prerequisite to make DiversityInc Top 50 list

2008 Diego Sanchez is hired as senior policy adviser by openly gay U.S. Representative Barney Frank (Mass.), making him first transgender staffer on Capitol Hill



2008

2009 President Obama signs law making it a federal crime to assault someone because of sexual orientation or gender identity

2009 President Obama declares June Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month

2009 Respect for Marriage Act introduced in Congress; would repeal DOMA and require government to recognize legal same-gender marriages



2010

2010 President Obama signs law ending “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy

2010 Supreme Court agrees to hear Edith Windsor’s case, which challenges the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act

2011 Obama administration announces it will actively combat anti-LGBT efforts by other countries

2012 Ellen DeGeneres is named JCPenney spokesperson; CEO Ron Johnson supports her — and her strong values — despite protests from group calling itself “One Million Moms”

2012 Seven LGBT candidates win election into U.S. House and Senate

2013 Supreme Court strikes down section of DOMA that denies federal benefits to legally married same-gender couples

2013 Department of the Treasury announces that legal same-gender marriages will be recognized for federal tax purposes

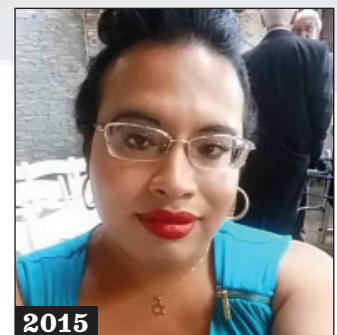
2014 Department of Justice announces that legally married same-gender couples will receive equal protection in every program it administers

2014 National Basketball Association player Jason Collins becomes first gay athlete to play in one of the U.S.’s four major sports leagues

2014 Illinois becomes 17th state to allow same-gender marriage

2014 Several state legislatures continue to try to pass “religious freedom” bills designed to allow discrimination against LGBT people

2015 Supreme Court legalizes marriage equality nationwide



2015

2015 President Obama appoints Raffi Freedman-Gurspan, the first transgender person to work in the White House, as the outreach and recruitment director for presidential personnel in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel

2016 International Olympic Committee (IOC) no longer requires transgender athletes go under reassignment surgery to compete