



# Inner Temple Library

A large graphic for LGBT History Month 2016. It features a white background with a black outline of a Pegasus. The Pegasus's wings and tail are filled with a rainbow gradient of colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. To the left of the Pegasus, the text 'LGBT' is written in a large, black, cursive font. Below it, the words 'LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL TRANS' are stacked above 'HISTORY MONTH' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The year '2016' is written in a very large, bold, black, sans-serif font. The entire graphic is framed by vertical bars of yellow, green, and blue on the left and right sides, and a purple bar at the bottom.

LGBT  
LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL TRANS  
HISTORY MONTH  
2016

# LGBT History Month 2016

'The overall aim of LGBT History Month is to promote equality and diversity for the benefit of the public. This is done by:

- increasing the visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender ("LGBT") people, their history, lives and their experiences in the curriculum and culture of educational and other institutions, and the wider community;
- raising awareness and advancing education on matters affecting the LGBT community;
- working to make educational and other institutions safe spaces for all LGBT communities; and
- promoting the welfare of LGBT people, by ensuring that the education system recognises and enables LGBT people to achieve their full potential, so they contribute fully to society and lead fulfilled lives, thus benefiting society as a whole.'

Source: [www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/about](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/about)

## Legal Milestones

'[A] wallchart has been produced by the Forum for Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Equality in Further and Higher Education and a group of trade unions in association with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) History Month.

The aim has been to produce a resource to support those raising awareness of sexual orientation and gender identity equality and diversity.

Centred on the United Kingdom, it highlights important legal milestones and identifies visible and significant contributions made by individuals, groups and particularly the labour movement.'

Source: [www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/wallchart](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/wallchart)

The wallchart is included in this leaflet, and we have created a timeline of important legal milestones. We have highlighted a selection of material held by the Inner Temple Library that could be used to read about these events in more detail.

# LGBT Legal Timeline

- 1861: Section 61 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 abolishes the death penalty for buggery, introduced under the Buggery Act 1533 and later included in the Offences Against the Person Act 1828.
- 1866: *Hyde v Hyde and Woodmansee* (1866) L.R. 1 P. & D. 130. Established that the legal definition of marriage as understood 'in Christendom is the voluntary union for life of one man and one woman, to the exclusion of all others'.
- 1885: Labouchere Amendment. Section 11 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885 made 'gross indecency' a crime; in practice used to prosecute gay men.
- 1928: *The Well of Loneliness*. Legal battles over Radclyffe Hall's lesbian novel.
- 1954: Trial of Edward Montagu for 'conspiracy to incite certain male persons to commit serious offences with male persons'.
- 1957: Wolfenden Report recommended that 'homosexual behaviour between consenting adults in private should no longer be a criminal offence'.
- 1958: Homosexual Law Reform Society established.
- 1967: Sexual Offences Act 1967 decriminalised sexual acts between two men over the age of 21.
- 1967: *Talbot (otherwise Poyntz) v Talbot* (1967) 111 S.J. 213. Nullity decree granted because one partner was transsexual.
- 1970: *Corbett v Corbett* [1971] P. 83. Dissolution of marriage to transgender partner led to official definition of gender. Mr Justice Ormerod stated that 'Marriage is a relationship which depends on sex and not on gender'.

- 1971: Nullity of Marriage Act 1971. Banned marriages between same-sex couples in England and Wales. The parliamentary debates discussed transsexualism.
- 1972: First Gay Pride held in London.
- 1975: Sex Discrimination Act 1975 made it illegal to discriminate on the ground of anatomical sex in employment, education and the provision of housing, goods, facilities and services.
- 1986: *Rees v UK* [1987] 2 F.L.R. 111. Concerned birth certificates and the status of transgender people in marriage.
- 1988: Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1988 stated that a local authority 'shall not intentionally promote homosexuality or publish material with the intention of promoting homosexuality' or 'promote the teaching in any maintained school of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship'.
- 1989: Stonewall UK set up.
- 1990: *Cossey v UK* [1991] 2 F.L.R. 492. European Court of Human Rights confirmed transgender definition.
- 1994: The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 lowered the age of consent for gay men to 18; the age for lesbians was not set.
- 1996: Two cases in the European Court of Human Rights (*Morris v UK & Sutherland v the UK*) challenged the inequality in age of consent.
- 1997: *X, Y and Z v UK* [1997] 2 F.L.R. 892. Case regarding transgender parents and the right to family life.
- 1998: *Sheffield and Horsham v UK* [1998] 2 F.L.R. 928. Concerned with state recognition of transgender identity.
- 1998: The 'Bolton 7' were convicted for gross indecency and age of consent offences. Six of the men appealed to the European Court of Human Rights and were awarded compensation.

- 1999: Sex Discrimination (Gender Reassignment) Regulations extended the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, making it illegal to discriminate against any person on the grounds of gender reassignment, but only in the area of employment.
- 1999: *Smith and Grady v UK* [1999] I.R.L.R. 734. Royal Navy personnel discharged on the basis that they were homosexual.
- 2000: Adoption of a sexual-orientation free Armed Forces Code of Social Conduct.
- 2001: *Bellinger v Bellinger* [2002] Fam. 150. Declared transgender status to be a matter for Parliament to decide not the courts.
- 2002: *Goodwin v UK* [2002] I.R.L.R. 664. New birth certificates for transgender people to allow marriage.
- 2003: Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1988 repealed by section 122 of the Local Government Act 2003.
- 2004: Civil Partnership Act 2004. Gave same-sex couples in civil partnerships the same rights and responsibilities as partners in civil marriage.
- 2005: Gender Recognition Act 2004 came into force. Allowed transgender people to change their legal gender.
- 2005: Adoption and Children Act 2005. Same-sex couples could now adopt.
- 2006: Equality Act 2006 established the Equality and Human Rights Commission.
- 2006: *Parry v UK* (Application no. 42971/05) and *R and F v UK* (Application no. 35748/05). Applications to the European Court of Human Rights for the granting of Gender Recognition Certificate within marriage.
- 2006: *Grant v UK* (2007) 44 E.H.R.R. 1. Pensionable age of transgender people considered to be that of reassigned gender.

- 2007: The Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) Regulations. Outlawed discrimination in the provision of goods, facilities, services, education and public functions on the grounds of sexual orientation.
- 2008: Human Fertilisation & Embryology Act 2008. Recognised same-sex couples as the legal parents of children conceived through the use of donated sperm, eggs or embryos.
- 2010: Equality Act 2010 officially added 'gender reassignment' as a protected characteristic.
- 2011: Hall v Bull [2011] Eq. L.R. 283. Gay couple in a civil partnership, turned away from a Cornwall B&B on religious grounds, won a direct discrimination case.
- 2013: Alan Turing was given a posthumous pardon for his gross indecency conviction in 1952.
- 2014: Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 came into force.

ELIZABETH II

c. 30



## Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013

2013 CHAPTER 30

An Act to make provision for the marriage of same sex couples in England and Wales, about gender change by married persons and civil partners, about consular functions in relation to marriage, for the marriage of armed forces personnel overseas, for permitting marriages according to the usages of belief organisations to be solemnized on the authority of certificates of a superintendent registrar, for the review of civil partnership, for the review of survivor benefits under occupational pension schemes, and for connected purposes.

[17th July 2013]

# Selection of Material in the Inner Temple Library

*Blackstone's guide to the Equality Act 2010*. Edited by John Wadham et al. 2nd ed. 2012

Cretney, Stephen M. *Same sex relationships: from 'odious crime' to 'gay marriage'*. 2006

Equality & Human Rights Commission. *Human rights review 2012: how fair is Britain? An assessment of how well public authorities protect human rights*. 2012

Fredman, Sandra. *Discrimination law*. 2nd ed. 2011

Hill, Henrietta & Richard Kenyon. *Promoting equality and diversity: a practitioner's guide*. 2008

Monaghan, Karon. *Monaghan on equality law*. 2nd ed. 2013

Palmer, Camilla et al. *Discrimination law handbook*. 2nd ed. 2006

Rubenstein, Michael. *Discrimination: the new law: a guide to the new regulations on race, religion or belief, sexual orientation and disability*. 2004

Schur, Edwin M. *Crimes without victims: deviant behavior and public policy: abortion, homosexuality, drug addiction*. 1965

*They stand apart: a critical survey of the problems of homosexuality*. Edited by J. Tudor Rees and Harley V. Usill. 1955

Wildeblood, Peter. *Against the law*. 1955

# Websites

glbtq Archives: [www.glbqtarchive.com](http://www.glbqtarchive.com)

LGBT Consortium: [www.lgbtconsortium.org.uk](http://www.lgbtconsortium.org.uk)

LGBT Foundation: [www.lgbt.foundation](http://www.lgbt.foundation)

LGBT History Month: [www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk)

LGBT Rights (Human Rights Watch): [www.hrw.org/topic/lgbt-rights](http://www.hrw.org/topic/lgbt-rights)

National Festival of LGBT History:  
[www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/national-festival](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/national-festival)

Stonewall: [www.stonewall.org.uk](http://www.stonewall.org.uk)





# Voices and Visibility



Uncovering hidden histories

## Legal timeline

### Death penalty for buggery abolished

1861 England and Wales  
1889 Scotland

### Offence of 'gross indecency' created

1885 across the UK



**Radclyffe Hall**  
Poet and author  
**1928**  
Publishes 'The Well of Loneliness'

### Decriminalisation of homosexual acts

by two men over the age of 21 'in private'

1967 England and Wales  
1980 Scotland  
1982 Northern Ireland  
1992 Isle of Man

**1981**

### Dudgeon v the United Kingdom



**Jeffrey Dudgeon**  
Shipping Clerk and gay activist  
Belfast



**Labi Siffre**  
Poet, singer and songwriter

**1987**

### (Something Inside) So Strong

**Lisa Power**

**1989**

Founder member  
Stonewall

### Section 28 and 2A

Prohibits 'promotion' of homosexuality

1988 England, Wales and Scotland

### Employment rights

1999 Transgender across UK

### Repeal Section 28 and 2A

2000 Scotland  
2003 England and Wales  
2006 Isle of Man

### Duty to promote equality

2000 Northern Ireland

### Employment rights

2003 Sexual orientation across UK

### Gender recognition

2004 across the UK

### Civil Partnerships

2005 across the UK

### Offence of hate crime

2005 Sexual orientation across UK  
2009 Transgender: Scotland  
2012 Transgender: England, Wales, Northern Ireland

### Equality Act

2010 England, Wales and Scotland

### Marriage (same sex couples)

2014 England, Wales and Scotland



Uranians  
Inverts  
Homosexuals

**Ted Brown**  
LGBT activist and trade unionist  
**1970**  
Member of Gay Liberation Front



**Jan Morris**  
Historian, author and travel writer  
**1972**  
Travels abroad for gender reassignment surgery



**Jimmy Somerville**  
Singer  
**1984**  
'Pits and Perverts' benefit concert



**Kath Gillespie-Sells**  
**1989**  
Founder  
Regard



**Stephen Whittle**  
**1992**  
Founder  
Press for Change



**Jackie Kay**  
Poet, novelist and academic  
**1998**  
Publishes 'Trumpet'



**Barbara Burford**  
Writer and medical researcher  
**1999**  
Director of Equality  
Department of Health

**Russell T Davies**  
Television producer and screen writer  
**1999**  
Queer as folk broadcast



People who do not identify as heterosexual (only) have used a number of terms to describe themselves including: **homosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, pansexual, asexual...**

People who do not identify with their assigned gender (only) have used a number of terms to describe themselves including: **trans, transgender, transman, transwoman, man, woman, transsexual, crossdresser, transvestite, androgynous, genderqueer...**



**Fanny and Stella**  
Frederick Park and Ernest Boulton  
Law student, bank clerk, theatrical performers

**1871**

### Criminal prosecution

1914 British Society for the Study of Sex Psychology



**Ethel Smyth**  
Composer and member of the suffrage movement  
**1911**  
Composed 'The March of Women'

1958 Homosexual Law Reform Society

1969 Campaign for Homosexual Equality  
1969 Scottish Minorities Group



**Lionel Blue**  
Reform rabbi, journalist and broadcaster

**1960s**

First British rabbi publicly to 'affirm his homosexual orientation'



**Peter Tatchell**  
LGBT activist

**1983**

Fights Bermondsey By-election



**Chris Smith**  
Politician

**1984**

First out gay and HIV positive MP



**Linda Bellos**  
Businesswoman and LGBT activist

**1986**

Leader of Lambeth Council



**Christine Burns**  
Trans activist

**1995**

Parliamentary Forum on Transsexualism



**Angela Eagle**  
Politician

**1997**

First elected out lesbian MP



**Waheed Alli**  
Media entrepreneur and politician

**1998**

Youngest and first out gay peer



**Sue Sanders**  
Educator, activist and Founder of LGBTHM

**2005**

First LGBT History Month



**Phyllis Opoku-Gyimah**  
Trade Unionist  
Founder of Black Pride

**2006**

First UK Black Pride



**Nicola Adams**  
Sportswoman

**2012**

First woman to win Olympic boxing title



**Tom Daley**  
Sportsman

**2013**

Announces relationship with a man



the forum

for sexual orientation and gender identity equality in post-school education



UNISON  
the public service union



More information and download  
<http://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/wallchart/>



Lesbian



Gay



Bisexual



Trans



**History**



**Month**

**SCHOOLS OUT** UK

