

## Timeline



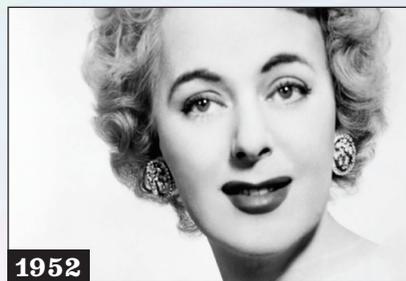
1867

**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.

**1975** Minneapolis becomes first city to pass law protecting transgender people from discrimination

**1978** Rainbow flag is first used as symbol of gay pride



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** 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

**2017** For the first time ever, a U.S. appeals court rules that federal civil rights law protects lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees from discrimination in the workplace

**2017** States across the country continue to engage in legal battles over rights for transgender people — particularly in schools