LGBTQ+ Rights

The Newest Addition to HeinOnline's Social Justice Suite
A collection of materials relating to the gay rights movement in America

This HeinOnline collection brings together more than 400 titles and nearly 46,000 pages charting the gay rights movement in America, showing the civil rights codified into law in the 20th and 21st centuries, as well as the inequalities that still exist today. All titles in this collection have been assigned one or more title-level subjects relating to their scope, and are further divided into six subcollections, whose areas of focus constitute Marriage and Family, Employment Discrimination, Military Service, AIDS and Health Care, Public Spaces and Accommodations, and Historical Attitudes and Analysis.

LGBTQ people have lived, loved, and thrived since humans first evolved. Written records of homosexuality, both thinly veiled and explicit, exist in all ancient civilizations, with the amount of openness afforded to homosexual, bisexual, and gender-nonconforming individuals varying from culture to culture. Persecutions of LGBTQ persons in a wide-spread, sustained way rose sharply during the Middle Ages (c. 500–1500), increasing during the Renaissance (c. 1300–1600), largely through the efforts and influence of the Roman Catholic Church. Sodomy was illegal in America almost from its establishment; Thomas Jefferson proposed castration as an appropriate punishment.

Societal attitudes towards LGBTQ persons underwent rapid change throughout the end of the 20th century, ushered in alongside the sexual revolution of the 1960s. For decades, the great aim of the gay rights movement was to secure the right to marry and solemnize their relationships with the same legal protections afforded to heterosexual couples. Same-sex marriage was declared a fundamental right under the U.S. Constitution by the Supreme Court in 2015, in Obergefell v. Hodges. In 2020, LGBTQ persons were granted protection from discrimination in employment on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. However, the full integration of LGBTQ people into American life remains tenuous and debated. According to the latest data from the FBI, 1,656 people were the victims of a hate crime in 2019 because of either their sexual orientation or gender identity.

To continue honoring its core value of corporate citizenship, HeinOnline was pleased to introduce LGBTQ+ Rights during June 2022 in honor of Pride Month. This collection is free of charge to all U.S. Core subscribers, academics, and other institutional libraries. We encourage librarians to share this resource openly with all patrons.

Throughout the LGBTQ+ Rights database, users may encounter items and viewpoints that they find offensive. These items are included in order to properly foster dialogue and to fully understand both the progress our society has made and the inequalities that still exist today. For all the triumphs and hard-fought victories of the gay rights movement, LGBTQ individuals today still face barriers to living openly without discrimination, both in the United States and around the world.

Suggestions from the library community on materials that would make a valuable addition to this collection are welcomed and can be submitted to holsupport@wshein.com.

What's Included:

- More than 400 titles
- More than 400 volumes
- Nearly 46,000 pages
- 15 new subjects
- An interactive timeline
- Supreme Court briefs and government documents
- Scholarly articles
- Extensive bibliography plus links to external resources
Important Content Includes:

- **Interactive timeline** illustrating the gay rights movement in America from 1950 up until the present day
- **Bibliography** of hundreds of titles on various LGBT issues
- Curated list of **scholarly articles** on LGBTQ rights from across all of HeinOnline (users must be subscribed to the Law Journal Library to access this content)
- **15 new subjects**, including:
  - Conversion Therapy and Pseudoscience
  - Criminalization of Sex
  - Don't Ask, Don't Tell
  - Gender Roles and Identities
  - HIV/AIDS
  - LGBTQ Athletes
  - LGBTQ Military Service
  - LGBTQ Pride and Visibility
  - LGBTQ Rights in International Law
  - LGBTQ Students
  - Religion and the LGBT Community
  - Same-Sex Adoption and Parenting
  - Same-Sex Marriage
  - Supreme Court Cases
  - Violence and Hate Crimes
  - Workplace Protections and Discrimination

Categorizations in the Database

Browse material on LGBTQ+ Rights by the following topics: Marriage and Family, Employment Discrimination, AIDS and Health Care, Military Service, Public Spaces and Society, and Historical Attitudes and Analysis.

- **Marriage and Family**
  This subcollection focuses on same-sex marriage and the rights of same-sex couples to adopt, raise children, and form family units. It also focuses on the rights of heterosexual parents with respect to their LGBTQ children.

- **Employment Discrimination**
  In this subcollection, you’ll find titles focused on discrimination faced by LGBTQ people in the workplace. Prior to 2020, there were no federal-level protections for LGBTQ employees.

- **AIDS and Health Care**
  The AIDS crisis initially targeted the gay community, killing thousands through both a lack of effective medical treatment and social stigma. Nearly 1.2 million Americans are living with HIV today.

- **Military Service**
  LGBTQ Americans have served their country ever since the Revolution, even as the official policy of the U.S. military about their service has shifted from an outright ban, to allowance based on silence, to open acceptance.

- **Public Spaces and Society**
  Within this subcollection, users can find titles on religious discrimination against LGBTQ people, issues facing LGBTQ students in public schools, violence committed against LGBTQ people, and other issues.

- **Historical Attitudes and Analysis**
  This subcollection presents historical texts whose views some users may find offensive today, but understanding the prejudicial beliefs circulating in society is essential to understanding the laws of the time.

This database is part of the Social Justice Suite, included in all U.S. Core subscription packages and HeinOnline Academic.

For more information about this database, please contact your sales representative or Marketing at marketing@wshein.com or 800-828-7571.