LGBT Trivia

Legal

Q: Which of the following countries have legalized same-sex marriage?

  a. Netherlands  
  b. Spain  
  c. Belgium  
  d. Canada  
  e. South Africa  
  f. All of them

A: f: All of them

Q: Which President made it illegal for the US Government to employ gay and lesbian people?

A. Dwight D. Eisenhower, in Executive Order 10450 in 1953. There was fear that they could be blackmailed into committing treason. No such incident is known to have occurred, but these laws were not repealed until 1975 and federal security clearances were not permitted to gays and lesbians until 1995.

Q: What is Lawrence vs Texas?

A: The 2003 Supreme Court Case that outlawed Texas anti-sodomy laws and served as a precedent for the banning of sodomy laws around the country.

Q: In what nation did the first large-scale gay rights movement begin?

A: Germany, in the 1860s.

Q: What was the first state to outlaw discrimination based on sexual orientation?


Q: In how many states can an employee be fired for being gay or lesbian?

A: 29
Q: What was the first state in the US to pass a bill requiring public schools to teach the historical accomplishments of gay men and lesbians?
A: California in 2011.

Q: The “High Tech Gays” were the plaintiffs in the case that ended which practice in 1995?
A: High Tech Gays v Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office (High Tech Gays v DISCO) began in 1984 and was decided in 1990. It was used as basis for Bill Clinton’s 1995 executive order which banned sexuality as a basis for denial of security clearances.

Q: Approximately how many federal benefits and responsibilities are associated with marriage, and thus denied to LGBT individuals in states where they cannot marry?
A: Over 1100.

Q: In how many countries is it legal for LGBT couples to adopt children?
A: 14

Icons
Q: The earliest known references to same-sex love between women, written between 625-570 BCE, are attributed to whom?
A: Sappho

Q: Martin Luther King’s right-hand man and organizer of the 1963 March on Washington kept in the background because he was gay and he did not want to jeopardize the civil rights movement. What was his name?
A: Bayard Rustin. There is a film about him called Brother Outsider.

Q: Who is Jeanne Manford?
A: The mother who marched in the New York City Gay Pride Parade in 1972 and is credited with starting PFLAG (Parents and Families of Lesbians and Gays). (pronounced P-FLAG)

Q: Who were Del Martin and Phyllis Lyons?
A: Founders of the Daughters of Bilitis, the first major lesbian organization in the United States. The Daughters of Bilitis were active during the 1950s and 1960s.

Q: Who was the first openly gay man to be elected to public office in California?
A: Harvey Milk was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977.

Q: What was ACT UP?
A: A militant AIDS activism organization founded by playwright Larry Kramer that took to the streets to force the world to take AIDS seriously.

Q: Who was Harry Hay?
A: He founded the Mattachine Society in 1950. The Mattachine Society was one of the earliest prominent gay rights organizations in the US.

Q: Who was Adrienne Rich?
A: She was a lesbian feminist. She is known for her prolific poetry career as well as her writings on motherhood, compulsory heterosexuality, and oppression.

Q: Sister Outsider is a collection of essays and other works by which lesbian feminist?
A: Audre Lorde

Q: This gay philosopher, social theorist, and literary critic is considered one of the founding members of what has come to be known as post-structuralist philosophy. He wrote, among other things, a three part series of books called the History of Sexuality. What was his name?
A: Michel Foucault

History
Q: What is a Boston Marriage?
A: The name given to a romantic relationship between women (possibly but not necessarily lesbian) in the 1800s.

Q: What is the Buggery Act of 1533?
A: A sodomy law adopted in England in 1534 during the reign of Henry VIII. It was the first civil legislation against homosexuals in that country.

Q: When were the Stonewall riots?
A: 1969

Q: What were the Daughter of Bilitis?
A: It is considered to be the first lesbian rights organization in the US, formed in San Francisco, CA in 1955.

Q: What was the punishment for sodomy and buggery in the Plymouth Colony in 1636?
A: Death

Q: What now prominent political figure first advised then-President Reagan that AIDS could be spread by casual contact?
A: Chief Justice John Roberts

Q: Where does the term lesbian come from?
A: From the Greek isle of Lesbos.

Q: True or false? At the time of the 1969 Stonewall Riots, it was illegal for men to dance with men, or women to dance with women?
A: False - it was illegal for men to dance with men, but not for women to dance with women.

Q: What historic event do Pride parades celebrate?

Q: Which singer and former Miss Oklahoma beauty pageant winner was the recipient of a pie to the face due to her outspoken anti-gay activism?
A: Anita Bryant

Culture

Q: A dramatized account of the life of Teena Brandon is told in which Hillary Swank movie?
A: Boys Don’t Cry

Q: Which of the following artists have produced popular gay anthems?
   a. The Village People
   b. Gloria Gaynor
   c. Lady GaGa
   d. P!nk
   e. George Michael
   f. All of them
A: f: All of them

Q: Which movie made national headlines for depicting a gay relationship between cowboys?
A: Brokeback Mountain

Q: Which lesbian cult classic movie portrays a young woman sent to a gay to straight conversion camp?
A: But I’m A Cheerleader

Q: What coming of age novel published by Rita Mae Brown is considered a classic piece of lesbian literature?
A: Rubyfruit Jungle
Q: English author Radclyffe Hall wrote which lesbian novel in 1928?
A: The Well of Loneliness.

Q: Which actors play a gay couple in the movie The Birdcage?
A: Robin Williams and Nathan Lane

Q: What are Phranc (spelled P-H-R-A-N-C) and Alix Dobkin known for?
A: They are prominent women’s (and particularly, lesbian) music artists.

Q: What was the first film depicting positive images of gay life?
A: Magnus Hirschfeld’s “Different from the Others” was produced in 1918. Magnus Hirschfield was a sexologist, who, unlike many in his field at the time, did not consider homosexuality to be a debilitating and destructive mental disorder.

Q: What object was famously joked about in Ellen DeGeneres’ coming out on the sitcom Ellen?
A: A toaster oven

Health

Q: What was AIDS called?
A: GRID (Gay Related Immunodeficiency Disorder) or The Gay Cancer.

Q: What year was homosexuality removed from the DSM?
A: In 1986. Although it was initially removed in 1974, another illness called “Ego-dystonic homosexuality” was added in its place.

Q: What percentage of homeless youth are LGBT?
A: 20%
Q: True or false: gay and lesbian families are less likely to have health insurance than heterosexual families.
A: True. According to a 2009 study, 82% of heterosexual adults have health insurance, compared to 77% of LGB adults and 57% of transgender adults.

Q: How many states treat LGBT partners as legal strangers when it comes to caregiving and medical decision making?
A: 18

Q: In 2008, how many people in the US reported crimes perpetrated against them on the basis on their perceived sexuality or gender expression?
A: 2400. Significant underreporting means that this number is likely far greater.

Q: True or false: research shows that LGBT people have elevated levels of suicidal ideation, substance use, and mental health conditions such as depression?
A: True. Because of cultural homophobia and transphobia, as well as access to appropriate care, LGBT individuals are at higher risk of, and show higher incidence rates of, these issues.

Q: What percentage of transgender respondents of a recent survey reported being mistreated at work because of their gender identity or expression?
A: 97%

Grab Bag

Q: Roy and Silo were a couple of *what* in the Central Park Zoo?
A: Penguins. They became famous as the "gay penguins" and even had a children's book written about them.

Q: Who was Mark Bingham?
A: A gay man known as the “hero of Flight 93”. He was one of the passengers who stormed the cockpit on September 11, 2011 when terrorists hijacked the plane.
Q: Where is the National Museum of LGBT history?
A: New York City

Q: When were bisexual and transgender people added to the PFLAG (Parents and Families of Lesbians and Gays) mission statement?
A: Bisexual people were added in 1993 and transgender people in 1998.

Q: Which openly gay athlete won Olympic gold medals in diving in 1984 and 1988?
A: Greg Louganis

Q: What Greek letter symbolizes Gay and Lesbian activism?
A: Lambda

Q: When is National Coming Out day?
A: October 11

Q: What was the name of a New York City group that challenged heteropatriarchy in the 1970s through direct action tactics?
A: RadicalLesbians

Q: When did the term “the closet” come into usage?
A: The word cannot be found in lesbian and gay literature before the 1960s and probably was not used before then.

Q: Homosexual behavior has been observed in approximately how many animal species?
A: 1500