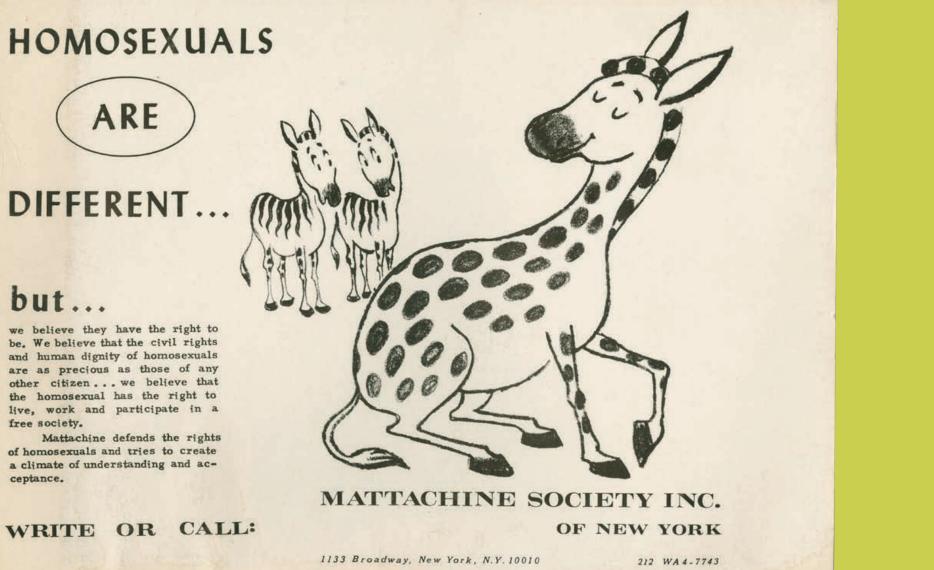
The Year GAY POWER

Liberation

Among the many activist groups that worked to archive Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) history was the International Gay Information Center (IGIC), which grew out of the History Committee of the Gay Activists Alliance (GAA). The IGIC archives operated as a community-based repository until 1988, when the organization's directors gave the collection to The New York Public Library. The IGIC archives, along with other archives and collections subsequently donated to the Library, comprehensively document the gay and lesbian civil rights struggles in New York since the 1950s and have made NYPL one of the most important archives of LGBT history in this country. All the materials reproduced here are drawn from these historic collections in the Library's Manuscripts and Archives Division.

Curated by Jason Baumann
Coordinator of Collection Assessment & LGBT Collections The New York Public Library

Protestor at Weinstein Hall demonstration for the rights of gay people on the New York University campus, 1970. Photograph by Diana Davies. Diana Davies Papers.



Mattachine Society of New York.

"Homosexuals Are Different," 1960s.

Mattachine Society of New York Records.

IC., OF NEW YORK, 1133 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, 10010 (JT67)

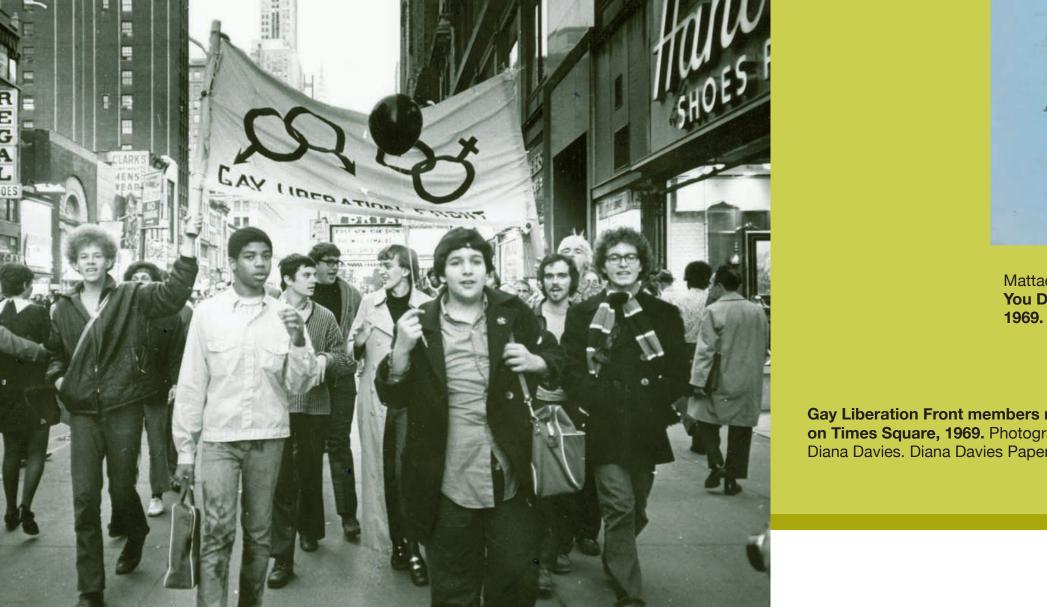
The year 1969 marked a major turning point in the politics of sexuality

in America. Same-sex relationships were discreetly tolerated in 19th-century America in the form of romantic friendships, but the 20th century brought increasing legal and medical regulation of homosexuality, which was considered a dangerous illness. This repression reached its peak in the 1950s; during the Cold War period, gays, lesbians, and transgender people were seen as a corrupt, lurking menace, easily used as pawns by communists.

PENALT	IES FOR SEX	OFFENSES IN	THE CIVITED	3/AIES - 1964	STATE
UM FINE a	and/or IMPRISONMENT ERS ARE GIVEN, THEY	for FIRST OFFENSE REPRESENT MINIMUM A	unless otherwise r	oted, as of 1964.	MONTANA
		*		*****	NEBRASKA
TE	SODOMY*	FORNICATION	ADULTERY	COHABITATION	NEVADA
MA	2-10 yrs.	\$100 to ? or 6 mos.**	\$100 to ? or 6 mos.**	NEW TOWN	HEW HAMP.
A	1-10 yrs.	\$500 or 2 years or both	\$200 or 3 mos.		NEW JERSEY
NA	5-20 yrs.		3 yrs.	3 yrs.	NEW MEXICO
SAS	1-21 yrs.			\$20-\$100***	
ORNIA	l yr. to ?			\$1000 or 1 yr. or both	NEW YORK
ADO	1-14 years	\$200 or 6 mos.***	\$200 or 6 mos.***	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	
CTICUT	30 years	\$100 or 6 mos. or both	5 yrs.		NO: DAKOTA
ARE	\$1000 and 3 yrs.	\$300 or 6 mos.	\$500,1 yr.or both		OHIO
ICT OF	\$1000 or 10 yrs.	\$300 or 6 mos.	\$500 or 1 yr.		OKLAHOMA
BIA	+2000 01 10 J10.	or both	or both		OREGO.1
DA	20 yrs.	\$30 or 3 mos.	\$500 or 2 yrs.	\$300 or 2 yrs.	PENNSYLVANIA
IA	1-10 yrs. 2nd con -viction,10-30 yrs	\$1000 or 12 mos. or both	\$1000 or 12 mos. or both		
I	\$1000 and 20 yrs.	\$15-\$50 or 1-3	\$30-\$100 or 3-12		RHODE ISLAND
	quoto and co gro.	months	mos. or both****		SO.CAROLINA
	5 yrs to ?	\$300 or 6 mos. or both	\$100-\$1000 or 3 mos3 yrs.	\$300 or 6 mos. or both	SO. DAKOTA
OIS		\$200 or 6 mos.	\$500 or 1 yr.		TEMPSSEE
		or both	or both		TEXAS
NA	\$100-\$1000 or 2-	\$500 or 6 mos.	\$500 or 6 mos.		UTAH
	14 yrs. or both	or both	or both		VERMONT
	10 yrs.		\$300 and 1 yr.		VIRGINIA
			or 1-3 yrs.		WASHINGTON
5	10 yrs.	\$500 or 6 mos. or both	\$500 or 6 mos. or both		W. VIRGINIA
CKY	2-5 yrs.	\$20-\$50	\$20-\$50	and the Contract of the	WISCONSIN
IANA	\$2000 or 5 yrs. or both			\$1000 or 1 yr. or both	WYOMING
	1-10 yrs.	\$100 and 2 mos.	\$1000 or 5 yrs.	\$300 or 5 yrs.	* Sodomy, of
AND	1-10 yrs.		\$10		"unnatural"
CHUSETTS	20 yrs.	\$30 or 3 mos.	\$500 or 3 yrs.	\$300 or 3 yrs.	within and o
GAN	15 yrs.	\$500 or 1 yr.	\$2000 or 4 yrs. c	r both	*** \$100 to
SOTA	20 yrs.	\$100 or 3 mos.	\$300 or 2 yrs.		**** Double
SSIPPI	10 yrs.	\$500 and 6 mos.	\$500 and 6 mos.		***** Penalt
URI	2 yrs to ?	\$1000 or 1 yr. or both	\$1000 or 1 yr. or both		MATTACHINE S

Mattachine Society of New York.

"Penalties for Sex Offenses in the United
States—1964." Mattachine Society of New York



WHERE WERE YOU

DURING THE

CHRISTOPHER ST. RIOTS? # Haywral candidates with use "Law and Order" Lames to persecute minorities, dictuding the honosement minority

* Private citizens who form vigitimits groups to root honosements from their community, as her happened in Queens County

* A Governor who has failed by Lagatine communal honosement sets between adults in private due to to his priviled countdies

JOIN AND ACTIVELY MARTICIPATE IN MATLACHINE . . . NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL HONOSEMENTS TO UNITE IN COMMON ACTIONS

Mattachine Society of New York. "Where Were You During the Christopher Street Riots,"
1969. Mattachine Society of New York Records.

Draft Platform of Gay Liberation Front, 11 July 1970

III. PREVAILING OPPRESSIVE IDEOLOGIES

WE OPPOSE all ideologies which oppress homosexuals: These include the whole Judeo-Christian tradition, both in theory and in practice, the also include psychology and psychiatrywhich define was homosexuality as abnormal, unhe desirable. Such ideologies refuse to challenge this society's standards of him we encourage the development of conciousness raising groups to enable us to unation as one of collective oppression rather than individual sickness.

WE DEMAND repeal of all laws against homosexual acts and do not fee since we had no part in making them. We specifically demand an emisodomy, being a "public nuisance", and solicitation (as used against laws against crimes without victims such as transvestitism.

V. WE OPPOSE THE DRAFT.

HOMOSEXUALS must not be forced to fight for the United States government. In homorable discharge for all homosexuals presently trapped.

VI. WE SUPPORT AN END TO DISCRIMINATION.

ay Liberation Front. **Draft platform**of Gay Liberation Front, July 11, 1970.
International Gay Information Center.

MENACE

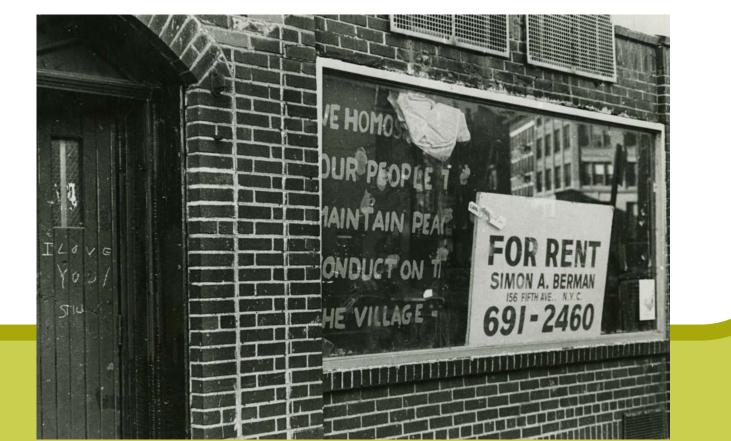
CAY
POWER

"Ida," member of the Gay Liberation Front and the Lavender Menace, 1970.

Photograph by Diana Davies. Diana Davies

founded in 1955, were early attempts to provide protective social networks and outlets for political activism. Then, in 1969, the small flames of resistance that activists around the country had been tending and fanning for decades finally erupted into a mass political movement sparked by the Stonewall Riots of June 28, in which response to a police raid on a gay bar in Greenwich Village. Inspired by recent tumultuous changes in American culture—the African American civil rights

and the emergence of the hippie youth subculture gays and lesbians emerged

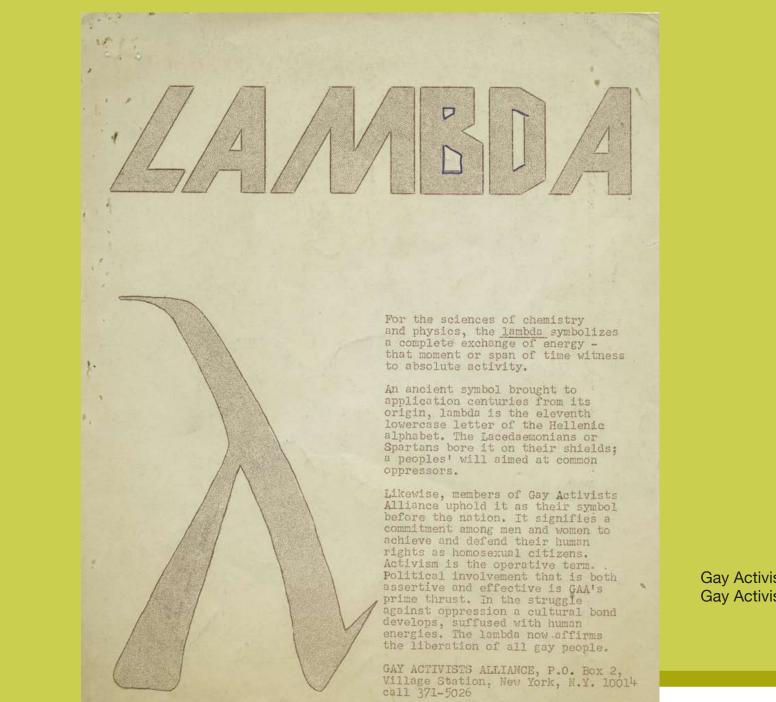


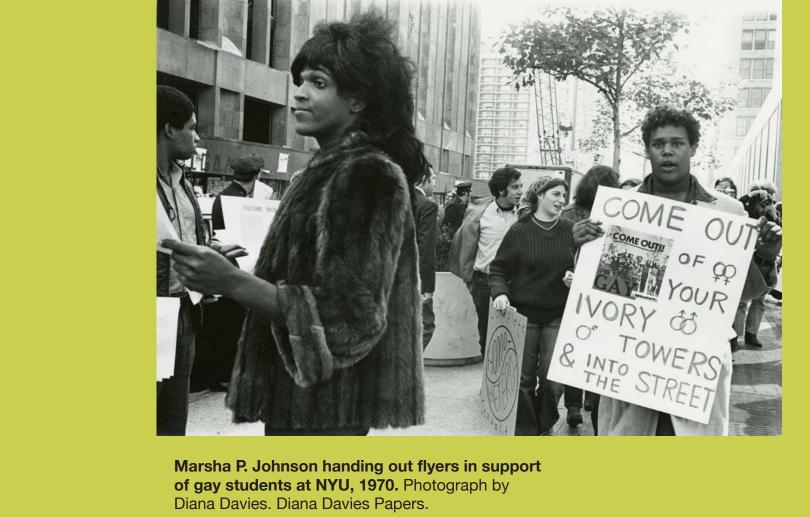
Stonewall Inn, 1969. Photograph by Diana Davies. Diana Davies Papers.

In the fertile and tumultuous year that followed, groups such as the Gay Liberation Front (GLF), Gay Activists Alliance (GAA), and Radicalesbians sent small groups of activists on road trips to spread the word. Chapters sprang up across the country, and members fought for civil rights in their home communities. GAA became a major activist force, and its SoHo community center, the Firehouse, became a nexus for New York City gays and lesbians. The vision put forward by the Radicalesbians took root and flowered into a dynamic lesbian feminist movement across the nation.



Martha Shelley at the Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop, 1969. Photograph by Diana Davies. Diana Davies Papers.





The 1970s witnessed a gay and lesbian renaissance with its own

literature, music, politics, and erotic presence. Lesbian, gay,

bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) activists won

major political victories, such as the removal of homosexuality

from the American Psychiatric Association's list of mental disorders, and

applied public pressure to combat negative stereotypes of homosexuality.

However, many challenges persist today, such as bans on military service

and marriage for gays, police entrapment, and the struggle of transgender

Jim Owles. **Draft of letter to Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, 1970.** Gay Activists Alliance Records.

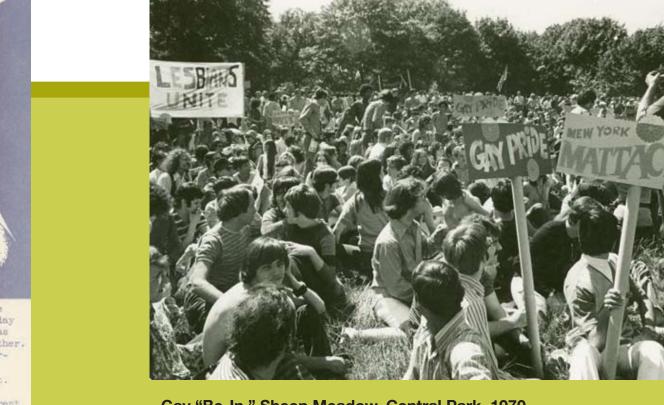
4. A State income tax reform that would shift the tax burden away from the non-breeders. Clearly, those who beget children should be taxed more, not less.

5. An end to the tax-exempt status of the income and property of all religious cults that defence or disparage homosexual citizens.

6. A carefully worded anti-obsecuity law to prohibit religious cultists from corrupting the morals of children under the age of

commemorate the Stonewall Riots, became an annual event, and LGBT Pride months are now celebrated around the world. The march, which demonstrates gays, lesbians, and transgender people as articulate constituencies, has become a living symbol of the evolution of LGBT political communities.

The Gay Pride March, begun in 1970 as the



Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee. (C.S.L.D. Invites You to ... Gay Parade," 1970s. International Gay Information Center.

Based upon the exhibition 1969: The Year of Gay Liberation, originally on view at The New York Public Library's Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York, NY.

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Child holding poster "But Would You Want Your Daughter to Marry One?," 1970. Photograph by Diana Davies. Diana Davies Papers.

Gay Liberation Front members picketing Time, Inc., 1969.
Photograph by Diana Davies. Diana Davies Papers.