WHAT SHOULD WE DO AFTER “I DO”? | CONVERSATIONS ON THE CHALLENGES THAT REMAIN FOR THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

September 25-27, 2015

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

5:00 – 7:00 PM:  WELCOME RECEPTION AT LOWELL HOUSE JUNIOR COMMON ROOM
Meet current Harvard LGBTQ undergraduates and meet up with other weekend attendees at reception sponsored by the Harvard Office of BGLTQ Student Life.

7:30 – 9:00 PM:  PANEL DISCUSSION AT (LOCATION TBA)
Drama Queens and Drama Kings: A Conversation on Recent LGBTQ Theater. Panel discussion on the past, present, and future of LGBTQ theater as seen by playwrights, theater directors, and drama critics.


Timothy Patrick McCarthy AB ’93. Lecturer, History and Literature, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences; and Core Faculty and Program Director, Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, Harvard Kennedy School of Government (Moderator).
Panelists pending confirmation

9:00 PM ON  MIXER AT QUEEN’S HEAD PUB, MEMORIAL HALL BASEMENT

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
(Northwest Labs Building, 52 Oxford Street)

9:30 – 9:45 AM  WELCOME

9:45 – 11:00 AM  OPENING PLENARY SESSION
The LGBTQ Community: Does Such A Place Still Exist? Our community was “built” as a space in which LGBTQ people could feel safe from the domination of the “straight” world, but where is that community now? Is there a single community or just a collection of disconnected L and G (and T?) neighborhoods, or are we instead disappearing into the larger society? How do our neighborhoods connect with others organized around race, class, gender, etc.? Have our physical communities been replaced by virtual communities? And how do the answers to these question impact “community development” in the future?
Sue Hyde. Organizer of Creating Change (annual conference for The Task Force (formerly National LGBTQ Task Force)) (Moderator).


Marcie B. Bianco AB ’02. Staff Writer, Mic; Contributing Editor, Curve Magazine; Adjunct Associate Professor, Hunter College; and Lesbian-Feminist blogger and queer public intellectual.


11:15 AM – 12:45 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS – TAKING CARE OF OUR OWN (SELECT ONE)

A. The Kids Are Not All Right: LGBTQ Youth Falling Through the Cracks. Why is it that LGBTQ teens and young adults face significantly higher rates of homelessness, suicide, eating disorders, and victimization than their cisgender counterparts? How can the child welfare system, working with an increasing number of LGBTQ mentors, help queer youth not fall through the cracks? And how are many of the most “at risk” LGBTQ youths showing surprising resilience?

C.J. Crowder EdM ’02. Director of Alumni Affairs, Teach for America; formerly Chief Talent Officer, Phoenix Charter Academy (Moderator).

Jayms Battaglia. Campus and Community Coordinator, University Lutheran Church, Cambridge, MA.

Jerel P. Calzo MPH Candidate, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Developmental Psychologist; Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School; and Research Scientist, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, Boston Children’s Hospital.


Lee C. Strock JD ’09. Director, Peter Ciccino Youth Project, New York Urban Justice Center.

B. Archive Fever: Preserving Our Story. What is the place of archives in preserving our history and how are scholars, educators, and filmmakers mining those materials to tell our story? What impact has the closing of LGBTQ bookstores/presses had on the preservation of LGBTQ heritage? How is Harvard assembling a diverse collection of LGBTQ materials to support researchers both now and in the future, most notably its support of the ACT-UP Oral History Project? And how can we advocate for/support the collection of such materials?
Mark Vassar. Lead Archivist, Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute for Advance Study, Harvard University (Moderator).

Michael Bronski. Professor of Practice in Media and Activism, Committee on Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Senior Lecturer, Women’s and Gender Studies, Dartmouth College; and longtime activist and organizer.

Jen Manion. Associate Professor of History and Director, LGBTQ Resource Center, Connecticut College.

Bennett L. Singer AB ’86. Producer/director of documentary films, Electoral Dysfunction and Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin.

Lidia Uziel. Head of Western Language Division and Bibliographer for Western Europe and interim coordinator for ACT UP Oral History Project resources, Harvard University Library.

C. Physician, Heal Thyself: New Paths in LGBTQ Medicine. What is the latest thinking about the health needs of lesbian, bisexual, and queer women as well as transgender adults and youth? How are Harvard Medical School and its affiliated teaching hospitals leading the charge within the medical profession to ensure that the LGBTQ community is better understood and cared for in today’s medical system? And what impact has the increasing number of “out” faculty, trainees, and students had on both medical teaching and training as well as making medical schools more diverse and inclusive institutions, particularly at Harvard?

Jessica Halem. Program Manager, LGBT Office, Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership, Harvard Medical School; and 25-year veteran of queer and feminist organizing (Moderator).

Brittany Charlton MSc ’11, ScD ’14 Instructor in Pediatrics, Boston Children’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

Marshall Forstein, MD. Interim Chair, Department of Psychiatry, Program Director, Adult Psychiatry Residency, and Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School; and Staff Psychiatrist, Cambridge Health Alliance.

Michael C. Honigberg, MD ’14, MPP ’14. Resident Physician in Internal Medicine, Brigham and Women’s Hospital; and Clinical Fellow in Medicine, Harvard Medical School.

Jason V. Lambrese, MD. Clinical Fellow in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Boston Children’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

D. What’s Love Got To Do With It?: Sexual Ethics in the Age of Truvada. How has the combination of increased use of online “dating” apps and widespread prescription of the “miracle drug,” Truvada, changed patterns of sexual activity among gay men with consequential impact on gay self-identity and the nature of relationships in the gay male community? And what do those who lived through “the gay plague” have to say about that? At the same time, what impact does—or should—broader acceptance of gay marriage have on the ethics of “open” committed relationships (i.e., when should you erase Grindr)?
Ian Tzeng AB ’98, MBA ’05. Managing Director and Partner, L.E.K. Consulting (Moderator).

Michael S. Boroughs PhD. Staff Psychologist, Behavioral Medicine Service, Department of Psychiatry, Massachusetts General Hospital; and Instructor, Harvard Medical School.

Steven A. Elsesser. Medical Student, Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University; formerly Clinical Trials Coordinator (particularly for PrEP Studies), Behavioral Health Research Group, Fenway Institute.

Robert H. Goldstein, MD, PhD. Clinical Fellow in Medicine and Infectious Diseases, Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

Nicholas J. Mendoza MDiv ’13, PhD Candidate, Religion, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Tutor in Committee on Women, Gender, and Sexuality doing work on Queer Theory and intersection of LGBTQ/Feminist studies and religion; and Radical Faerie.

Rafael Quintanar AB ’10. General Dentist, Lux Dental.

E. Minding Our Elders: The Greying of the LGBTQ Community. How do we care for the first generation of broadly “out” LGBTQ people who lack (or are estranged from) biological families to support them? Do LGBTQ people need to go back into the closet to function within the elder-care system? And how can we ensure that elder services providers (including home care aides) are trained to provide nondiscriminatory and culturally-competent care to LGBTQ elders?

Sean Cahill. Director of Health Policy Research, Fenway Institute; and Member, Massachusetts Commission on LGBT Aging (Moderator).

Barrie J. Atkin MBA ’82. Principal, Atkin Associates, LLC; and Member, AARP Executive Council.

Michael Adams AB ’83. Executive Director, SAGE (Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders).

Paul Glass. Co-Chair, LGBT Elders of Color; Chair, Multicultural AIDS Coalition.

Patricia D. Jehlen MAT ’69. Member, Massachusetts State Senate (2nd Middlesex District); and Co-Chair, Massachusetts Commission on LGBT Aging and Massachusetts Commission on Elder Economic Security.

F. Whose Lives Matter?: LGBTQ and Intersectional Justice. Does the LGBTQ community adequately support the diversity of its members? Is the leadership of (and priorities promoted by) the most visible LGBTQ organizations far too white/too male/too affluent? How can the LGBTQ community join with other groups in their struggles for equity and social justice? And what can LGBTQ activists learn from the work around #BlackLivesMatter to engage a broader cross-section of people?

Lisa Coleman. Chief Diversity Officer, Harvard University (Moderator).
Monami Maulick MPA ’15. *Migrant and Human Rights Policy Advocate; and Founder, DRUM-South Asian Organizing Center.*
Irene Monroe HDS ’04. *Public Theologian; Huffington Post blogger; and syndicated religion columnist.*
Scott Poulson-Bryant PhD Candidate, American Studies, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences. *Scholar of rise of racial conscious theater and urban youth and pop culture; and co-founder Vibe magazine.*

G. **Modern Family: The Shifting Landscape of LGBTQ Parenting.** How have media culture and mainstream acceptance changed public perceptions on what constitutes a family and how has the LGBTQ community responded? What ongoing challenges do would-be LGBTQ parents face regarding adoption (including second-parent adoption), surrogacy, etc.? Is it really possible to raise families with parents who are in open relationships? And what are the experiences of Harvard students who are children of same-sex couples?

Gretchen Brion-­Meisels AB ’01, PhD ’13. *Lecturer, Harvard Graduate School of Education (Moderator).*
Aaron A. Arzu AB ’94. *Principal, Arzu Law Group, LLC.*
David Dodge MPP ’12. *Policy Analyst, Manhattan Borough President’s Office; and policy advocate and writer whose work has appeared in the New York Times and Huffington Post and on National Public Radio.*
Jed F. Lippard EdD ’14. *Head of School, Prospect Hill Academy Charter School; and Adjunct Lecturer, Harvard Graduate School of Education.*

12:45 – 2:15 PM **LUNCH**

2:15 – 3:45 PM **BREAKOUT SESSIONS – LOOKING OUTWARD (SELECT ONE)**

A. **You’ve Got To Be Carefully Taught: Here and Queer in Our Schools.** Are public schools adequately addressing the needs of their LGBTQ students? How are queer voices being brought into the classroom through curriculum and out teachers? How are school systems responding to the particular needs of trans* kids? And how have school sports provided many LGBTQ students with a positive outlet?

Arthur Lipkin AB ’68, EdM ’76. *Member, Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth; author and researcher on LGBTQ issues in schools (Moderator).*
Deborah Fowler. *Director of documentary film, Through Gay Eyes; and advocate for increased presence of LGBTQ in public school curricula.*
Zach Kerr. *Student, Wheelock College; Consultant/Trainer, Safe Schools Program for LGBTQ Students, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Member, Youth Advisory Board, Born This Way*
Jeff Sheng AB ’02. Photographer, Fearless Project (photographs of LGBTQ high school athletes); former Visiting Professor of Photography, Visual and Environmental Studies, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

B. **Does God Love the Gays?: Religion and LGBTQ Equality.** What role do different religious institutions play in promoting and protesting anti-LGBTQ prejudice? How have many evangelical institutions (churches, seminaries, etc.) changed their policies towards LGBTQ parishioners and how can their views be shared more broadly? Do many of the churches that once led the fight to recognize same-sex marriage now expect their LGBTQ members (and clergy) to get married? And how have younger people of faith responded to the call for acceptance of LGBTQ equality, particularly among Harvard students?

Diana L. Eck PhD ’76. Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies and Founder, Pluralism Project, Harvard Divinity School; Fredric Wertheim Professor of Law and Psychiatry in Society, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences; and Co-Master, Lowell House (Moderator).

Danny Balon MDiv Candidate, Harvard Divinity School and Seminarian at the Memorial Church.

Katherine A. S. Blaisell MDiv Candidate, Harvard Divinity School, and MPP Candidate, Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Yvette A. Flunder. Bishop and Founder, City of Refuge United Church of Christ, Oakland, CA.

C. **Queering Human Rights: Confronting Anti-LGBTQ Violence Worldwide.** How does U.S. foreign policy and work by various NGO’s both help and hinder the securing of LGBTQ human rights worldwide? How can we support LGBTQ activism without imposing first-world values, which privilege the individual and the expression of sexual identity, with core cultural values in other parts of the world? Should foreign aid be tied to recognition of LGBTQ rights, as befits “civilized” nations? How should the specter of increased hardship for LGBTQ asylum seekers and undocumented individuals affect immigration policy?

Stephen Leonelli MPP Candidate, Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Assistant, Carr Center for Human Rights Policy; and social justice community organizer (Moderator).

Sa’ed Atshan MPP ’08, PhD ’13. Assistant Professor, Peace and Conflict Studies, Swarthmore College; and Member, al-Qaws (organization which seeks to promote rights of LGBTQ Palestinians in Israel and Occupied Territories).

Wendy Issaks MPA ’15. Independent consultant for Human Rights Watch and other international human rights organizations.


D. **TBLGQ: Trans*forming a Name and a Community.** In an age of both increasing trans* visibility as well as increased violence against, and imprisonment and economic isolation of, trans* people, what would it mean to put trans* voices and concerns at the center of the LGBTQ Movement? What will it take to interrupt trans* oppression? And what’s really needed from GLB cisgender allies to advance trans* liberation? In short, what would change to call ourselves “TBLGQ”?

Susan Marine. *Assistant Professor and Director, Higher Education Graduate Program, School of Education and Social Policy, Merrimack College; formerly Director, Harvard College Women’s Center (Moderator).*

Mason Dunn. *Executive Director, Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition.*


C. Riley Snorton. *Research Fellow, W.E.B. DuBois Research Institute, Harvard University; PhD Candidate and Fontaine Fellow, Annenberg Institute, University of Pennsylvania.*

E. **Equal Protection: Not Just for Marriage Anymore.** With marriage equality now (arguably) the law of the land, what has changed and not changed? In the court of public opinion, will SCOTUS’s gay marriage decision lead to political backlash, particularly in the 2016 elections? And does the way SCOTUS analyzed the issues in *Obergefell* (persuaded by the equal protection arguments raised by plaintiffs’ counsel) signal a new direction to be taken in future cases involving LGBTQ rights?

Janson Wu  AB ’00, JD ’03. *Executive Director, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders; Blogger, HuffPost Gay Voices; and Member, Massachusetts Commission on LGBT Aging (Moderator).*

F. **Fight Back: ACT UP and the Future of Queer Activism.** What is the legacy of ACT UP? Did it produce a new paradigm for political action or was it instead largely a product of a particular moment in time? And how can its onetime members (together with other past and present LGBTQ activists) inspire a future generation of Harvard students and alumni to join in the next stage of the fight?
4:00 – 5:30 PM  CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

**Suiting Up for the Fight: What Does 2016 Mean for the LGBTQ Community?** Is the LGBTQ movement in political trouble? With the marriage issue having been (largely) resolved, what is left for us to rally around? What explains the failure to elevate LGBTQ issues in 2014 midterms and what is in store for 2016? Should our goal be to elect LGBTQ politicians or to put an LGBTQ agenda on the table—or both?

*Samantha Sanders* MPP ’09. *Political Reporter for National Public Radio (Moderator).*

*Robyn Ochs* EdM ’89, CSS ’85. *Educator and speaker; editor of Bi-Women’s Quarterly; editor, Getting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World, and RECOGNIZE: The Voices of Bisexual Men; and Board Co-President, MassEquality.*

Additional panelists pending

5:30 – 5:45 PM  CLOSING

Lano Williams AB ’00, *Co-President, Harvard Gender & Sexuality Caucus.*

5:45 – 7:30 PM  RECEPTION

7:30 – 10:00 PM  DINNER ON OWN

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

10:00 – 11:30 AM  HGSC TOWN MEETING AT HOLDEN CHAPEL, HARVARD YARD