

HISTORY QUIZ: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF LGBT HISTORY

1. The word "homosexual" was coined in what year?
 - a. 545 B.C.E.
 - b. 300 C.E.
 - c. 1745 C.E.
 - d. 1869 C.E.
 - e. 1938 C.E.
 - f. 1949 C.E.
2. Which of the following empires was ruled for over two centuries by openly gay or lesbian emperors?
 - a. China
 - b. Rome
 - c. Greece
 - d. all of the above
 - e. none of the above
 - f. a and b only
 - g. b and c only
3. True or False: Jesus condemns homosexuality in the bible.
4. In what century did homosexual acts become illegal in Western Europe?
 - a. 1st century B.C.E.
 - b. 1st century C.E.
 - c. 13th century
 - d. 19th century
5. In what nation did the first large-scale "gay rights movement" begin?
 - a. England
 - b. France
 - c. Germany
 - d. The United States
 - e. none of the above
6. In what year was the first public speech asking for gay rights made?
 - a. 1776
 - b. 1867
 - c. 1919
 - d. 1945
 - e. 1965
 - f. 1969
7. True or False: Gay concentration camp survivors were often re-imprisoned by German authorities after being "liberated" by allied forces after World War II.
8. True or False: American Indians discriminated against people whom they perceived to be gay.
9. In what year was the first known person executed for their sexual orientation in North America?
 - a. 1492
 - b. 1566
 - c. 1778
 - d. 1869
10. In which of the following years was the first American soldier dismissed for being gay?
 - a. 1621
 - b. 1778
 - c. 1865
 - d. 1969
11. When was America's first "gay rights group" founded?
 - a. 1869
 - b. 1924
 - c. 1951
 - d. 1969
12. Which President made it illegal for the American government to employ homosexuals?
 - a. Washington
 - b. Lincoln
 - c. Eisenhower
 - d. Reagan
 - e. Clinton
13. Name America's first lesbian rights organization.

14. Name the gay African-American man who organized the 1963 March on Washington where Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his famous "I have a dream..." speech.
15. When was the first gay rights protest in Washington, DC?
a. 1924 c. 1965
b. 1953 d. 1979
16. Who was the first openly gay or lesbian American elected to state political office in the United States?
a. Roberta Achtenberg c. Harvey Milk
b. Barney Frank d. Elaine Noble
17. Two-part question:
A. What state was the first to outlaw discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation?

B. In what year?
18. Name the 1986 Supreme Court decision which upheld the right of the government to invade the homes of gay people and arrest them while engaging in sexual relations with other consenting adults:
19. Name the direct-action group whose civil disobedience demonstrations are credited with getting the government to take action on the AIDS epidemic:
20. In which of the following countries is it legal for gay people to marry?
a. Australia b. Denmark c. Israel
d. the United States e. none of the above

Source: GLSEN



Parents, Families & Friends
of Lesbians and Gay

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HISTORY QUIZ: ANSWER SHEET

Give yourself 1 point for each correct answer; or 1/2 point for each part of a two part question.

1. **D. 1869.** A Hungarian psychologist named Benkert invented this term. Prior to this date, people may have committed homosexual "acts" but they were not labeled "homosexuals" (or members of a particular group whose identity derives from that act) until the nineteenth century.
2. **F. A. and B. only (CHINA AND ROME)** In China during the Han dynasty (second century B.C.E. until third century C.E.), many emperors were gay or bisexual. The Chinese term for homosexuality, "duanxiu," means "cut sleeve," referring to a famous story when an emperor cut off his sleeve rather than awaken his lover, who had fallen asleep on his arm. Rome was ruled in the first two centuries C.E. by fourteen openly gay or bisexual emperors, including Nero and Hadrian.
3. **FALSE.** Most passages, which are interpreted as condemning homosexuality, are found in the Old Testament, and derived from Hebraic tribal law; all of the few New Testament references are all in the book written by Paul, who was born decades after Jesus' crucifixion. No condemnations of homosexuality are found in any of the "Gospels" or books that deal with the life of Jesus.
4. **C. THIRTEENTH CENTURY.** Only in the late Middle Ages were homosexual acts made illegal in Western Europe. Some historians feel this was a reaction to the "black" or bubonic plague, which killed one-third of Europeans at that time. Terrified, people began looking for "scapegoats," and persecuted many minority groups, such as Jews, "witches" and homosexuals, who were "different" and blamed for the disease.
5. **C. GERMANY.** German activists began organizing in the 1860s and had formed an organization dedicated to advancing gay rights, which had over 100,000 members by the early twentieth century. Its petition *drives* for legal reform and was signed by such people as scientist Albert Einstein and writers Thomas Mann and Hermann Hesse.
6. **B. 1867.** Karl Heinrich Ulrichs, a German lawyer, delivered a speech before the Congress of German Jurists in Munich in 1867 when he Called fo r the repeal of "paragraph 175," which made same-sex sexual activities illegal. He also founded the first gay magazine and lobbied for legalization of gay marriage before his death in 1895.
7. **TRUE.** As violators of "paragraph 175," homosexuals were judged to be criminals. Since concentration camps were not considered "jails," the liberated gays were often sent to civil jails after the war to serve their sentences. None *ever* received financial payments which the German *government* made to other Holocaust victims.
8. **FALSE.** Many traditional Native American tribes institutionalized gender systems that were not binary, but rather recognized three and sometimes four genders. The umbrella term Two-Spirit is used to refer to people belonging to the traditional 3rd and 4th genders, *reserved* for people who did not identify with the gender typically associated with their body, in addition to contemporary Native Americans who identify as LGBTQ, or engage in same gender-loving relationships, and/or gender nonconformity.
9. **B. 1566.** The Spanish executed a French priest for living with a two-spirited person.
10. **B. 1778.** Gotthold Enslin, a lieutenant, was dismissed at Valley Forge for having been caught in same sex sexual activity. From 1945-1993, over 100,000 Americans were dismissed from the armed forces for being gay.

11. **B. 1924.** The Chicago Society for Human Rights was America's first gay rights group, but it lasted for less than a year due to police and media harassment.
12. **B. EISENHOWER.** In Executive Order 10450 in 1953, President Eisenhower bowed to the pressures of Senator McCarthy's "witch hunts," which claimed that not only Communists but also gays were betraying American secrets to the Russians. These laws were not repealed until 1975, and not until 1995 were gays allowed to receive federal security clearances.
13. **DAUGHTERS OF BIUTIS.** Founded in 1955 in San Francisco, this organization also published America's first lesbian magazine *The Ladder*.
14. **BAYARD RUSTIN.** Rustin also taught King the non-violent civil disobedience techniques that made him famous. Rustin was purged from the civil rights movement because of his homosexuality, which the FBI used to blackmail King.
15. **C. 1965.** Organized by Frank Kameny and the Mattachine Society, this picket of slightly more than a dozen people aimed to repeal McCarthy-era restrictions on the employment of gay people by the federal government.
16. **D. ELAINE NOBLE.** An open lesbian, Noble was elected to the Massachusetts State House of Representatives in 1975.
17. **WISCONSIN; B. 1982.** The 10 states that include protections for sexual orientation in safe schools laws are California, Connecticut, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin. Only California, Maine, Minnesota and New Jersey also include gender expression.
18. **BOWERS V. HARDWICK.** In 1986, the Supreme Court, in a 5-4 vote, upheld the conviction of Michael Hardwick, an Atlanta man who was arrested in the privacy of his home by Georgia police for violating the state's sodomy laws.
19. **ACT UP.** The "AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power" was founded in New York in 1987, six years into the epidemic. At that point, President Reagan had yet to say the word "AIDS" in public, which killed 20,000 Americans during that time.
20. **B. DENMARK and C. Israel.** However, Massachusetts also recognizes same sex marriage.

RATINGS

15-20 POINTS. FABULOUS. You really know your stuff and deserve immediate tenure-track position as a professor of Gay and Lesbian Studies.

10-14 POINTS. FINE. You know a lot but could brush up a bit. Hit that library!

6-9 POINTS. FAIR. You really need to buy a LGBT history text and read it tonight.

0-5 POINTS. FAILING. Do not pass go, do not collect \$200. Go straight to the bookstore to stock up on LGBT history texts!



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