

# GAY COMMUNITY NEWS

IRELAND'S LESBIAN AND GAY NEWSPAPER • AUGUST 1993 • MONTHLY • FREE

**ON WEDNESDAY JULY 7, 1993,  
THE PRESIDENT OF IRELAND, MRS MARY  
ROBINSON, SIGNED INTO LAW, THE BILL  
WHICH DECRIMINALISES HOMOSEXUAL ACTS  
BETWEEN ADULTS OF 17 YEARS AND OVER.**



*Kieran Rose, Chris Robson of GLEN, Phil Moore of Parents Enquiry and Saxy Byrne of GLEN celebrate outside Dáil Éireann after the legislation was passed.*

PHOTO COURTESY OF IRISH TIMES

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## Remarkable Journey: A Resource List

On Criminalization and the Campaign  
for Gay Law Reform and Equality

This publication has been produced by the LGBT Restorative Justice Campaign who can be contacted at [LGBTDisregard@gmail.com](mailto:LGBTDisregard@gmail.com) or through [www.LGBTDisregard.ie](http://www.LGBTDisregard.ie).



Thanks to The Rowan Trust, who fight for social justice with communities pushed to the margins.

**Cover Photo:** Cover of GCN – Gay Community News, marking the passage of gay law reform, which decriminalised homosexuality. Pictured are Kieran Rose, Christopher Robson, Phil Moore and Suzie Byrne from GLEN, celebrating outside the Oireachtas.

**This page:** Dublin Gay Pride March 1993. Christopher Robson Collection, National Library of Ireland



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# 1

## Introduction

**“Decriminalisation will lead to a point where gay relationships will be seen as a valid alternative to marriage”**

*Bishop Joseph Duffy on 1993 gay law reform in ‘Did Anyone Notice Us?’  
Documentary*

2023 is the 30th anniversary of a seminal moment in the evolution of equality in Ireland, the passing of a gay law reform, in June 1993, which repealed laws that had criminalised consensual same-sex activity and that provided for equality with heterosexuals.

2023 is also the anniversary of another crucial moment on the journey to equality, the passing of amendments to the Unfair Dismissals Act, that for the first time, included protection for workers on the ground of sexual orientation.

These crucial changes created the foundation for inclusion of sexual orientation in the Employment Equality Act and the Equal Status Act later in that decade, which have underpinned much of the progress towards equality and equal treatment for LGBTI+ people, and which have been instrumental in building towards the social changes that led to the marriage referendum and gender recognition Act.

2023 is also an important anniversary of a number of events that marked that long journey to gay law reform and LGBTI+ equality.

- The 40th anniversary of the Supreme Court April 22nd 1983 decision to uphold the criminalization of gay men finding that it was not contrary to the Constitution<sup>1</sup>

- The 40th anniversary of the freeing, on 8th March 1983, of the killers of Declan Flynn and the subsequent Fairview Protest March, and the first Lesbian and Gay Pride March in Dublin
- The 40th anniversary of the trial of the killer of Corkman John Roche. The killer was found guilty of manslaughter in June 1983. The ‘homosexual panic’ defence case was used by the barrister for the defendant (see newspaper reports)
- On 7th September 1983 the anti-abortion Amendment was passed overwhelmingly in a Constitutional Referendum. Many lesbians and gay men were centrally involved in the Anti-Amendment Campaign, see Gays Against the Amendment leaflet etc.
- And the 50th anniversary of the first steps in setting up an Irish lesbian and gay rights movement in 1973

2023 will also see the Final Report of the Department of Justice Working Group on Disregard Legislation which will be used to bring forward legislation that will effectively erase the convictions of people under the criminal laws, including those which were repealed in 1993. See the [Working Group Progress Report](#) and [Key Issues Paper](#) on [www.justice.ie](http://www.justice.ie)

This resource document focuses on criminalization and it’s wider impacts,

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<sup>1</sup>The Chief Justice Susan Denham welcomed GLEN and ICCL into the Four Courts on 20th December 2012 to launch the Know Your Rights booklet on Civil Partnerships and gave a fine speech, including "as we gather in these magnificent Four Courts, the headquarters and epicentre of the law in Ireland" GLEN and ICCL also spoke  
A joint press release was issued by the Courts Service and covered in the media  
The launch was videotaped by Karl Hayden and photographs were taken  
I have always thought that this was a very deliberate symbolic and public apology by the Chief Justice as the Supreme Court had been a 'cold house' for gay people

Photographs and video footage available

and the related campaign for equality. It provides a wide range of books, articles, reports, talks, videos and related information – linked where possible – that relate to gay law reform and the progress on that remarkable journey, that may be of use to LGBTI+ people and communities, researchers, journalists and commentators.

For resources and references to wider aspects of LGBTQ history see Dr. Patrick McDonagh’s excellent resource document and the bibliography of his book [Gay and Lesbian Activism](#) in the Republic of Ireland 1973-93.

Any suggestions for additional references, changes or attributions gratefully received and will be reflected in further updates.

**Kieran Rose**

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# CORK GAY COLLECTIVE

## MANIFESTO

The laws on homosexuality are an unwarranted intrusion on personal freedom. They must be repealed, but legal changes are merely beginning; society's view of sexuality and the structures reflecting that view, must be altered. The Cork Gay Collective encourages gay people to have a positive view of their sexuality, to live fully and to challenge society's control by coming out in the family, work, church and social life.

We fight against job discrimination, for equal access to accommodation, for freedom from harassment and for the equal right to express our feelings. Underlying this fight is the need for access to, an dissemination of positive information about sexuality in the media and through all educational structures.

We are convinced that this struggle cannot take place in isolation and that gay liberation involves the freeing of all oppressed groups. Therefore we work

towards forging links with other movements for social progress. In particular we emphasise our solidarity with the women's movement, recognising that our shared oppression derives from the abuse of sexuality as a tool of exploitation which necessitated strict gender stereotyping and the denial of sexual fulfillment.

Further, we are internationalist; the oppression of gays is not solely an Irish problem nor a feature of one particular economic or political system. We pledge solidarity with our sisters and brothers everywhere who suffer oppression because of their sexual orientation and we make this solidarity part of our practical work. We are products of society's conditioning and are aware of the danger of oppressive relations among ourselves. We are attempting to overcome this danger by developing more open and responsive structures for communications.

Cork Gay collective  
agreed statement  
25th Jan. 1981.



# 2

## **Books and Reports**

**Dáil and Seanad Speeches: Gay Law Reform 1993** GLEN, 2013.

Published to mark 20th anniversary, includes Mary Holland's great article in the Irish Times on the exuberant Pride Parade after gay law reform was passed and also pieces by Christopher Robson and Kieran Rose

**Diverse Communities, The Evolution of Lesbian and Gay Politics in Ireland**

by Kieran Rose, 1994

See [www.LGBTDisregard.ie](http://www.LGBTDisregard.ie) and [www.corklgbtarchive.com](http://www.corklgbtarchive.com)

An account of the campaign for gay law reform in 1993, and a manifesto for further change on equality, anti-poverty and international solidarity on LGB rights, post law reform.

**Lesbian and Gay Visions of Ireland, Towards the Twenty-first Century**  
Edited by Eoin Collins and Ide O'Carroll, 1995

The book is an invaluable resource with an introduction by Eoin Collins, a chapter by Christopher Robson on the GLEN gay law reform campaign, and a range of interviews and articles on a redefinition of Irishness and discussion of sexuality among the Irish public. Each writer reflects on their work in the lesbian and gay community and talks about what the future holds for lesbian and gay citizens in the Republic. Contributors include Senator David Norris, Mary Dorcey, Emma Donoghue, Louise Walsh, Father Bernard Lynch, Cherry Smyth, Eibhear Walsh, Jonie Crone, Kieran Rose and Anne Maguire.

**Equality Now for Lesbians and Gay Men,** ICCL, April 1990

See [www.iccl.ie](http://www.iccl.ie) and [www.LGBTDisregard.ie](http://www.LGBTDisregard.ie)

A campaigning report from the Irish Council for Civil Liberties calling for equal treatment of lesbian, gay and bisexual people including for gay law reform.

**Out for Ourselves, The Lives of Irish Lesbians and Gay Men, Dublin Lesbian and Gay Men's Collective, 1986.**

Available on [www.corklgbtarchive.com](http://www.corklgbtarchive.com)

One of the first books written and produced by Irish lesbians and gay men on LGB lives and experiences in Ireland. Covers a wide range of topics including health, mental health, sexual health, workplace, gay law reform, the Fairview killings and the Charles Self murder.

**Gay and Lesbian Activism in the Republic of Ireland 1973-93**  
by Dr. Patrick McDonagh, 2021

This new book focuses in particular on activists' efforts to engage with Irish political parties, the Trade Union movement and the media, and how these efforts in turn shaped the strategies and activities of gay and lesbian organisations as they sought to improve the legal and social climate for LGB people in Ireland. See also various articles by Patrick McDonagh, including in GCN, on the [history of Aids and HIV activism in Ireland; Ireland's first LGBT+ helpline, beginning in 1974;](#) and commemorating [Ireland's first pride week in 1979.](#)

Excellent and extensive resource list on [Irish LGBTQ History](#) by Dr. Patrick McDonagh

[Disregard and Redress, Restorative Justice for people impacted by Ireland's anti-gay laws, LGBT Restorative Justice Campaign](#), November 2022

See [www.LGBTDisregard.ie](http://www.LGBTDisregard.ie)

Submission from the Campaign to the Department of Justice Working Group on Disregard Legislation Public Consultation. The submission calls for a comprehensive disregard scheme, for memorialisation of those persecuted by the laws, and for more research and commemoration of the human rights violations arising from criminalization as part of a wider Restorative Justice approach

**LGBTQ Visibility, Media and Sexuality in Ireland (2021)**  
Dr. Paraic Kerrigan and various articles by Dr. Kerrigan, including in GCN on [media visibility](#).

This book looks at the turbulent history of queer visibility in the Irish media and how the emergence of an LGBTQ rights movement in Ireland used the media to advance LGBTQ rights.

**The Supreme Court, (2016)**  
by Ruadhán Mac Cormaic

The book has a chapter on the Norris case challenging the State on the criminalisation of homosexuality. It's very scathing on the Supreme Court judgement and documents that the Government considered using HIV/AIDS as a reason to maintain criminalization in its case to the European Court of Human Rights

**Queer Republic of Cork: Cork's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Communities 1970s-1990s**  
by Orla Egan, 2016

See [www.corklgbtarchive.com](http://www.corklgbtarchive.com)

The book traces the history of the development of Cork's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Communities from 1970s to 1990s. Written by Orla Egan and drawing on material from the Cork LGBT Archive

**A Day in May, Real Lives, True Stories**  
by Charlie Bird, with foreword by Colm Tobin, 2016

First person accounts by LGBT people in Ireland of their experiences, including before gay law reform.

**Family Solidarity, 'The Homosexual Challenge, Analysis and Response'**, 1990, ("It is obvious that Family Solidarity kept detailed records and were quite well informed on the history, policies and organisation of the gay movement", Diverse Communities p30)

**Masterminds of the Right**  
by Emily O'Reilly, 1992

Excellent research on how right-wing groups such as the Knights of Columbanus targeted lesbian and gay groups.

**Other books on the 'architecture of containment' including sexuality, and state and institutional human rights abuses in Ireland:**

**Redress, Ireland's Institutions and Transitional Justice**

**Edited by Katherine O'Donnell, Maeve  
O'Rourke and James Smith, 2022**

**Road to Repeal, 50 Years of Struggle in  
Ireland for Contraception and Abortion**

**Edited by Therese Caherty Pauline  
Conroy and Derek Speirs, 2022**

**Occasions of Sin, Sex and Society in  
Modern Ireland, 2009**

**by Diarmuid Ferriter**

# 3

## **Research Articles**

Dr. Richard Dunphy (1997), [Sexual identities, national identities, the politics of gay law reform in the Republic of Ireland](#), Contemporary Society Vol. 3, No.3, 1997, discusses GLEN campaign for gay law reform and wider equality.

Leo Flynn (1997), [Cherishing All Her Children Equally, The Law and Politics of Irish Lesbian and Gay Citizenship](#), on-line SAGE publishing, on how Ireland changed so rapidly. Very good references to debates on gay law reform and see also other articles by author.

Dr. Averill Earls, [Solicitor Brown and his Boy, love, sex, and scandal in twentieth century Ireland](#), Historical Reflections, 2020.

Dr. Averill Earls, [Queering Dublin, Same-sex Desire and Masculinities in Ireland, 1884 -1950](#), PhD thesis to be published as book. For other articles etc. See [www.averillearls.com](http://www.averillearls.com)

Oisín Kenny, [The Struggle](#). Article on the Decade of Centenaries, including quotes from Dr. Tom Hulme QUB, Dr. Averill Earls and Dr. Patrick McDonagh on how gay men were targeted for prosecutions etc by the new State after 1922 [GCN October 2021](#) or see [www.LGBTDisregard.ie](http://www.LGBTDisregard.ie)

[Campaigning for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Ireland 1981-1993](#), Bob Cant interview with Kieran Rose in [www.notchesblog.com](http://www.notchesblog.com)

Colm Tobin, [A Brush with the Law](#) in the Supreme Court including the Norris Case in, [www.thedublinreview.com](http://www.thedublinreview.com), Autumn 2007

[Pardons for Persons Convicted of Homosexual Acts](#), Oireachtas Library and Research Service. Report includes data on arrests, prosecutions etc 1950 to 1993. Enquiry 2021/560 as requested by Patrick Costello TD, January 2022.

Dr. Maurice Casey, [Radical politics and gay activism in the Republic of Ireland 1974-1990](#), Irish Studies Review, 2018, on the influence of radical politics in the early movement for gay rights. See other work by Maurice on [www.mauricejcasey.com](http://www.mauricejcasey.com)

Professor Brendan Kelly, [Homosexuality and Irish Psychiatry, Medicine, Law and the changing face of Ireland](#), Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine, 2017. Good references

Dr. Tom Hulme, [Queer Belfast during First World War, Masculinity and same-sex desire in an Irish City](#), Irish Historical Studies, November 2021

[The Path to Marriage Equality in GCN](#) includes GCN articles on GLEN campaign for gay law reform and wider equality (December 1990, April 1992, May 1994 etc), see [www.leftarchive.ie](http://www.leftarchive.ie), 2016

[Alternative Ireland Directory, 1990](#), Quay Coop Cork, edited by Donal Sheehan. Article on lesbian and gay issues by Kieran Rose, see Kieran Rose slideshare and National Library of Ireland archives.

[A Review of Homicides involving Homosexuals in Ireland 1975-1996](#) by Margaret Bolster and John Harbison Medico-Legal Journal of Ireland and see copy in [Irish Queer Archive](#)

**A review of research on victimisation of the gay and lesbian community in Ireland**, Kiran Sarma, Garda Research Unit, 2004.

James Grannell, **Gay Health Action and the Fight Against AIDS in 1980s Ireland**, History Workshop, 2019.

**A Very Political Project: Charles Haughey, Social Partnership and the pursuit of an “Irish economic miracle”, 1969-92**, Dr. Philip O’Connor. PhD thesis (DCU) on Social Partnership includes discussion on how Social Partnership and trade union movement support benefitted progress for LGBT people.

**The Human Right to Memorialisation** by Kelly Ledoux in [www.openheartcitydublin.ie](http://www.openheartcitydublin.ie)

Two articles by David Norris in Dublin University Law Review, 1976, and in **Crane Bag 1981**



The Central Bank, Dublin LGBT Pride, June 1993.  
Christopher Robson Collection,  
National Library of Ireland



Pride 1993, outside the Central Bank.  
Christopher Robson Collection,  
National Library of Ireland

# 4

## **GLEN Resource Documents**

The Gay and Lesbian Equality Network (GLEN) was established in 1988 to campaign for law reform and equality legislation for LGB people. GLEN was instrumental in persuading the Government to bring forward equality-based law reform in 1993, and with others, in building the momentum for wide-reaching equality legislation which followed in 1998 and 2000. GLEN subsequently was involved in delivering comprehensive legislative change including Civil Partnership in 2010, Children and Family Relationships Act 2015, the Marriage Referendum 2015 and the Marriage Act 2015; and ground-breaking change to include LGBT people in education, health, mental health, workplace, sexual health, community building and in the delivery of public services.

#### **On Law Reform:**

- [Resource Material on Lesbian/Gay Law Reform](http://www.eoin-collins.ie), 26 pages, see [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie)
- A Summary of above, 3 pages
- [Quotes on Lesbian/Gay Law Reform](http://www.eoin-collins.ie), 6 pages
- [A Chronology of Lesbian/Gay Law Reform](http://www.eoin-collins.ie), 4 pages
- Unfair Dismissals Act Resource Document, 13 pages
- [‘After the Parade’](http://www.eoin-collins.ie), GLEN Report Back presented to the community at meeting in the Ormond Hotel 11th April 1992, 14 pages, see [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie)
- [‘Delays, Confusion, and Broken Promises’](http://www.eoin-collins.ie) (Government contradicts itself on gay law reform), 1 page of quotes

#### **Post Law Reform:**

- [‘Poverty, Lesbians and Gay Men, The Economic and Social Effects of Discrimination’](http://www.LGBTDisregard.ie), (project proposal prepared by GLEN March 1992), GLEN and Nexus Research Cooperative and Combat Poverty Agency, 1995, see [www.LGBTDisregard.ie](http://www.LGBTDisregard.ie) and [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie)

This report documented the the lasting negative impacts of criminalisation including discrimination, prejudice and isolation. The growing awareness of the consequences of criminalisation, and official acceptance of the HIV and Aids crisis, led to the first State funding for LGB organisations. This ground-breaking funding enabled GLEN to employ a staff member to drive policy and equality progress for LGBT people.

Key initiatives from this time included:

- [‘HIV Prevention Strategies and the Gay Community’](http://www.lenus.ie), GLEN and Nexus Research Cooperative 1996 report documents the very poor quality of lesbian and gay community infrastructure, lack of State funding, one of the wider negative impacts of criminalization. See [www.lenus.ie](http://www.lenus.ie) and [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie)
- Gay Health Action was refused funding by the Department of Health in the 1980s because of criminalization and that it would be contrary to public policy. This put the lives of gay men at greater risk.
- This was the first funding by the Department of Health for a gay group, a breakthrough decision made

by Brendan Howlin, then Minister for Health, who also completely liberalized the sale of condoms making HIV prevention work much easier.

- Civil Servants tried to stop Gay Health Action getting further funding for Social Employment Scheme workers in later 1980s, this was strongly resisted by the trade unions and at a meeting, Minister Bertie Ahern took the civil servants aside and said that the funding had to go ahead, when the meeting resumed the funding was agreed.
- For GLENs demands including rights for lesbian mothers, and for domestic partnerships, see GCN November 1989
- Eoin Collins/Nexus Research: Eoin Collins of Nexus Research, and a member of GLEN, was instrumental in researching and writing many of the reports that created opportunities for progress in key areas. These are available on [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie) and [www.lenus.ie](http://www.lenus.ie), and include:

1. 'HIV Prevention Strategies and the Gay Community', 1996
2. 'Working in Partnership for HIV Prevention in Gay Saunas, A Pilot Project', with Karl Hayden, in association with the Eastern Health Board, 1998
3. 'Outyouth, A Report on the Dublin Gay and Lesbian Youth Group Pilot Project', 1998
4. 'Education, Lesbian and Gay Students, Developing Equal Opportunities', 2000
5. 'Professional Training for Youth Workers on Issues of Gay Youth', with

Waterford Regional Youth Services and Southern Gay Project, 1999.

6. 'Report of Evaluation of Gay HIV Strategies Programme', October 1999.
7. 'Strategies to Promote the Mental Health Health of Lesbians and Gay Men', with the Northern Area Health Board, 2004
8. 'Local Development, Lesbians and Gay Men', a community development pilot project in association with Waterford Area Partnership, 1999
9. 'Promoting Equality for Lesbians and Gay Men, Scoping Study on International Best Practice Issues', Eoin Collins Nexus Research for the Equality Authority, February 2000,

*"Most countries in the world continue to criminalize homosexuality. Even where anti-discrimination legislation exists, it is difficult to identify any comprehensive state action to address discrimination across all the areas in which it has been found to occur".*

- Equality Authority, 2000



Gay Pride Picnic, Merrion Square, July 1980.  
*Daniel (Don) Wood Collection*



David Norris and Dr. Noel Browne TD unveiling a  
plaque at the Hirschfeld Centre in Dublin, June 1980.  
*Daniel (Don) Wood Collection*

# 5

## **Newspapers and Magazines**

Various articles in [GCN](#) including 2013 anniversary edition, see their digitisation project

[The Night They Killed Declan Flynn](#), by Maggie O'Kane, Magill magazine March 1983, available at [www.magill.ie](http://www.magill.ie)

[Go-to Solicitor who fought to keep gay men out of prison](#), Garrett Sheehan interviewed by Maeve Sheehan in Irish Independent 24th June 2018 on prosecutions, convictions and imprisonment of gay men in 1970s Dublin, crucial article

[Gay Community recalls dark days before decriminalisation](#), very good quotes from Tonie Walsh and others, Irish Times 30.11.2016,

[Dublin was no city for gay young men](#) in 1950s the Father Ted star who thrived in London", Patrick Duggan obituary in Sunday Independent 29th May 2022 by Ciaran O'Neill

Newspaper reports of trial of John Roche's killer including use of the 'homosexual panic' defence case, Cork Examiner 10th May 1983 and Irish Times 15th June 1983 etc.

[As Government Prepares to Wipe Historical Convictions for Gay Sex, Some Activists Say They Want It to Go Further](#) by Shamim Malekmian in Dublin Inquirer 24th August.2022 on arrests of gay men in 1950 in Dublin, based on her research in the National Archives

[Forty Years Ago Gardaí Interviewed Hundreds of Gay Men While Searching for a Killer - and They Still Have All the Files](#) by Shamim Malekmian in Dublin

Inquirer, July 13th 2022 on the Charles Self murder investigation and police harassment of gay men.

How it took Britain until 2003 before it had gay law reforms on a par with Ireland's equality-based gay law reform of 1993, see article by Brian Barrington in [The General Scheme of the Civil Partnership Bill, Legal Consequences and Human Rights Implications](#), p42, ICCL, 2009, [www.iccl.ie](http://www.iccl.ie)

And article by Peter Thatchell in Guardian 23.5.2017, [Don't fall for the myth that it's 50 years since we decriminalised homosexuality](#), on how long it took UK to get full and equality-based gay law reforms.

The passing of the gay law reform Bill was a major news item, e.g. led the front page of the Irish Times on 25th June 1993 with large photo of GLEN celebrating

Various articles by Mary Holland, Fintan O'Toole and Colm Tobin on gay law reform in the Irish Times.

See also The Irish Reporter, Gralton magazine, Rebel magazine, An Phoblacht, Z magazine, Identity, Out magazine, Hot Press, In Dublin, The Crane Bag, magazines and newspapers of the various left and progressive groups ... etc.

[Media coverage leading up to the 2018 Oireachtas Apology Motion](#) compiled by Karl Hayden, contains the media coverage leading up the State Apology in 2018 for the criminalisation of gay and bisexual men and on the proposed disregard scheme for convictions under the November 2016-July 2022.

# 6

## **Dáil and Seanad Debates and Questions**

There are extensive debates on gay law reform and equality, all available on [www.oireachtas.ie](http://www.oireachtas.ie)

These include:

- [2013 collection of 1993 speeches in Dail and Seanad by GLEN to mark 20th anniversary](#), includes Mary Holland's great article in the Irish Times on the exuberant Pride Parade after gay law reform was passed and also pieces by Christopher Robson and Kieran Rose
- Dr.Noel Browne raises gay law reform in Dail with Minister for Justice Gerry Collins 13.12.1977 and Seanad 1978
- Prohibition of Incitement to Hatred Act Debates November 1989 etc., Minister for Justice suddenly withdrew objections to including sexual orientation on urging of Taoiseach in Dail apparently
- 4.12.1990, Dail debates Criminal Law (Rape Amendment) Bill which defined sexual assault in gender neutral way based on LRC recommendations, and laying basis for simple gay law reform, see Diverse Communities p44
- Debate in Seanad on European Court of Human Rights decision December 12th 1990
- Labour Party Equal Status Bill 1990, Debates March 1992
- This Equal Status Bill included sexual orientation and laid the basis for the Equality legislation we have today
- Dick Spring and Proinsias de Rossa questions for Taoiseach on gay law reform
- Gay Law Reform Debates 1993
- Fine Gael puts amendment to have unequal age of consent of 18 but is filibustered by it's own TDs and falls. Some Fianna Fail TDs speak strongly

against gay law reform

- Also Unfair Dismissals Act Amendments Debates 1993, debated with gay law reform on same day in Dail on Tuesday 24th June 1993
- (Before gay law reform the Minister for Defence David Andrews said that he was not looking for exemptions for the Defence Forces from the gay law reform)
- [2018 Dail and Seanad Apology Motion](#) for criminalization and wider damage done, includes data on convictions etc. compiled by Karl Hayden.

**7**

**Law Reform  
Commission**

Law Reform Commission (LRC) reports were critical in achieving an equality-based gay law reform in 1993. See [www.lawreform.ie](http://www.lawreform.ie) for more information.

The LRC [Consultation Paper on Child Sex Abuse](#), September 1989 included proposals for gay law; reform and the [Final Report](#) in October 1990 recommended a gay law reform based on an equal treatment with heterosexuals such as an equal age of consent of 17 years.

The LRC issued a [Consultation Paper on Rape](#) and allied offences in 1987 and a [Final Report](#) in May 1988 recommending gender-neutral definition of sexual offences.

These recommendations were included in the **Criminal Law (Rape Amendment) Bill of 1990**, paving the way for a simple gay law reform that just abolished the anti-gay laws

See also [LRC Report on Vagrancy 1985](#) that said that vagrancy legislation was used against gay men through the Vagrancy Act 1898 and Criminal Law Amendment Act 1912.

The [LRC Report on the Law Relating to Dishonesty, 1992](#), noted that the Larceny Act 1916 outlawed blackmail on basis of buggery.

See also [Seanad Debates 16th May 1990](#) on Larceny Bill 1989 with contributions by Senator David Norris

**If you are in trouble with the Gardai you should bear these points in mind. These points may not cover road traffic offences or one's under the offences against the state acts.**

1. You should be polite and try to remember all the things that happened during your arrest and all names etc.
2. Do not make any statements until you have seen your lawyer, and do not accept Gardai advice as to the solicitor you should consult.
3. If you are being arrested you should be informed that you are being arrested and advised of the reason for your arrest and whether or not you are being arrested under warrant.
4. You should ask to contact your family or lawyer at the earliest possible time.
5. You cannot be held for an unreasonable period, and if you have been charged you should be brought before a court or peace commissioner, at the earliest possible opportunity.
6. If you are being arrested by a Garda in plain clothes you should see his/her identification and if the Garda is in uniform, remember his/her number which appears on the shoulder of the uniform.
7. You are not obliged to go to the Garda Station unless you have in fact been arrested.
8. You are not obliged to answer any questions or make any statements, and you should be careful not to say anything which might tend to be used against you in court.
9. You may be offered a deal or threatened into making a statement. Do not agree to do this as a statement can be used even if it is not signed.
10. It might be suggested that you plead guilty. You should consult your lawyer before you decided how you will answer to the charge.
11. You should consult your Lawyer before you decided whether you should take part in an identity parade. Your fingerprints can only be taken without your consent when the Gardai have obtained an order from a District Justice or, in Dublin, from a senior garda officer.
12. A statement by a person arrested with you may not be used against you and you should not make a statement even if you are told that another person has done so.
13. If you wanted BAIL you can ask the GARDAI in the station. You usually do not have to produce cash but sign a paper promising to pay. If you are refused then ask the Judge in court for bail.

***Compiled by Legal Sub-committee, Irish Gay Rights Movement, 46, Parnell Square, West, Dublin 1, Ireland, 1977.***

# 8

## **Video and Film**

[Interview with a Gay Couple](#) - Arthur Leahy and Laurie Steele, RTE, 1979. See [www.corklgbtarchive.com](http://www.corklgbtarchive.com)

Joni Crone, Late Late Show, 1980. See Irish Times [Interview with Joni](#), 2018

**Late Late Show 1989 on gay law reform**, pivotal debate on gay law reform, RTE producer Brigid Ruane said that Gay Byrne was undecided about gay law reform until on air he saw how awful the Right opposition were.

**RTE Prime Time debate 1993**, the LGBT community were misled and ambushed by RTE who had assured that Youth Defence would not be on the programme.

**'The Love that Dare not Speak it's Name'**, Bill Hughes, RTE, 2000 and 'Fintan', Radius TV, RTE, 1994

['Did anyone notice us? Gay Visibility in the Irish Media 1973 - 1993, \(2003\)](#), Edmund Lynch.

**A Different Country**, (early years of gay activism), Edmund Lynch, 2016.

**RTE news report on GLEN campaign** 12th November 1992, available on line RTE Archives, including GCN November issue where GLEN criticises Government as being 'Reckless, Irresponsible and Dishonest'

**Gay Health Action**, see reports on RTE archives 17th December.1986 and 3rd April 1987

[An account of the remarkable journey of Dr. Lydia Foy](#) through the Irish and European Courts to achieve Gender Recognition.

**Forbidden Love**, Department of Justice video of discussion between Dr. Averill Earls and Dr. Mary McAuliffe and Dr. Patrick McDonagh on lesbians and gay men in the early decades after Independence, part of Departments Decade of Centenaries programme, November 2021

**'Limits of Liberty'**, RTE, Diarmuid Ferriter, 3 part history documentary, a South Wind Blows production, Kieran Rose interview in 3rd part, 2010. 1 hour unedited interview by Diarmuid Ferriter with Kieran Rose is available.

**OUTing the Past**, Dr. Patrick McDonagh interviews Kieran Rose in Kilmainham Gaol Museum on period up to gay law reform Available online on [www.kilmainhamgaolmuseum.ie](http://www.kilmainhamgaolmuseum.ie)

Declan Flynn, forthcoming documentaries

**Forsa video** on 40th anniversary of passing of Motions supporting equality for lesbians and gay men by LGPSU and ICTU in 1982. See also FSU and [ICTU 3 part webinar series](#) including on the beginnings of trade unions support, made by Karl Hayden

# 9

## **Photo Archives**

Key photographers and collections include:

- **[Christopher Robson Photographic Archive](#)** available on line [www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie), see article and photos in GCN Issue 367, Pride 2021
- Derek Speirs archive
- Clodagh Boyd archive
- Kieran Rose, mostly 1980s photos of events in Cork and Dublin, (digitised by Queer Culture Ireland), see article and photos in GCN Issue 367 Pride 2021
- Karl Hayden collection
- Don Wood archive, collected by Karl Hayden
- Eamon Somers, early 1980s, curated by Karl Hayden.
- Tony O'Shea, NGF, e.g. photo of founding meeting of Gay Health Action in Quay Coop Cork January 1985, IQA
- Doug Sobey, Belfast 1970s, Ulster Museum. See 'Joy in Dissent' article by Declan Long in Source magazine Summer 2022.
- Martina Malone, e.g. photos of Taoiseach Bertie Ahern launch of GLEN Strategic Plan in 2006 Fumbally Court
- Tommy Clancy archive took many photographs for GLEN c.2005 on.
- 'Colour in the Streets' c1999, exhibition of photographs by Christopher Robson in Garter Lane Gallery Waterford as part of Pride Festival partly organised by Gay Health Strategies/GLEN as part of its community development project in Waterford
- **['Living with Pride'](#)** photographs by Christopher Robson, NLI,
- PhotoIreland Festival, 'Images Are All We Have', exhibition in Printworks Dublin Castle Summer 2022, including photos by Doug Sobey and Kieran Rose

# 10

## **Podcasts and Webinars**

**Inside the Crime:** Newstalk series on Charles Self murder investigation by Frank Greaney and produced by Aisling Moore 2022 and Includes some details of the murders of Declan Flynn and John Roche in 1982

Dr. Averill Earls, **Dig, A History Podcast**, [www.digpodcast.org](http://www.digpodcast.org)

**'Know Your Queer History'**, [www.shoutout.ie](http://www.shoutout.ie) A new online video series from ShoutOut, features interviews with 12 individuals who were all involved in different ways with the progression of LGBTQ+ equality in Ireland.

Dr. Patrick McDonagh, **'The Rise of the Irish gay rights movement 1973-74'**, University of Galway, January 2023

**'Sex Between Men in Irish Archives'**, on line discussion between Dr. Averill Earls and Dr. Tom Hulme hosted by Goldsmiths History Society, London, January 2023.

**Love and Courage Podcast** - Dr Michael Barron reflects with Ruairi McKiernan on life and Queer and Social Justice Activism from the 1990s to 2022.

**The Social Work Routes Podcast** with Professor Kris Clarke - Dr Michael Barron: A Life in LGBTQ+ Activism.

**Dublin Art Book Fair 2021 Webinar:** Queer community activist Dr Michael Barron and Dr Lisa Godson discuss the idea of manualising social change and making it accessible.

# 11

## Oral Histories

- Edmund Lynch collection, Irish LGBTI+ Oral History Project
- University of Limerick collection, Jennifer Schweppe and Ellen Reid
- Eoin Collins transcript, Atlantic Philanthropies funded oral history project, on gay law reform and equality legislation, the importance of support from Nexus Research Cooperative see [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie) (see also transcript of Kieran Rose and Brian Sheehan)
- Eoin Collins transcript of interview with Michael Barron, [www.michaelbarron.org](http://www.michaelbarron.org) and [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie)
- Una Mulally transcript of interview with Eoin Collins see [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie)
- Dr. Paraic Kerrigan, UCD, for Hirschfeld Centre project interviews, see [www.wakingthehirschfeld.com](http://www.wakingthehirschfeld.com)

## Gay Rights : It's Time

Each person in our society is entitled to these basic human rights:

- \*The right to dignity.
- \*The right to privacy.
- \*The right to control over her/his body, providing it does not interfere with the rights of others.
- \*The right to work.
- \*The right to a home.
- \*The right of access to goods, services and public services.
- \*The right to protection by and equality under the law.
- \*The right to recognition in a relationship in areas such as taxation, mobility within jobs, loans, housing, inheritance from death, hospital visiting etc.

Gay rights are not extravagant demands.

Gay rights are simply human rights.

The National Gay Federation is working for human rights for gay people.

For information contact: The General Secretary, National Gay Federation, 10 Fownes Street Upper, Dublin 2 or phone 710939.

## Think about it.

National Gay Federation ad  
from In Dublin, 1980s  
*Irish Queer Archive*

# 12

**Other Key Moments**

## 12.1 Campaign for Equality

The Campaign for Equality was launched by GLEN in October 1991 to build broad based support for an equality based gay law reform and equality legislation that would include all vulnerable groups. The launch was in the European Communities office on Dawson Street and speakers included Sylvia Meehan Employment Equality Agency, Patricia O'Donovan ICTU, Monica Barnes chair of Oireachtas Joint Committee on Women's Rights and others.

See Christopher Robson 'Anatomy of a Campaign', in '**Lesbian and Gay Visions of Ireland**' edited by Eoin Collins and Ide O'Carroll

## 12.2 Leaked Draft Memorandum to Government on Gay Law Reform April 1993

The Memorandum to Government was leaked to the Irish Times and reported on by Geraldine Kennedy on April 22nd. It set out three options, a British style gay law reform, the equality option, and marking a difference with an unequal age of consent of 18 years. It got very wide media coverage, see pages 52-57 of *Diverse Communities*. Was it leaked to hinder an equality-based gay law reform?

Kieran Rose was given a copy by Geraldine and it is now in his archives at the National Library of Ireland.

## 12.3 President Mary Robinson Áras an Uachtaráin 1992

The invite to LGBT groups and supporters to Aras an Uachtaran by the President on December 14th 1992 had a huge positive impact on the prospects for an equality

based gay law reform and other equality progress.

It was widely reported in the media, see Mary Holland's column in the Irish Times about President Mary Robinson again 'effortlessly undermining entrenched prejudice'

## 12.4 First National Gay Conference Connolly Hall Cork, 1981

The demands set out shaped the agenda for the next decade and more including an equality-based gay law reform, equality legislation and working with the trade union movement. See Conference Report on [www.corklgbtarchive.com](http://www.corklgbtarchive.com)

Barry Prothero from NCCL in Britain spoke of how convictions of gay men quadrupled after their gay law 'reform', as it retained the underlying criminalization of gay men and merely said it would not be a prosecutable offence if, in private, over 21 years, and excluding the Armed Forces and Merchant Navy.

This resulted in GLENs insisting that we could not have a British-style gay law reform, and that it had to be on the basis of full equality with heterosexuals.

## 12.5 Department of Justice Working Group on Disregard Legislation

See Key Issues Paper and Progress Report on [www.justice.ie](http://www.justice.ie) from 2022, and final reports due in 2023.

See also forthcoming paper on records in National Archives and elsewhere.

# 13

## **Other Sources**

## 13.1 Useful Websites

[www.LGBTDisregard.ie](http://www.LGBTDisregard.ie)

And very good resource documents on the [evolution of Disregard legislation](#) by Karl Hayden

[www.corklgbtarchive.com](http://www.corklgbtarchive.com) for various documents, photos, posters, personal stories etc including Cork Gay Collective Manifesto 1981.

[www.averillearls.com](http://www.averillearls.com)

[www.mauricejcasey.com](http://www.mauricejcasey.com)

[www.wakingthehirschfeld.com](http://www.wakingthehirschfeld.com)

[www.comeheretome.com](http://www.comeheretome.com)

[www.Leftarchive.ie](http://www.Leftarchive.ie)

[www.repository.dri.ie](http://www.repository.dri.ie)

[www.brandnewretro.ie](http://www.brandnewretro.ie) for photos in 'Out for Ourselves', also well designed covers See website for Eoin Collins documents, photos etc., [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie)

## 13.2 Posters/Graphic Design

For some of the very attractive dramatic posters and book covers of 1980s, see [www.corklgbtarchive.com](http://www.corklgbtarchive.com) and [www.dri.ie](http://www.dri.ie)

## 13.3 GCN Archives Projects

The first phase of the digitisation project will focus on the years between 1988 to 1998'

See 'Preserving Our History' article in GCN Issue 372 Pride 2022

## 13.4 Lesbian Lives Conferences

2022 saw the [25th Lesbian Lives conference](#) which [over the years](#) has explored lesbian and bisexual women's experiences, including the impact of criminalisation.

## 13.5 National Library

The National Library [www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie) has a series of collections related to LGBTI history, including materials on gay law reform from these, and other, collections:

Irish Queer Archive

Christopher Robson

Kieran Rose, see Note 2 below

Ide O'Carroll

Cathal Kerrigan

## 13.6 Research Funding

'Queer Northern Ireland, Sexuality before Liberation', AHRC funded research project 2022-2025 based in QUB, Dr Tom Hulme and Dr. Maurice Casey and others

Irish Research Council, see LGBT funded research on [www.research.ie](http://www.research.ie)

## 13.7 Conferences

'Ireland and Sexualities in History', Conference organised by Consulate General of Ireland and Edinburgh University on LGBT history, June 2022, [www.irelandsexualitieshistory.wordpress.com](http://www.irelandsexualitieshistory.wordpress.com)

Gives overview of ongoing LGBT history research and Ireland

## 13.8 LGBT History Projects

[Queer Culture Ireland](#)

Northern Ireland [www.lgbthistoryni.com](http://www.lgbthistoryni.com) 'Queer in Progress. Timeline', Project Arts Centre, Hannah Tiernan, mapping LGBT histories

## 13.9 Emigration and linkage to gay law reform

Daryl Leeworthy, 'Rainbow Crossings, Gay Irish Migrants and LGBT Politics in 1980s

London', *Studi Irlandsi, A Journal of Irish Studies*, 2020

'Invented Identities? Lesbians and Gays Talk about Migration', edited by Bob Cant 1997 including very interesting article by Anne Maguire about life and political activism in Dublin and New York

'Out in the World' exhibition on LGBT emigration 2022 in EPIC, the Irish Emigration Museum, Dr. Maurice Casey and Queer Culture Ireland, [www.epicchq.com](http://www.epicchq.com)

See 'Lesbian and Gay Visions of Ireland' chapters on Emigration

### **13.10 Trade Unions support for law reform and equality**

The trade union movement was a huge support for gay law reform and wider equality since 1982 when the LGPSU and later ICTU adopted policies supporting equality for lesbians and gay men

ICTU published it's radical policy document [Lesbian and Gay Rights in the Workplace: Guidelines for Negotiators](#) in June 1987.

'Lesbian and Gay Rights at Work', was an informal network of trade union activists in the 1980s

Minister Bertie Ahern and Trade Union support for funding for Gay Health Action

Civil Service policy, June 22nd 1988 that discrimination on basis of sexual orientation or medical history including HIV/AIDS 'will not be tolerated. This was negotiated by Trade Unions including Christopher Robson, and later extended to

all the public service

See resource documents prepared by Kieran Rose on LGPSU, IDATU, Sylvia Meehan, etc. And archive in NLI, and [www.corklgbtarchive.com](http://www.corklgbtarchive.com)

'Equals At Work' on the 40th anniversary of trade unions support in GCN Pride issue 2022

[Forsa video](#) on 40th anniversary of passing of Motions supporting equality for lesbians and gay men by LGPSU and ICTU in 1982. See also FSU and [ICTU 3 part webinar series](#) including on the beginnings of trade unions support, made by Karl Hayden

Dublin Pride 2022 event including Lord Mayor Alison Gilliland and Kieran Rose

### **13.11 Students**

['Students and Gay Rights Activism in Irish Universities 1970s-1980s'](#), Dr Patrick McDonagh, Irish Economic and Social History, September 2019

### **13.12 Amnesty International, 1991**

In 1991 a Motion was put to the AGM of the Irish Section calling for Amnesty International to recognise as Prisoners of Conscience those persons imprisoned for consenting same-sex sexual relationships, by Kieran Rose/GLEN. Mary Lawlor was Director of Amnesty Ireland and very supportive, as was Jim Loughran.

The Motion was adopted at the international conference of Amnesty in Yokohama in 1991.

Up until then Amnesty supported those imprisoned for their sexual orientation but not for sexual relationships.

### **13.13 ILGA (Europe)**

GLEN joined ILGA (later ILGA-Europe) attended the ILGA international Conferences in Vienna 1989 and Paris 1992. GLEN got great support from LGBT groups in other countries lobbying the Irish Government, Irish Embassies, and their own Governments.

Through ILGA we got a copy of the Ontario human rights law which included sexual orientation which we gave to the Labour Party and it formed the basis of their Equal Status Bill 1990, which in turn laid the basis of the Equality legislation we have today

### **13.14 National Archives**

Documents relating to arrests and prosecutions of c20 males including some teenagers 1969 and 1970 in a country town, digitised by Karl Hayden

### **13.15 IGRM 1977 Advice Leaflet**

On what to do if you are arrested, see image in this document.

### **13.16 Irish Queer Archive**

The IQA is a living archive within the National Library of Ireland which is constantly being augmented with deposits relating to Irish LGBTI+ histories, organisations and events.

## **13.17 The Dr Michael Barron Social Justice Archive**

This is a [very large and significant archive](#) from Dr Michael Barron's work as a Queer activist, academic and funder from 1998-2023. It includes media coverage over the period, LGBTQ manuals and educational materials, and archived materials from numerous campaigns for equality. It also contains his own published writing, videos, radio recordings and podcasts.

# 14

**Resistance**

While the period of criminalization was bleak and oppressive, lesbians and gay men resisted and created good lives for themselves, for example:

- Patrick Hennessy and his partner Henry Robertson Craig lived openly as a gay couple in Dublin from the 1940s, and their paintings were confidently gay in theme, see book by Sean Kissane, IMMA
- David Byrne (of Davy Byrne's Pub) and his partner Thomas Campbell lived together in Dublin in early 20th century and are buried together in the same grave in Glasnevin cemetery, see [www.joyceproject.com](http://www.joyceproject.com)
- Dr. Mary McAuliffe has spoken and written about the women Republican/trade unionist/feminist couples in the early decades of the new Stat.
- Patrick Duggan and Charles Zarb who met in their teens in Dublin and emigrated to London where they lived together for the rest of their lives, see Sunday Independent above
- See 'Come here to me!' blog for LGBT social venues in 1970s Dublin etc, [www.comeheretome.com](http://www.comeheretome.com).

# 15

**Other Materials**

## 15.1 Political and Social context

'Truly Frank, A Dublin Memoir', Frank McDonald, 2018, on growing up gay, the oppressive effects of criminalization, the toxic impacts of the Catholic Church, gay social life in Dublin in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, the controversy about Project Arts Centre centre hosting Gay Sweatshop in mid 1970s, Gays Against Repression "brave little protests outside the GPO with tall curly haired Hugo McManus who used to wear a long coloured woollen scarf and feather boa holding 'Gays are Angry' placards" p87, the Charles Self murder investigation, and the liberation of gay law reform

Heritage Plan, Donegal County Council, submission by LGBT+ Restorative Justice Campaign, January 2023

'Ireland in Quotes, A History of the 20th Century'. Conor O'Clery, 1999, see AIDS, homosexuality, ILGO, Kieran Rose etc.

'One Spin on the Merry Go Round', Sean Duignan, 1995, memoir of his time as Government Press Secretary to Taoiseach Albert Reynolds, gay law reform p80-81

'Spring, Summer and Fall, The Rise and Fall of the Labour Party, 1986-1999', Ray Kavanagh, 2001, gay law reform page 141, on whether Minister for Equality and Law Reform Mervyn Taylor or Minister for Justice Maire Geoghegan Quinn would be responsible for gay law reform

Nell McCafferty, 'In the Eyes of the Law', 1987, including how gay men were humiliated by some Judges in the Courts.

'Redrawing Dublin', 2010, Paul Kearns and Motti Ruimy, including 'Vortex' a 2002

photographic exhibition of a gay Sauna in Dublin, and a 2002 exhibition in the O'Connell Street public toilets referencing their use by gay men, 'No Loitering' photo [www.redrawingproject.com](http://www.redrawingproject.com)

'Gay bars are not only places to have fun, they are havens of freedom and relief', GLEN June 2016 submission to An Bord Pleanála supporting the retention of the Pantibar sign, outlining the very important role gay bars have in LGBT history as safe places.

Sauna Project Report, 1998, Gay HIV Strategies/GLEN and Karl Hayden, foreword sets out the very important historic role of gay Saunas as safe places for gay men, see Kieran Rose slideshare and [www.lenus.ie](http://www.lenus.ie) and [www.eoin-collins.ie](http://www.eoin-collins.ie)

Dublin Castle scandal 1884, Ireland's only example of a 'homosexual scandal'?, see [www.comeheretome.com](http://www.comeheretome.com), Dr. Averill Earls [www.digpodcast.org](http://www.digpodcast.org), Brian Crowley on [www.nationalarchives.ie](http://www.nationalarchives.ie). Gives great insight into gay life at the time in Dublin. Similar 'scandals' in other countries include, Mexico City 1901, Cleveland Street 1889, Eulenberg/Germany 1906, Buenos Aires 1942, Boise Idaho 1955 .... etc

[GLEN Phase Two c1994-2004](#), Kieran Rose, sets out how GLEN made progress using the boost of gay law reform, but also faced many barriers, laid basis for transformational progress in GLEN Phase Three with Atlantic Philanthropies funding.

'Preventing the Future, Why was Ireland so poor for so long?', Tom Garvin, 2004 On the power of conservatism, and the Catholic Church, but also the role of ideas in making progress

“The Irish experience also warns never to play down or ignore the semi-independent role of ideas in political action .. human agency can defy the constraints of political and social structures and create new political possibilities” pages 231-232

‘Finally and in Conclusion, A Political Memoir’, Barry Desmond, 2000, pages 126-127 on Noel Browne making the case for law reform in relation to homosexuality, contraception and abortion in a Sunday Press article September 1970. On HIV/AIDS and gay law reform see pages 294-297

‘Inventing Ireland, The Literature of the Modern Nation’, Declan Kiberd, 1995, see chapter on “Oscar Wilde - The Artist as Irishman” on homosexuality etc

‘Ireland 1912-1985, Politics and Society’, J.J. Lee, 1989, provides great wider Irish context for LGBT history including, the failure of the new State, colonialism, the power of conservatism and control of people’s sexuality, “The obsessive equation of sin with sex was much less pronounced in popular pre-Famine Irish traditions. It was partly imported from Victorian England ..” page 645

(It is interesting and surprising that most mainstream books and studies on aspects of Irish history and society 1970s on do not refer to the various high profile lesbian and gay issues of those decades - why is a good question ..)

Place/Public Domain: ‘City Wide Historic Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco’, 2016

## 15.2 International

(A very eclectic and personal short list of studies)

[www.notchesblog.com](http://www.notchesblog.com) is a great resource for LGBT history research around the world

‘Hidden in Plain Sight’, Peter McNeil, including great photo of two ‘defiant’ teenagers arrested in Sydney in 1942, [www.uts.edu.au](http://www.uts.edu.au)

‘Vice Patrol, Cops, Courts, and the Struggle Over Gay Life Before Stonewall’, Anna Lvovsky, 2021 [www.annalvovsky.com](http://www.annalvovsky.com)

‘Queer Budapest 1873-1961’, Anita Kurimay, 2020

‘How Gay Culture Blossomed During the Roaring Twenties’, Sarah Pruitt June 12th 2019 [www.history.com](http://www.history.com)

‘Their Deaths Matter, LGBTIQ hate crimes inquiry begins in Sydney’, unsolved murders in NSW 1970-2010, Georgina Mitchell, Sunday Morning Herald 2.11.2022, [www.smh.com.au](http://www.smh.com.au)

‘Welcome to Fairyland, Queer Miami Before 1940’, Julio Capo Jr, 2017

‘The Forgotten History of Gay Entrapment’ by George Chauncey, New York State specifically criminalised homosexual cruising as a form of disorderly conduct, The Atlantic, 25th June 2019

‘Hello Sailor’, exhibition of gay life on passenger and merchant ships 1950s to 1980s, based on book by Paul Baker and Jo Stanley, [www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk)

'When Brooklyn Was Queer', Hugh Ryan, 2019  
See [www.hughryan.org](http://www.hughryan.org) for other research

'Hidden love of Havelock men documented in early 20th century photographs', April 2022, [www.cbc.ca](http://www.cbc.ca)  
See also 'Len and Cub, A Queer History', Meredith Batt and Dusty Green, 2022, early twentieth century rural New Brunswick

'When Florida had a Committee to terrorise gay people', Ranjani Chakraborty, 2019, [www.vox.com](http://www.vox.com)

'Transnational Flows of Knowledge and the Legalisation of Homosexuality in Interwar Poland', Kamil Karczewski, Contemporary European History October 2022, open access

Also interview with Kamil, 'Queer Lives in Interwar Poland ... ', July 2021 [www.balkaninsight.com](http://www.balkaninsight.com)

'The Red Tree', Directed by Paul Rowley, [www.stillfilms.org](http://www.stillfilms.org), documentary about gay men incarcerated on island of San Domino by the Mussolini regime

'Six survivors remember Spain's brutal anti-LGBT laws', 2018, [www.lacuna.org.uk](http://www.lacuna.org.uk)

'Queers in Europe during the Second World War', Regis Schlagdenhauffen, Council of Europe, 2018, [www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)

'Sex, Soldiers and the South Pacific 1939-55, Queer Identities in Australia in the Second World War, author Yorick Smaal interviewed by Justin Bengry, July 2016, [www.notchesblog.com](http://www.notchesblog.com)  
See other research by Yorick on the policing of male same-sex desire

in Australia in the earlier part of the twentieth century

'Phone me up sometime, Melbourne's homosexual subculture in interwar years', Wayne Murdoch, La Trobe Journal, 2011, available on-line

Homer Baker 19 years old and Thomas Keene age 24, shipmates on USS New Jersey sentenced to 6 years and 10 years respectively in San Quentin prison in 1908 for sodomy, very poignant photos, @lgbthistorysf

'How Dressing in Drag was Labelled a Crime in the Twentieth Century', Hugh Ryan, June 2019, [www.history.com](http://www.history.com),  
See also great photo by Arthur Fellig of smiling young man in drag being arrested in New York c1939

'Sweet Escape, Photographs of Fire Islands Cherry Grove Shows It's History as a Gay Sanctuary', Christian Allaire, June 2021, [www.vogue.com](http://www.vogue.com)

Gay men photographed in Mexico City prison 1935, very defiant, [www.vintag.es](http://www.vintag.es)

'An Escape from Nazi Vienna, Heinrich Schrefel and Queer Holocaust History', Svenja Kalmar and Anna Hajkava, [www.notchesblog.com](http://www.notchesblog.com) 27.1.2022

'Sex offenders no more, Historical homosexual offences expungement legislation in Australia', Allen George, 2019, Alternative Law Journal

Interesting article on how other public morality legislation such as against cross-dressing, Vagrancy legislation etc was used against LGBT people

'Sex and Cruising', NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project, [www.nyclgbtsites.org](http://www.nyclgbtsites.org)

'Moving Through New York's Early Twentieth Century Gay Spaces, From Rooming Houses to the YMCA', George Chauncey, 2019, [www.lithub.com](http://www.lithub.com)

Operation Hyacinth, Poland 1985-87, beginning with the Police investigation of a gay man, it led to a Police operation to create a database of gay with 11,000 registered, see film of the same name. Similar to the Garda investigation of the murder of Charles Self.

'Gay History 1962, The Shocking Mansfield Ohio Gay Sex Sting. 78 Gay Men Arrested', [www.back2stonewall.com](http://www.back2stonewall.com)

'On the same level as the Nazis, the film about Germany's postwar persecution of gay men', Ryan Gilbey, Guardian newspaper 14.3.2022

'No Red-Baiting, No Race-Baiting, No Queen-Baiting, The Story of the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union', illustrated video talk about this Union in 1930s by Alan Berube, 2016, [www.outhistory.org](http://www.outhistory.org)  
See also [www.labornotes.org](http://www.labornotes.org)

'Men Like That, A Southern Queer History', John Howard, 1999, on the Southern US.

'Criminally Queer, Homosexuality and the Criminal Law in Scandinavia 1842-1999', Jens Rydstrom and Kati Mustola, available free on [www.library.oapen.org](http://www.library.oapen.org)

## 15.3 Gay Men Persecuted by the Nazis

'This focus of fear on homosexual desire itself is best illustrated by the 1935 amendment to Paragraph 175 that criminalised homosexual kisses, embraces, and even fantasies. A person could even be charged on suspicion that these offences were about to be committed.'

'The Contemporary Political Use of Gay History' by Stuart Marshall in 'How Do I Look, Queer Film and Video' edited by Bad Object-Choices, 1991, page 83

An estimated 100,000 gay men were arrested for homosexuality 1933-1945  
[www.hmd.org.uk](http://www.hmd.org.uk)

Gad Beck, 1923-2012, gay and Jewish, Gad took leading role in the Chuf Chaluzi Jewish resistance group. He and his boyfriend Zwi were liberated from prison by the Red Army on 24.4.1945. [www.hmd.org.uk](http://www.hmd.org.uk)

Joseph Kohout, born Vienna 1915, died in 1994, sentenced under Paragraph 175 in September 1939, liberated from Flossenburg Concentration Camp by US soldiers April 1945. In 1946 Josef met Walter Kroepfl and began a relationship that lasted the next 48 years.

'The Men with the Pink Triangle' book is based on Josef's life. (There is a copy in my archives in the NLI)  
[www.ushmm.org](http://www.ushmm.org)  
[www.portal.EHRproject.eu](http://www.portal.EHRproject.eu)

Rudolf Brazda, 1913-2011, aged 20 he met Werner his first boyfriend and they

lived together, deported to Buchenwald Concentration Camp for homosexuality, [www.hmd.org.uk](http://www.hmd.org.uk)

Albrecht Becker, 1906-2002, lived with his partner Joseph Arbert in Wurzburg, arrested by the Gestapo in 1935, put on trial and imprisoned in Nuremberg, [www.sfi.usc.edu](http://www.sfi.usc.edu)

The Vichy collaborationist regime in France also persecuted gay men, and there have been proposals for reparations.

# STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST GAYS

## Protest March

Saturday 19 March 2.30pm  
Liberty Hall - Fairview Park

Justice Gannon's decision in this case has shocked the country. To protest at the decision and at its implications, the Dublin Gay Collective is calling on everyone who cares for civil rights to join in a public demonstration on Saturday March 19th.

Since the judgement, much has been said about the leniency of the sentences and many have called for the judges' resignation. Little, however, has been said about the hypocrisy that underlies the decision. The only reason for Justice Gannon's leniency is, that despite his denials, he did accept the "excuse" that the gang were in the park to clear it of homosexuals. This gang has admitted more than twenty cases of planned assault and robbery, choosing as its victims gays or people who they thought might be gay. This premeditation should make the crime more serious, not less.

It seems instead that gays can now be beaten or killed almost with impunity. The judgement is a gross violation of our rights, and emphasises the urgent need for law reform. Because all gay male activity is illegal, the thugs in this case felt justified in beating and eventually killing people they thought of as "queers". Their activities were known to the police; detailed complaints had been made but nothing was done. This again was sexual prejudice, this time by the Gardai. It took a young man's death to spur them to action.

Suspended sentences would be a welcome and overdue reform in our legal system where pointless and damaging prison sentences are so often given. However, when almost the only step in this direction is taken in a murder case where the criminals excuse is "queer-bashing", then that is a travesty of reform. There are other cases where prejudices are equally shocking. Some years ago a judge allowed as a "mitigating" factor the excuse that the murdered victim was only a prostitute: in many rape cases an excuse is accepted that the woman contributed to the crime by not protesting enough or by being in a dark street by herself. There must be legal reform: those miserable prejudices must not form part of it.

**WE DEMAND:** The immediate repeal of all legislation that defines us as criminals.  
The support of all political groups with concern for human rights  
The participation in this important march of gays and non-gays alike.

Meet at Liberty Hall at 2.30pm. At Fairview Park a rally will be held to be addressed by Speakers from the Dublin Gay Collective and the N.G.F. (Be There)



# **Remarkable Journey**

Resource List on Criminalization and the  
Campaign for Gay Law Reform and Equality

**April 2023**