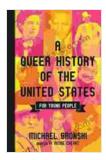
## Queer History of the United States for Young People: Revisioning History for a More Inclusive Future

Queer history is often overlooked or erased from mainstream narratives. This is especially true in the United States, where LGBTQ+ people have faced centuries of discrimination and violence. As a result, many young people today are unaware of the rich and diverse history of queer people in this country.

This article is a brief to queer history in the United States. It is intended for young people who are interested in learning more about this important topic. We will cover some of the key events and figures in queer history, as well as some of the challenges that LGBTQ+ people have faced over the years.

We hope that this article will help young people to develop a more inclusive understanding of history. We believe that everyone deserves to know their own history, and that queer history is an essential part of the American story.



#### A Queer History of the United States for Young People (ReVisioning History for Young People Book 1)

by Michael Bronski

+ + + +4.7 out of 5Language: EnglishFile size: 11250 KBText-to-Speech: EnabledScreen Reader: SupportedEnhanced typesetting : Enabled



#### The Early Years

The first recorded evidence of queer people in the United States dates back to the 1600s. In 1624, a man named Thomas Granger was arrested in Virginia for "sodomy." This was one of the first recorded cases of same-sex sexual activity in the American colonies.

Over the next few centuries, queer people continued to face discrimination and violence. In the 1800s, several states passed laws that criminalized same-sex sexual activity. These laws were often used to persecute LGBTQ+ people, and many were arrested and imprisoned.

Despite the challenges they faced, queer people also began to organize and fight for their rights. In the late 1800s, several organizations were founded to support LGBTQ+ people, including the Society for Human Rights (1870) and the Daughters of Bilitis (1955).

#### The 20th Century

The 20th century was a time of great change for queer people in the United States. In the early part of the century, LGBTQ+ people continued to face discrimination and violence. However, the mid-century saw the rise of the gay rights movement, which fought for the rights of LGBTQ+ people to live openly and without fear of discrimination.

One of the key events of the gay rights movement was the Stonewall Riots in 1969. After a police raid on a gay bar in Greenwich Village, New York City, LGBTQ+ patrons fought back against the police. The Stonewall Riots marked a turning point in the gay rights movement, and helped to galvanize LGBTQ+ people across the country.

In the years that followed Stonewall, the gay rights movement continued to grow. In 1973, the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from its list of mental illnesses. In 1981, the first cases of AIDS were reported in the United States. The AIDS crisis had a devastating impact on the LGBTQ+ community, but it also helped to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS and the need for research and treatment.

#### The 21st Century

The 21st century has seen continued progress for LGBTQ+ rights in the United States. In 2003, the Supreme Court ruled that laws criminalizing same-sex sexual activity were unconstitutional. In 2015, the Supreme Court ruled that same-sex couples have the right to marry.

Despite these legal victories, LGBTQ+ people continue to face discrimination and violence. In 2016, the FBI reported that hate crimes against LGBTQ+ people had increased by 17%. In 2017, the Trump administration issued a ban on transgender people serving in the military.

These challenges show that there is still much work to be done to achieve full equality for LGBTQ+ people in the United States. However, the progress that has been made in recent years is undeniable. LGBTQ+ people are now more visible and accepted than ever before. We have a

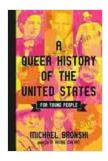
long way to go, but we are confident that we will continue to make progress towards a more just and equitable society for all.

Queer history is a rich and diverse history that is full of both challenges and triumphs. It is a history that is worth knowing and celebrating. We hope that this article has helped you to learn more about queer history in the United States. We encourage you to continue to explore this topic and to learn more about the LGBTQ+ community.

Thank you for reading!

#### **Additional Resources**

- <u>The History of LGBTQ+ Rights in the United States</u>
- <u>The Gay Rights Movement</u>
- <u>The AIDS Crisis</u>
- <u>The Transgender Rights Movement</u>

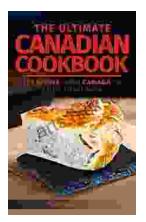


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