



**National  
Coming  
Out Day!**



**National Coming Out Day** is on October 11th and started from the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. It was held between October 8th and 13th and was the second queer march on the Capital.



AIDS memorial quilt, a massive patchwork honoring those lost to the virus,

It's goal was to draw attention to the government's inaction confronting the AIDS crisis. They were also protesting for legal recognition for gay and lesbian couples, the abolotion of sodomy laws (made LGBTQ+ sexual acts illegal), and end to the support of South African apartheid. The march held about 500,000 people!



## NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY TIMELINE

1924

### The First Documented Gay Rights Organization

The Society for Human Rights was founded by Henry Gerber in Chicago.

June 28, 1969

### Stonewall Riot

The riot against police at the Stonewall Inn in Manhattan triggered the beginning of the LGBTQ+ movement.

October 11, 1987

### National March on Washington

This impactful event is honored by National Coming Out Day being on the same day.

October 11, 2002

### The Beat of Their Own Drum

On National Coming Out Day in 2002, a benefit CD was released featuring donated songs by artists who were either in the LGBTQ+ community or were allies — it included Cyndi Lauper and Queen.

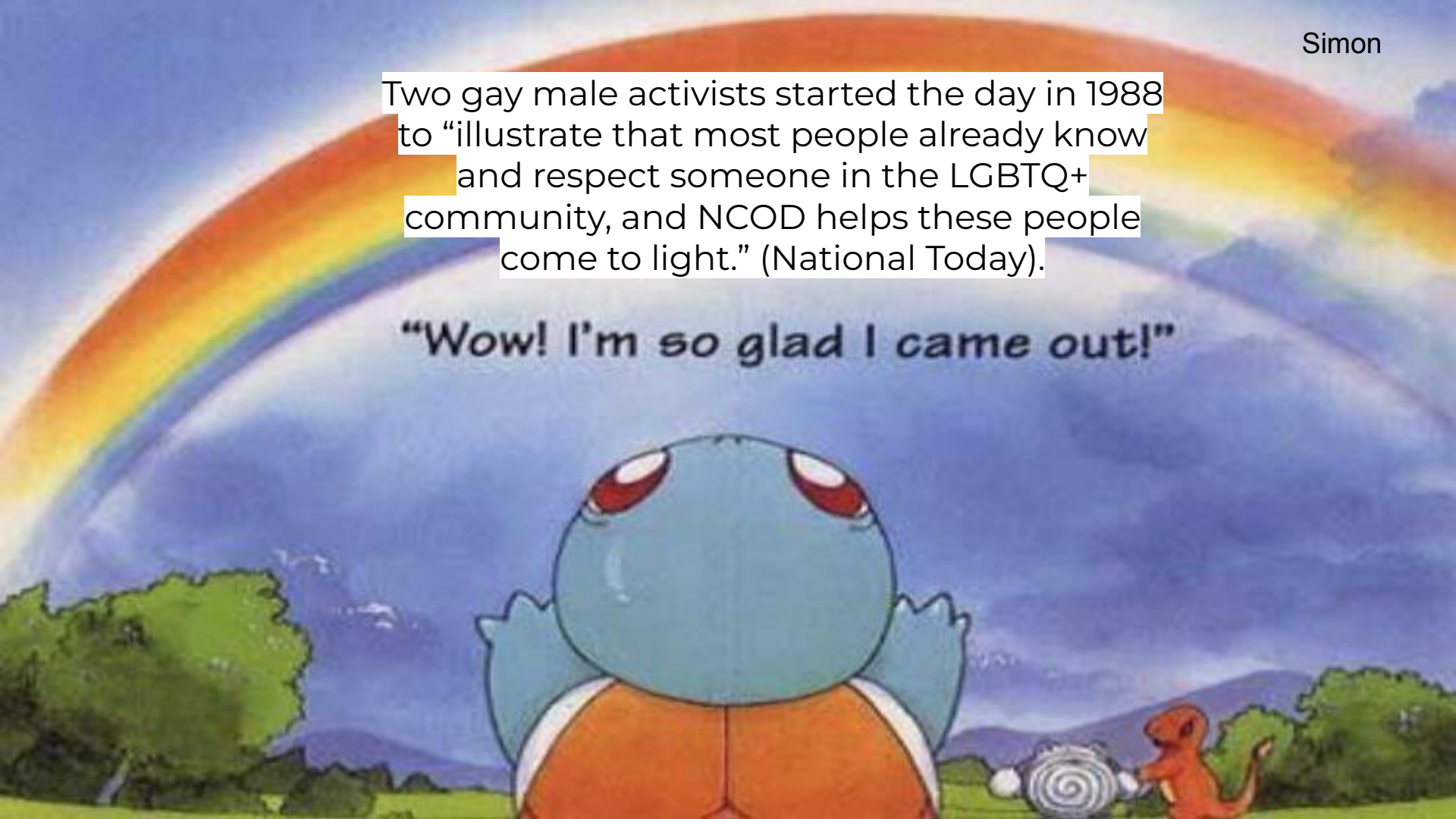
May 17, 2004

### The First Same-Sex Marriage

The first legal same sex marriage takes place in Massachusetts.

Two gay male activists started the day in 1988 to “illustrate that most people already know and respect someone in the LGBTQ+ community, and NCOD helps these people come to light.” (National Today).

“Wow! I’m so glad I came out!”



# Importance of Safe Spaces & National Coming Out Day

Simon

\*Heteronormativity – This is when people believe that being straight is the norm in society.

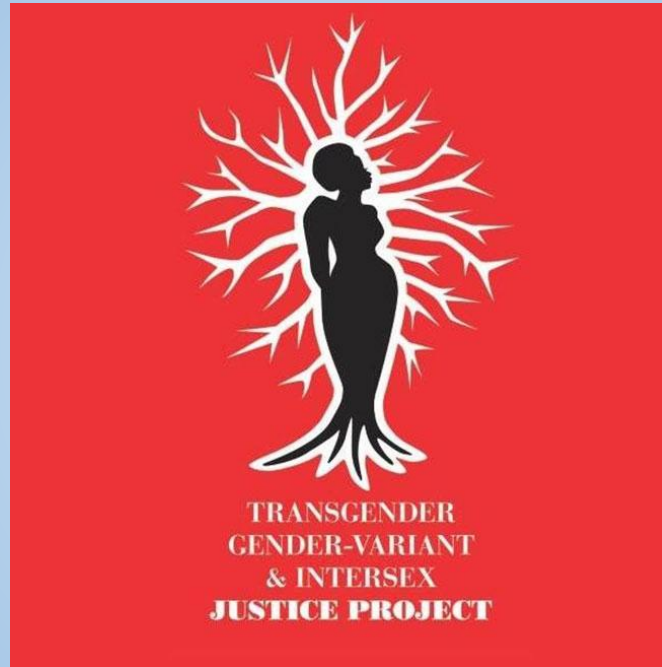
Safe spaces invite all identities and work to be unbiased. Heteronormativity is inherently biased towards straight people and ideas. Therefore, in safe spaces we try to get rid of heteronormativity. Having to come out is also a byproduct of our heteronormative society. Straight people don't have to come out.

Videos!

[Coming Out Day History & Importance](#)



# Analyzing Organizational Strategy - TGIJP



By Najorae

## What interests me about this organization

- This organization focuses on the intersectionality of Black and Transgender, Gender Variant, and intersex people and the issues they face. I am Black and genderqueer and find it admirable to have an organization that fights for people like me.
- I appreciate that they are fighting against the injustice within the incarceration system as there are many issues that need to be addressed.
- Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, a transgender woman who advocates for trans women of color, was the organizations first executive director.
- Has staff that reflects the work - trans people of color, some of whom were formerly incarcerated.



## Problems & Causes

- Safety:
  - Classification - Danger of placement in male or female facilities
  - Involuntary segregation, isolation, solitary
  - Verbal, emotional, physical, & sexual harassment, abuse
  - Confidentiality issues around medical/health information, outing that a prisoner is transgender
  - Cause: Only having binary facility options, ignorance around the prisoner's safety, not listening to the prisoner, discrimination, transphobia
- Health:
  - Difficulty getting gender-affirming health care such as hormone therapy
  - Cause: not viewing getting gender-affirming medical services as "serious medical need," transphobia, ignorance
- Gender Expression & Discrimination:
  - Discrimination about appearance - clothing, makeup, hair, etc.
  - Name and ID Gender changes made difficult
  - Job/Program discrimination based on gender
  - Cause: transphobia, misuse of power
- Lack of support during re-entry
- Criminalization, Profiling



# Actions TGIJP is Taking

Legal Services - specifically for Black and Brown TGI people in CA prisons, jails and detention centers.

- Direct advocacy against abuses experienced during incarceration and through re-entry, passing bills
- Drop in legal services, mailed legal advice & resources,

Re-entry plan:

- Incorporates services they are connected to - housing, mental, and medical services
- Involves work from visitation teams, a Mail Night - sending letters to incarcerated peoples, Field Organizing & Geographic Interventions, Local & Statewide Educational Campaigns, Coalition Building, a Newsletter etc.

Steps:

1. Stabilization: Medical/Mental Health, Housing, Government Assistance/SSI, Community Peer Relationship Development
2. Employment Prep/Skill Set Development: Self Evaluation, Skill Building Project, Supervisor Mentorship, Tech and Computer Training, Self Esteem, Empowerment, Political Education
3. Evaluation, Graduation From Program



## Actions TGIJP is Taking

- Aid in the **creation** of:
  - Black Girlz Rulez (BGR) to focus on the issues of Black Transgender Women
  - Transgender Cultural District - SF is the first legally recognized transgender district in the world. It aims to create an urban environment that fosters the history, culture, legacy, and empowerment of transgender people through ownership of homes, businesses, historical and cultural sites, and safe community spaces.
  - Taja's Coalition - the Trans Activists for Justice and Accountability coalition works to provide services to transgender women and have done work with finding housing.
  - Petitions to release & help people in and coming out of prisons



**Increasing visibility** of intersex issues through publishing information in their newsletter, conducting internal education for staff, developing collaborative relationships with intersex organizations; and conducting outreach to identify imprisoned intersex people, share information and support their ability to self-advocate and self-organize.



## TGIJP Accomplishments

- Legislation & Policy Work - helped pass/write the following bills.
  - The Name and Dignity Act allows people to apply for a change of their name or gender, rather than what is specified, without previous limitations.
  - Transgender Repect & Dignity Act ensuring incarcerated Transgender people are housed where they are the safest, specifically taking into account where the incarcerated person believes they are the safest.
  - Transgender Wellness & Equity Fund to get funding for programs that coordinate trans-inslusive health care.
- Individual impact with clients: housing, legal advice
- Support, Visibility, Pride, Educating, Empowering



# Suggested Actions

- Working to implement safety plans, trainings and policies into prisons around harassment and discrimination prevention, anti-profiling, and how to make the best decisions regarding the safety of TGI people - with an independent oversight process to ensure this is carried out.
- Continuing cultural transformation work around how TGI people are talked about, working towards the prevention of criminalization and bias against TGI people.
- Increasing visibility, staying a network for pride and support with more community building, creating services of support for loved ones of TGI people in prisons.
- These will work towards creating cultural shift and decreasing harassment of TGI people in prisons along with focusing more on prevention with the support they are currently giving. Helping loved ones increases a sense of community.