



LGBTQ+ in Long-Term Care

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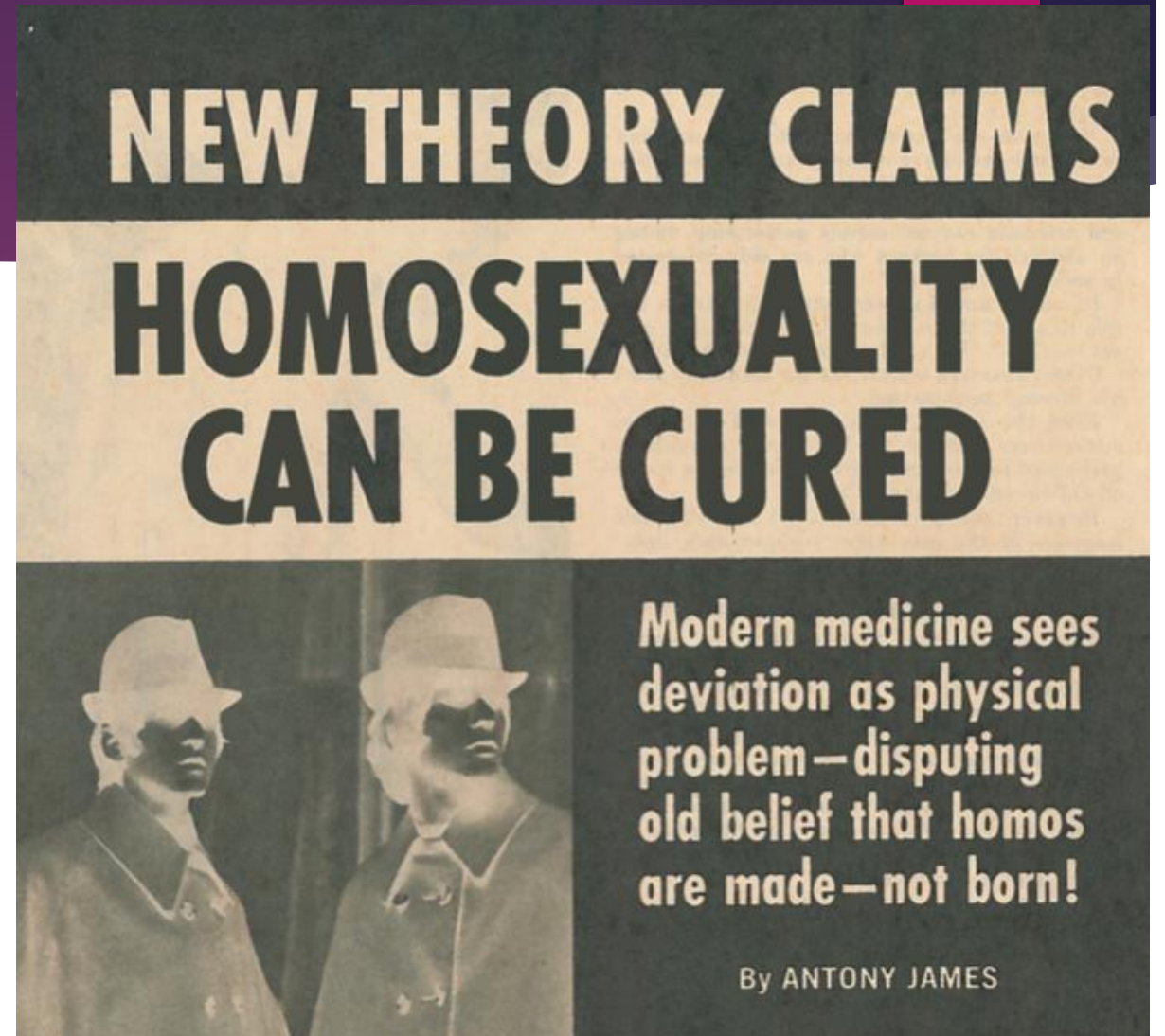
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A Few Facts About Sexual Minorities

- ▶ 2.7 million LGBTQ+ individuals aged 50 and over
- ▶ More likely to be single, childless (90%) & estranged from biological family
- ▶ More likely to be reliant on family of choice, friends, etc.
- ▶ Experience disproportionate levels of social isolation and stigmatization (compounded with dementia)
- ▶ Fewer financial resources
- ▶ Greater health disparities (heart disease, diabetes, depression, dementia)
- ▶ Decreased health care utilization

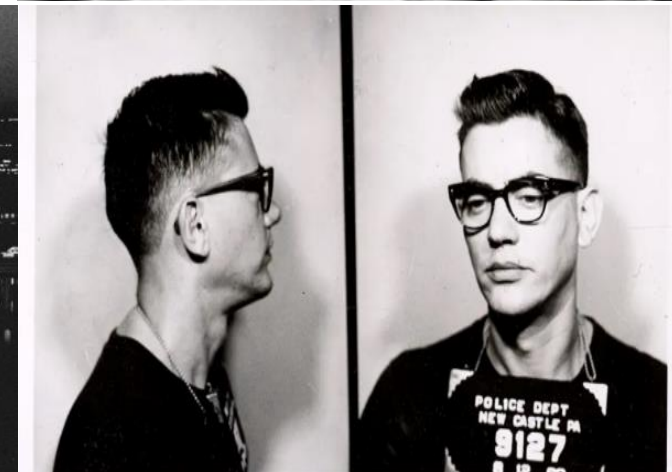
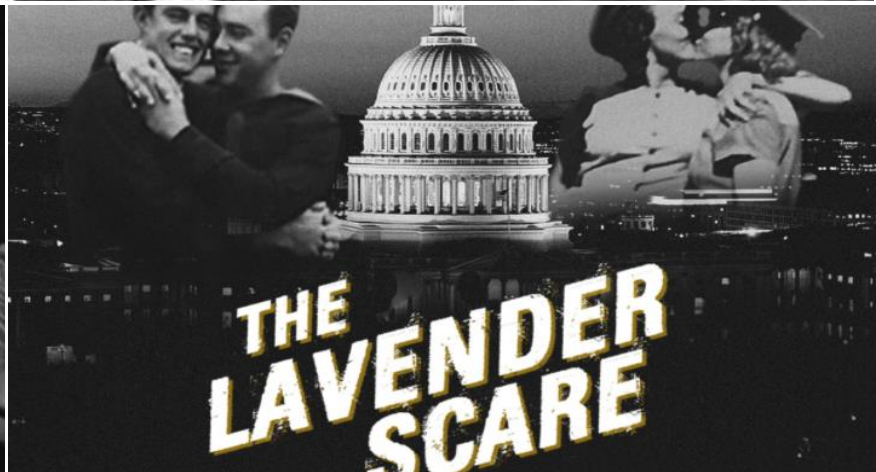
Historical Context

- ▶ More than half of nursing home residents are aged 85 or older – born in 1937 or earlier
- ▶ Through many of their formative years, they were considered
 - ▶ Sexual Deviants
 - ▶ Mentally Ill (electroshock therapy, hormone therapy)



Front page of Uncensored Magazine 1969, Public Domain

“Criminals”



“Victims”



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37 Who Saw Murder Didn't Call the Police

Apathy at Stabbing of Queens Woman Shocks Inspector

By MARTIN GANSBERG

For more than half an hour 38 respectable, law-abiding citizens in Queens watched a killer stalk and stab a woman in three separate attacks in Kew Gardens.

Twice the sound of their voices and the sudden glow of their out bedroom lights interrupted him and frightened him off. Each time he returned, sought her out and stabbed her again. Not one person telephoned the police during the assault; one wit-

137TH YEAR No. 152 Phil Associated Press (AP), National News Text Chicago News Wires and AP WIREPHOTO. NEW ORLEANS, MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 23, 1973 Second-Class Postage Paid at New Orleans, La. SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS

29 KILLED IN QUARTER BLAZE

BLOOD, MOANS: CHARTY SCENE

Med Teams Race To Save Amid Confusion

By CLANCY DUBOIS

A man's aide mopped blood off the floor while an intern drew more from the arm of a scorched patient.

Doctors in tennis shoes cut dead skin off the chest of a middle-aged man who moaned steadily while he was rocking on his side.

More ambulances arriving with more stretchers bearing more cut and burned victims—that was the scene at the accident: Emergency room of Charity Hospital well into Sunday night. A fire flashed through a building housing three French Quarter bars several hours earlier on the corner of Iberville and Chartres Sts.

Outside in the visiting area friends and families

apartments in the 100 block of Chartres Street Sunday night.

The dead were either killed in the blaze or were mangled in the chaos to escape the searing flames which destroyed the second and third floors of the building.

New Orleans Fire Department Supt. William McCrosson called the holocaust "certainly as far as the death toll goes, one of the worst fires in the history of New Orleans."

Police were investigating a report of a firebombing at the Uptown, 604 Iberville, one of the three bars housed in the building located at the intersection of



Summit Held Sign



Death Scene is Viewed by Weary trio



Resilient

1948 Kinsey Report

1950 Mattachine Society Formed

1955 Daughters of Bilitis Formed

1958 One, Inc v. Olesen

1962 Illinois Repeals Sodomy Laws

1966 Julius Bar Sip In

1969 Stonewall Riots

1970 First Gay Rights Parade

1974 First Openly Gay Man Elected

1979 National March on Washington

1987 National March for AIDS

1993 Don't Ask, Don't Tell

2003 Lawrence v. Texas

2004 MA Legalizes Gay Marriage

2008 Prop 8

2009 Fed Employees in Same Sex Unions
Receive Benefits

2015 Obergefell v. Hodges

The LGBTQ+ Experience in LTC

- ▶ More than 2/3 of LGBTQ+ older adults do not feel they can be open with LTC facility staff about their sexual orientation or identity
- ▶ Greatest fears include:
 - ▶ Discrimination by staff (homophobic remarks, hostility)
 - ▶ Discrimination by residents
 - ▶ Isolation from other residents
 - ▶ Abuse from staff and other residents
 - ▶ Neglect by facility staff

More Experiences

- ▶ Almost 1 in 4 LGBTQ+ residents reported verbal or physical harassment from other residents
- ▶ 1 in 5 were refused admission, re-admission or abrupt discharge
- ▶ 1 in 10's medical power of attorney was not accepted by facility staff
- ▶ 1 in 10 experienced a restriction of visitors
- ▶ 1 in 10 was not called by preferred name or pronoun
- ▶ 1 in 20 reported that staff refused to provide basic care and services
- ▶ 1 in 20 denied medical treatment

Organization & Resident Level Recommendations

- ▶ Know your residents' stories
- ▶ Conduct ongoing assessments of facility's culture regarding LGBTQ+ issues
- ▶ Increase staff awareness of LGBTQ+ issues
- ▶ Create and LGBTQ+ Alliance Program (Residents and Staff)
- ▶ Collect information regarding sexual orientation, gender identity, preferred names and pronouns
- ▶ Include preferred names and pronouns on staff name tags
- ▶ Display preferred names and pronouns in prominent locations with permission from residents
- ▶ Use inclusive forms, documents, medical records

Recommendations Continued

- ▶ Create LGBTQ+ friendly environments
 - ▶ Display Pride Flags
 - ▶ Evaluate facility décor and art for inclusivity
 - ▶ Evaluate facility brochures and marketing materials for inclusivity
 - ▶ Obtain and display posters from LGBTQ+ organizations
 - ▶ Stock LGBTQ+ magazines
- ▶ Post nondiscrimination statements and enact them as standard policy
- ▶ Communicate, communicate, communicate with LGBTQ+ residents, their representatives and your LGBTQ+ staff
- ▶ A final word about religion and religious trauma



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