



LGBTQ+ MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May 2024



Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental Health Awareness Month aims to educate the public, reduce stigma, and celebrate recovery from mental illness. It encourages understanding and support for those struggling with mental health issues, as misconceptions and stigma often prevent people from seeking help.

Other May Holidays

- **May 17:** International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia
- **May 19:** National Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- **May 22:** Harvey Milk Day
- **May 24:** Pansexual and Panromantic Awareness and Visibility Day

Now Hiring: Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Coordinator

APPLY NOW!

The SART Coordinator supports survivors of sexual assault by offering direct services like in-person support, crisis counseling, and advocacy. They ensure we have an

advocate to support survivors 24 hours/365 days a year. Additionally, they train advocates, provide police briefings, educate local schools, and participate in case reviews, aligning with the Coalition for Family Harmony's mission.

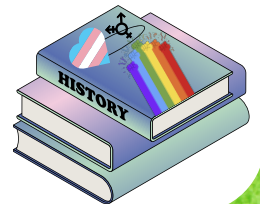
[Click here to apply](#)

This Month in LGBTQ+ History

May 17th, 2004

Marcia Kadish, 56, and Tanya McCloskey, 52, from Malden, Massachusetts, got married at Cambridge City Hall, making history as the first legally married same-sex couple in the U.S. On that day, 77 other same-sex couples also got married in the state, with hundreds more applying for marriage licenses.

[Click here to learn more.](#)



LGBTQ+ News Links

- [Long cast aside, queer women are starting to get their due from the music industry.](#)
- [Alabama lawmakers advance expansion of 'Don't Say Gay' and ban Pride flags at schools](#)
- [Climate change has a bigger impact on LGBTQ+ couples than straight couples. Here's how](#)

New LGBTQ+ Support Group



Coalition Presents:
Rainbow Umbrella East

First Thursday of every month!

Free Clinic of Simi Valley,
2003 Royal Ave.,
Simi Valley, CA

[Click here for more info.](#)



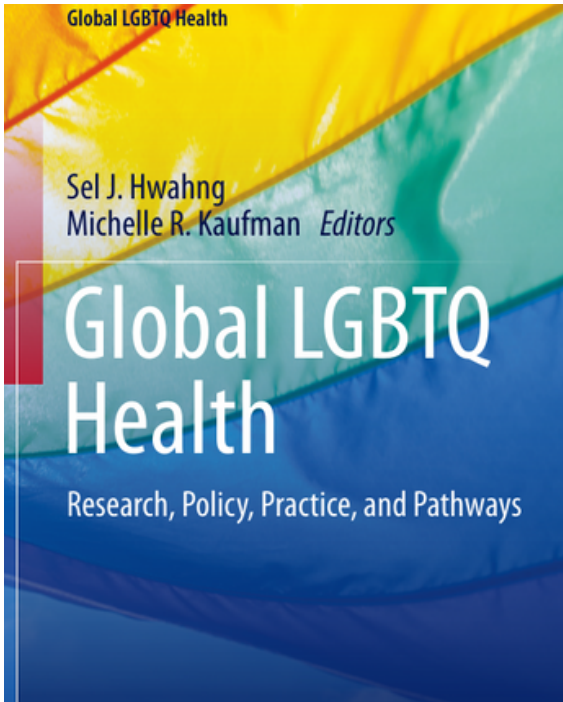
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LGBTQ+ Educational Reports



Global LGBTQ Mental Health

“Globally, research studies show a significantly elevated risk of poor mental health among LGBTQ individuals compared to cisgender and heterosexual individuals. Depression, anxiety, suicidality, and general distress demonstrate the largest mental health disparities by sexual orientation and gender identity. A growing body of evidence suggests the elevated risk of poor mental health among LGBTQ people is partly attributable to greater exposure to stigma-related stress. Minority stress theory, developed in the Global North, describes that LGBTQ people experience unique stressors (e.g., discrimination, violence, and identity concealment) that are linked to their sexual or gender identity...”

[Click here to continue reading](#)

The Impact of 2024 Anti-Transgender Legislation on Youth

“This report estimates the number of transgender youth ages 13-17 who are impacted by six types of laws and policies that have gained traction in the 2023-2024 legislative sessions. For this report, we focus on laws that have been enacted or new legislation that was either introduced in 2024 or “carried over” from 2023. These laws and policies include four common types of legislation that restrict the rights of transgender youth—gender-affirming care bans, bans on sports participation, bathroom, and other facilities bans, and restrictions on the use of gender-affirming pronouns—and two that confer protections via gender-affirming care “shield” laws and conversion therapy bans...”

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