

A brief introduction to key figures in the fight for LGBTQ civil rights and visibility in the US



Source: BESE

SYLVIA RIVERA

Sylvia Rivera (1951-2002) was a transgender rights activist and founder of the Gay Liberation Front and the Gay Activists Alliance, and dedicated her life to advocating on behalf of homeless LGBTQ youth and transgender women of color.



Source: Indiana Transgender Network

MARSHA P. JOHNSON

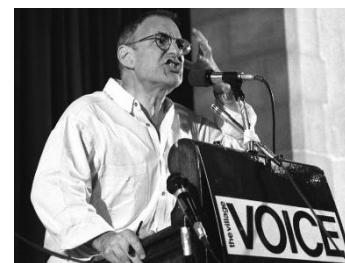
Marsha P. Johnson (1945-1992) was a gay liberation activist and one of the prominent figures in the Stonewall Riots. She was a lifelong LGBTQ and AIDS activist, co-founding the Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries.



Source: I Am Harvey Milk

HARVEY MILK

Harvey Milk (1930-1978) was a tireless gay rights activist and the first openly gay elected official in California, acting as San Francisco city supervisor. He was assassinated in 1978.



Source: NewNowNext

LARRY KRAMER

Larry Kramer (born 1935) is an American playwright and LGBTQ activist. He co-founded the Gay Men's Health Crisis in response to governmental inaction during the AIDS crisis, and authored plays including *The Normal Heart* and *The Destiny of Me*.



Source: Village Voice

AUDRE LORDE

Audre Lorde (1934-1992) was an American writer and poet, feminist, and civil rights activist. Her life and writings were centered on expanding understandings of intersectionality between womanhood, queerness, and race.



Source: Biography.com

JAMES BALDWIN

James Baldwin (1924-1987) was a novelist and social critic, writing a large compendium of work exploring racial, sexual, and class distinctions.