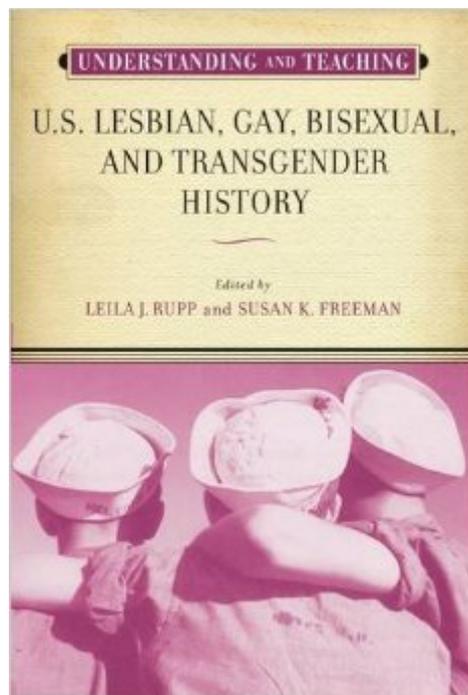


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# Understanding And Teaching U.S. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, And Transgender History (The Harvey Goldberg Series)



## Synopsis

Though largely neglected in classrooms, LGBT history can provide both a fuller understanding of U.S. history and contextualization for the modern world. This is the first book designed for university and high school teachers who want to integrate queer history into the standard curriculum. With its inspiring stories, classroom-tested advice, and rich information, it is a valuable resource for anyone who thinks history should be an all-inclusive story.

Understanding and Teaching U.S. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History offers a wealth of insight for teachers. Introductory essays by Leila J. Rupp and Susan K. Freeman make clear why queer history is important and provide global historical context, showing that same-sex sexual desire and gender change are not new, modern phenomena. Teachers in diverse educational settings provide narratives of their experiences teaching queer history. A topical section offers seventeen essays on such themes as sexual diversity in early America, industrial capitalism and emergent sexual cultures, and gay men and lesbians in World War II. Contributors include detailed suggestions for integrating these topics into a standard U.S. history curriculum, including creative and effective assignments. A final section addresses sources and interpretive strategies well-suited to the history classroom.

Taken as a whole, Understanding and Teaching U.S. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History will help teachers at all levels navigate through cultural touchstones and political debates and provide a fuller knowledge of significant events in history.

A terrific book for anyone teaching U.S. history to high school or college students. It is designed to explain why, and especially how, educators can integrate LGBT history into their existing courses. The volume contains superb essays by scholars and teachers that speak to pedagogy, sources, and methods, and includes seventeen topical essays that span the breadth of U.S. history, from colonial same-sex experiences to contemporary same-sex marriage.

"The American Historian" "Designed for teachers of U.S. history, [but] the chapters are so varied that anyone can enjoy reading them."

"Out Smart" "This book's value lies in being read from cover to cover. Do not dip in and read only what looks up your alley—the complexity and the utility emerge from the whole. . . . Each piece is worth a read, the whole is even more so."

Journal of American History Winner, Lambda Literary Award for LGBT Anthology A Choice Outstanding Academic Book Best Special Interest Books, selected by the Public Library Reviewers Best Special Interest Books, selected by the American Association of School Librarians

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As this book points out, any history curriculum needs to include all of the intersections of environment, culture, power, race, religion, sexual identity, wealth, and poverty. No history is complete when any segment of the human condition is left out. The authors suggest that how sexual identity and gender influenced US history should not be confined to gender studies or counseling programs. Instead, the influence of and effects on gender variant people need to be woven into existing history courses. The blend historical facts about those we call lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender involvement in society into specific segments. Within these segments, they include short reports by teaching professionals demonstrating these inclusions. In addition, discussing LGBT involvement as part of history can increase the interest and attention paid to the course by today's students, who often are either LGBT themselves or have LGBT friends or family. These discussions can also highlight important attitudinal changes toward sexual identity in our social history. Our current students may be quite surprised at the wide swings in attitude and social acceptance of gender variance through the five centuries of our country's colonization and growth. Examples of teaching techniques are interspersed with clear historical references through the book. Together, these form an excellent reference for educators. Lay people, especially LGBT individuals and their allies, will also find it useful. There is much information about sexual variance and its influence on society " and vice-versa " which is new to me and will be to others. For those interested in delving further into specific events, the authors have included copious references.

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