

Oracy Task Activity:

Linked to June: Pride and Protest



June is LGBTQ+ **Pride** month celebrated all over the world it was born out of '**Protest**' for unfair treatment against the LGBTQ+ community at the Stonewall Inn in June 1969 in New York. That protest sparked a movement of LGBTQ+ activism and marches across the USA for equality that became known as **Pride**. In the UK the first one took place in 1972 in London. To find out a little more take a look at the link in picture to side for a snapshot of the origins of **Pride**.

Task 1: Emotional Speeches

In the UK many laws have changed especially in the last 20 years to support LGBTQ+ equality (see *our timeline below*). However one area that threw up much controversy recently was the review of Relationship and Sex Education in schools which will be LGBTQ+ inclusive from Sept 2020.



There was an initial backlash to these changes, above (*click in pic*) is a speech in parliament from the Labour **MP Angela Eagle** in response to those against introducing the idea of an inclusive relationship and sex education programme. Click in and watch it.

Interesting Fact

Angela Eagle has been an MP since 1992 and also has a sister who is an MP. Angela is an out LGBTQ+ MP and ran for leadership of the Labour Party in 2016 but received homophobic bullying online, death threats and a brick through her office window to dissuade her from running.

Can you see how emotional Angela Eagle gets about the issue – but is able to control her emotions and bring it back to make her point. **Being passionate and showing emotion in a speech is a great tool** to getting your message across **but** you must also be able to control it to get the point across clearly.

Task 1: Think about issues you care about passionately (*make a list and discuss why*)
How could you use that emotion to make your point in task 2?



Protest Speech

Despite all of the progress outlined on the timeline below, LGBTQ+ people still meet *opposition* and continue to have to *fight for their basic rights.*

Protest has been a powerful tool in gaining legal equality but...

The Opposing Facts - Despite all the below progress in UK in 2019 it was reported:

- Up 78% in the UK those who have been victim of a hate crime due to their LGBTQ+ status
- 25% of all young homeless are LGBTQ+ - 5 times more likely to be kicked out of their homes
- 50% of Trans children have attempted suicide
- 45% of LGBTQ+ pupils have been bullied in school as a result of their sexuality



Task 2: What would you protest about?

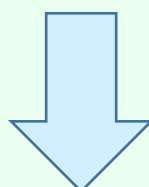
Choose an issue you care about from your list

Can you design a campaign slogan and poster and create a 1-2 minute campaign speech as if you were addressing a crowd at a protest?

If you want to - deliver your campaign speech to some of your classmates/friends or a teacher (*but check it is ok with them first*) and if you like can ask your teacher to send on the best ones to us Aimhigher London at: J.Marcham@kingston.ac.uk or Lucia.Byrne@kingston.ac.uk

TIMELINE of change

See the useful timeline below with interactive links to find out more about the protest and laws fought for by the LGBTQ+ Community in the UK...



LGBTQ+ Rights & Protest in the UK Timeline



1967 The Sexual Offences Act stipulated that private relations between consenting men over the age of 21 would no longer be a criminal offence in England and Wales. (Age of consent for men and women was 16.)

1972 In 1972, upwards of 2,000 LGBTQ+ marched in **London's first Pride parade** as a protest to the discrimination they faced in UK society and began a more visible fight for gay rights. Find out more about UK pride [here](#).

1988 Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher **introduced 'Section 28'** a law that made it illegal to talk positively about LGBTQ+ in schools and teachers were unable to show any support for these students or families.

1989 Stonewall UK formed in response to 'Section 28' actor Sir Ian McKellen co-founded [Stonewall](#) a group renowned for its campaigning and lobbying for LGBTQ+ rights.

1994 the age of consent was lowered from 21 to 18 for gay/bi men (*age of consent for heterosexuals was still 16*)



2000 The Labour government **lifts the ban** on lesbians and gay men serving **in the armed forces**. (*Previous to this they would have to hide their sexuality or be thrown out of the military.*)

2001 The age of consent for gay men is finally lowered to 16 to **become equal** age of consent for all.

2002 Equal rights are granted to same-sex couples applying **for adoption**. (*Previous to this they were not allowed to foster or adopt*)

2003 Repeal of Section 28 lifting the ban on local authorities which meant schools were finally able to support LGBTQ+ students.

2003 The Employment Equalities Regulations – a new law which finally protected LGBTQ+ people from discrimination at work. (*It also protected people against discrimination based on disability, religion, belief and age*)

2004 Gender Recognition Act is passed and allows Trans people to change their legal gender to reflect who they are.

2004: The Civil Partnership Act allowed couples to enter into same-sex legal unions with the same rights as married couples.

2005: LGBT+ History Month launched find out more in the title link and [here](#)



2008: Criminal Justice & Immigration Act made it illegal to encourage homophobic hatred. (*Last year, more than 7,000 hate crimes were reported against gay men and women in the UK.*)

2014 The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013, recognised same sex marriages, entered into law (*Several gay couples were wed at the stroke of midnight on 29 March 2014, when the law officially came into effect.*)

2019: Relationship Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Regulations from Sept 2020 all schools will receive RSE that will be LGBTQ+ inclusive.