

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?**

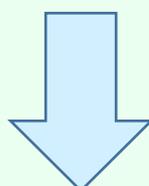
**Choose an issue you care about from your list**

**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](mailto:J.Marcham@kingston.ac.uk) or [Lucia.Byrne@kingston.ac.uk](mailto: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.