

DAVID K. JOHNSON

Department of History
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Department of History, University of South Florida, 2009-present

Associate Chair, History Department, USF, 2009-2011

Coordinator of Graduate Studies, History Department, USF, 2010-2011, Spring 2014

Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of South Florida, 2005-2009

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of South Florida, 2003-2005

Lecturer, School of Liberal Studies, Roosevelt University, 2002

Lecturer, School of Continuing Studies, Northwestern University, 1999-2001

EDUCATION

Ph.D., NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, U.S. History, 2000 (Advisor: Michael Sherry)

M.A., UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, 19th century European History, 1987 (Advisor: Jan Goldstein)

B.A., GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, History, 1983

TEACHING FIELDS

Modern U.S. political culture; US since 1945; the cold war; modern American social movements; gender and sexuality; consumer culture; gay and lesbian history

COURSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate Courses

U.S. Since 1945

US. Since 1877

The 1960s in American Memory

Theory of History

Cold War America

Gender and Sexuality in U.S. History

Gay and Lesbian US History

Graduate Seminars

History of Consumer Culture

Cold War Culture

Gender and Sexuality in U.S. History

Modern American Social Movements

US Since 1945

US Research Seminar

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Co-editor with Robert Ingalls, *The United States since 1945: A Documentary Reader*, Nancy Hewitt and Steven Lawson, series editors, (Wiley-Blackwell, 2009).

The Lavender Scare: The Cold War Persecution of Gays and Lesbians in the Federal Government, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004; paperback 2006).

- Winner of a Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award, 2004
- Winner of the Herbert Hoover Book Award, 2005
- Winner of the Randy Shilts Award for Gay Nonfiction, 2005

Reviewed in *American Communist History*, *American Historical Review*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Studies*, *American Quarterly*, *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, *Bay Windows*, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Dallas Morning-News*, *Diplomatic History*, *Feminist Review*, *Foreign Service Journal*, *Gay & Lesbian Review*, *Gay Life* (Baltimore), *Girlfriends Magazine*, *GLQ: Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, *Great Plains Quarterly*, *H-Net*, *In These Times*, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, *Lambda Book Report*, *Legal Times*, *London Review of Books*, *Radical History Review*, *Revue d'histoire moderne & contemporaine*, *Times Literary Supplement*, *TWN (Miami)*, *Washington Blade*.

Articles/Chapters

- "The Red Scare's Lavender Cousin: The Construction of the Cold War Citizen," in Leila J. Rupp and Susan K. Freeman (eds.), *Understanding and Teaching U.S. Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender History* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2014), 186-198. [Winner of the 2015 Lambda Literary Award, Best LGBT Anthology]
- "America's Cold War Empire: Exporting the Lavender Scare," in Meredith L. Weiss and Michael J. Bosia (eds.) *Global Homophobia: States, Movements, and the Politics of Oppression* (University of Illinois Press, 2013), 55-74.
- "Physique Pioneers: The Politics of 1960s Gay Consumer Culture," *The Journal of Social History*, 43 (2010): 867-892.
- "The Federal Government's Campaign Against Homosexuals and Other 'Sex Offenders' During the McCarthy Era," in Dominick Cavallo (ed.), *Private Lives/Public Moments: Readings in American History, Volume 2* (Prentice-Hall, 2009), 164-177.
- "Washington, D.C.," in Marc Stein (ed.) *Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered History in America* (Gale, 2004), 260-264.
- "Lynn H. Womack," in Marc Stein (ed.) *Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered History in America* (Gale, 2004), 288-289
- "Donald Webster Cory" in Marc Stein (ed.) *Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered History in America* (Gale, 2004), 261-262.
- "Franklin E. Kameny," in *Before Stonewall: Activists for Gay and Lesbian Rights in Historical Context*, ed. Vern Bullough, (Haworth Press, 2002), 209-218.
- "The Kids of Fairytown: Gay Male Culture on Chicago's Near North Side in the 1930s," in *Creating a Place for Ourselves: Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Community Histories*, ed. Brett Beemyn (Routledge, 1997), 97-118.
- "Homosexual Citizens': Washington's Gay Community Confronts the Civil Service," *Washington History* 6 (Fall/Winter 1994-95), 44-63. Reprinted in William Eskridge and Nan Hunter (eds.) *Sexuality, Gender, and the Law*, (Foundation Press, 1997), 880-886.
- "Significant Documents," chapter of edited primary source historical documents with introductions, in *St. James Press Gay and Lesbian Almanac*, ed. Neil Schlager (St. James Press, 1998), 55-91.
- "Frank Kameny," in *Leaders from the 1960s: Biographical Sourcebook of American Activism*, ed. David De Leon (Greenwood Press, 1994), 253-260.

Book Reviews

Journal of American History 99:4 (2013): 1303, review of Stacy Braukman, *Communists and Perverts under the Palms: The Johns Committee in Florida, 1956-1965*.

Journal of Social History 46:2 (2012): 572-573, review of Carolyn Herbst Lewis, *Prescription for Heterosexuality: Sexual Citizenship in the Cold War Era*.

American Historical Review 117 (2012): 1261-1262, review of Whitney Strub, *Perversion for Profit: The Politics of Pornography and the Rise of the New Right*.

Journal of Southern History 78:4 (2012): 1035-1036, review of Brock Thompson, *The Un-Natural State: Arkansas and the Queer South*.

Reviews in American History 38 (2010): 743-47, review of David A. J. Richards, *The Sodomy Cases: Bowers v Hardwick and Lawrence v. Texas*.

Journal of American History 94: 4 (2008): 1326-1327, review of Steve Estes, *Ask & Tell: Gay & Lesbian Veterans Speak Out*.

Pacific Historical Review, 76:3 (2007): 495-496, review of Martin Meeker, *Contacts Desired: Gay and Lesbian Communications and Community, 1940s-1970s*.

Journal of American History 91:4 (2005): 1498-99, review of Nicholas Edsall, *Toward Stonewall: Homosexuality and Society in the Modern Western World*.

Diplomatic History 28:5 (2004): 781-784, "Feature Review: Sexual Politics and the Vietnam Quagmire," of Robert Dean, *Imperial Brotherhood: Gender and the Making of Cold War Foreign Policy*.

Newsletter of the Committee on Lesbian and Gay History, Winter 2001, review of John Donald Gustave-Wrathall, *Take the Stranger by the Hand: Same-Sex Relations and the YMCA*.

Popular Press Articles

"Post Office Honors Harvey Milk, Harbors Anti-Gay Past," *Huffington Post*, May 23, 2014.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/david-k-johnson/post-office-honors-harvey-milk_b_5376149.html

"Frank Kameny: America's First Gay Activist," *Huffington Post*, October 13, 2011.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/david-k-johnson/frank-kameny-americas-fir_b_1009990.html

"Striking Don't Ask, Don't Tell Ends Decades of Discrimination," *Orlando Sentinel*, Oct 7, 2011 (with Hans Johnson).

"Amendments Set Stage for Sectarian Strife, Discrimination," *St. Petersburg Times*, July 28, 2011 (with Hans Johnson).

"Purge of the Perverts' Redux: The Foley Scandal," *National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Update*, October 2006. Reprinted on Advocate.com and History News Network <http://hnn.us/node/31162>.

"Who was Sumner Wells?" *Bay Area Reporter* (San Francisco), December 5, 2002.

"What was the Briggs Initiative?" *Outlook News* (Columbus), November 12, 2002.

"The Human Rights Campaign Turns 20," *HRC Quarterly*, Fall 2000.

"Uncloseting Hitchcock," *New York Blade*, February 19, 1999.

"Queering the Classroom," *Washington Blade*, December 9, 1994.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

National Humanities Center Fellowship, Durham, North Carolina, 2014-2015
Proposal Enhancement Grant, University of South Florida, 2011
Fall Semester Sabbatical, University of South Florida, 2011
Visiting Scholar, Leather Archives & Museum, Chicago, Illinois, 2011
CAS Matching International Travel Grant, University of South Florida, 2011
Phil Zwickler Memorial Research Grant, Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library, 2011 & 2006
Humanities Institute Summer Grant, University of South Florida, 2009
New Researcher Grant, University of South Florida, 2008
Faculty Research & Development Grant, College of Arts and Sciences, University of South Florida, 2006
CLAGS Fellowship, Center for Lesbian & Gay Studies, Graduate Center, City University of New York, 2000-2001
Sexuality Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council (SSRC), New York (Funds provided by the Ford Foundation), 1998-1999
Dissertation Year Fellowship, The Graduate School, Northwestern University, 1997-1998
Smithsonian Institution Predoctoral Fellowship, National Museum of American History, Washington, D.C., 1996-1997
Moody Grant, Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation, 1997
Harry S. Truman Library Institute Research Grant, 1996
Teaching Assistantship, Northwestern University, 1993-1995
University Fellowship, The Graduate School, Northwestern University, 1992-1993

HONORS AND AWARDS

Outstanding Faculty Award, University of South Florida, 2015
Pride Faculty Award for contributions to the LGBT Community, President's Advisory Committee on Issues of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, University of South Florida, 2011
Outstanding Research Achievement Award, University of South Florida, 2006
Randy Shilts Award for Gay Nonfiction, Publishing Triangle, New York, NY, 2005
Herbert Hoover Book Award (Best book in U.S. history covering the period 1914-1964) Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Association, Iowa, 2005
Myers Outstanding Book Award, Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights, Boston, 2004
Gregory Sprague Prize, (Outstanding graduate student paper in LGBT history), Committee on Lesbian and Gay History of the American Historical Association, 2004
George T. Romani Prize, (Best first year graduate student thesis) Department of History, Northwestern University, 1993

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures

- Stanford University, The Scandinavian Consortium for Organizational Research, "The Physique Era: Building and Consolidating a Gay Consumer Market, 1951-1967," April 6, 2015.
- The National Humanities Center, "Buying Gay: Physique Magazines, Censorship, and the Rise of the Gay Movement," Durham, North Carolina, March 12, 2015.
- Otterbein University, Visiting Humanities Scholars Program, "The Politics of Physique Magazines: Gay Consumer Culture Before Stonewall," October 28, 2014.
- University of Lausanne, New Narratives of the Cold War Conference, Keynote address, July 17, 2014.
- University of Minnesota, American Studies Department, "Buying Gay: Consumer Culture and Community Before Stonewall," April 19, 2013.
- University of Tampa, Honors Program Symposia, "The Lavender Scare and the Origins of the Gay Rights Movement," November 1, 2012.
- US Environmental Protection Agency, Office of General Counsel, Washington, D.C., Special Emphasis and Diversity Programs, "The Legacy and Impact of the Lavender Scare," June 28, 2012.
- Yale University, Research Initiative on the History of Sexualities, "Buying Gay: Consumer Culture and Community Before Stonewall," March 29, 2012.
- Brooklyn College, Shirley Chisholm Center for Research on Women, The LGBT Minor Inaugural Lecture Series, "The Mattachine Society: Cold War Origins of the Gay Rights Movement," April 2009.
- University of Tampa, Honors Program Symposia, "The Sexual Revolution, Consumer Culture, and Gay Rights in the 1960s," January 2009.
- Chicago History Museum, OUT at CHS Lecture Series, "Sexual Politics: From the Lavender Scare to Larry Craig," January, 2008.
- University of Iowa, Sexuality Studies Program, "Homosexuality and Presidential Politics from Joe McCarthy to Larry Craig," November 2007.
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Great Plains Art Museum, "Nebraska's Lavender Scare: Senator Kenneth Wherry and the Cold War 'Purge of the Perverts,'" October 2005.
- Newberry Library, Chicago, "Sexual and Political Bohemia in Chicago's Towertown," December 2004.
- University of South Florida, Women's Studies Colloquium, "Homosexuality in Presidential Politics: 1952-2004," October 2004.
- The National Archives, Washington, D.C., "The Lavender Scare: The Forgotten Purges," June 2004.
- U.S. Department of State, "Cookie Pushers in Striped Pants: Lavender Lads in the State Department," June 2004

Conference Papers

- Social Science History Association Conference, "DSI: The 1960s Gay Consumer Culture Revolution," Toronto, Canada, November 6, 2014.
- Business History Conference, "DSI: The 1960s Gay Consumer Culture Revolution," Frankfurt, Germany, March 14, 2014.
- Queer Places, Practices, and Lives: A Symposium in Honor of Samuel Steward, "The Adonis Male Club: Physique Magazines, Censorship, and the Making of the Gay Male Community," Ohio State University, May 19, 2012.
- Sexual Cultures Conference, "Pen Pal Clubs, Physique Magazines, and the Making of the Gay Male Community," Brunel University, London, United Kingdom, April 28, 2012.
- European Social Science History Conference, "Commerce and Community Before Stonewall: Gay Book Clubs and 'the Freedom to Read,'" Glasgow, Scotland, April 14, 2012.
- International Society for Cultural History and Cultural Studies, Queer Studies Easter Symposium, Mexico City, "Physique Pioneers: The Politics of 1960s Gay Mass Consumption," April 2007.
- American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Chicago, "'Crying Shame': The Courts, Gay Rights, and Civil Service Reform in the 1960s," November 2001.
- University of Chicago, The Future of the Queer Past Conference, "The Lavender Scare: Gays, Lesbians, and the U.S. National Security State," November 2001.
- University of Chicago, Sawyer Seminar on Sexual Identities and Identity Politics, "Surviving the Purges: Washington's Gay & Lesbian Communities in the 1950/60s," April 1998.
- Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, "Shifting Images of Gays and Lesbians in the Federal Civil Service," April 1997.
- National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association, Chicago, Chicago Gay History Panel, August 1997.
- American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Committee on Lesbian and Gay History, Chicago, "'Fairytown': Gay Male Culture in 1930s Chicago," January 1995.
- North American Lesbian and Gay Studies Conference, University of Iowa, "Queer Life/Queer Words: The Culture of Gay Male Desire in 1930s Chicago," November 1994.
- Washington, D.C., Historical Studies Conference, Washington, D.C. February 1992: "Franklin Kameny: America's First Gay Activist"

Panelist or Discussant

- Panelist, "History, Social Change and the LGBT Community," New College of Florida, Sarasota, October 3, 2013.
- Panel Chair and Commentator, "Sexing Up the Long 1950s: New Narratives in U.S. Gender and Sexuality Studies" at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2012
- Welcoming Speaker, Anything But Safe: Sex, Sexuality and Gender Conference, University of South Florida, 2009
- Panel Chair, "Cold War Sweep: Chasing Teachers from Florida Closets and California Classrooms," History of Education Society, Annual Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, November 2008.
- Discussant, "Queer Film: From Margin to Mainstream," USF Tampa Library and Tampa Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, October 2008.

Panelist or Discussant (cont.)

Speaker, Tampa Bay Business Guild, "Jay Leno discovers Gay History," May 2006.

Panelist, "Queer Theory and the Disciplines," University of South Florida, April 2006.

Panel Chair, "Sexuality and Southern Responses," Florida Conference of Historians, March 2005.

Roundtable Panelist, Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA, the Practice of History, "Gender, Sexuality, and the Politics of the McCarthy Era," April 2005.

Panelist, "Loving in Fear: A Celebration of Gay and Lesbian History Month, Hillsborough County Library, June 2004.

Panel Chair, "Four Decades of Activism in the District of Columbia," Committee on Lesbian and Gay History, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December, 1992.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Interview with Against the Grain, Pacifica Radio station KPFA (Berkeley, California) on "Homophobia as Federal Policy," July 15, 2014.

Streaming audio: <http://www.againstthegrain.org/program/976/tues-71514-homophobia-federal-policy>

Print interview, German Lopez, "The homophobic history of the Post Office," *Vox*, May 28, 2014.

<http://www.vox.com/2014/5/28/5756494/the-homophobic-history-of-the-post-office>

Interview for "Outed: Sexuality in America" with *Backstory with the American History Guys*, a public radio program and podcast funded through the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, January 31, 2014.

Streaming audio: <http://backstoryradio.org/shows/outed-2/>

Featured hour-long interview for Illinois Public Radio (WILL-FM) on "Stonewall Riots 40th Anniversary: A Look at the Uprising that Launched the Modern Gay Rights Movement," April 25, 2011.

Streaming audio: <http://will.illinois.edu/focus/program/focus110425a>

Interview with Southern California Public Radio (KPCC – FM), Airtalk with Larry Mantle on "Homosexuals in History" and state legislation on LGBT inclusion in school curricula. May 4, 2006.

Interview with Columbus NPR Radio (WOSU – FM), Open Line with Fred Andriele, April 13, 2006.

Featured Guest on Live Call-in show for Ft. Meyers NPR Radio (WGCU – FM), Gulf Coast Live with Ryan Warner, on *The Lavender Scare*, February 2, 2005.

Interview with Pacifica Radio's WBAI - FM (New York, New York), Beyond the Pale: The Progressive Jewish Radio Hour, Gay Pride special program, June 27, 2004. <http://beyondthepale.org>

Interview on Out-FM, progressive LGBT Radio in New York City, (WBAI – FM), May 3, 2004.

Featured Guest, Radioactivity with Rob Lorei in Tampa (WMNF- FM), April 21, 2004.

MEDIA MENTIONS

NPR Weekend Edition Saturday, “Suspicious? In ‘United States of Paranoia,’ It’s Not Just You,” September 7, 2013.

MSNBC, All in With Chris Hayes, “Obama’s ‘insider threat’ crackdown on leaks,” June 21, 2013.

Tampa Bay Times, Politifact, “Pam Bondi says women care most about jobs,” August 29, 2012.

GlobalPost, “State Department makes sea change on LGBT rights,” February 11, 2012.

Libération (Paris), “Hoover the Rainbow,” November 19, 2011.

New York Post, “The Double life of J. Edgar Hoover,” November 6, 2011.

Gay City News (New York), “Troubling Questions in Craig’s Fall,” September 12, 2007.

Washington Post, Aaron Belkin, “A Sting He Didn’t Deserve,” September 1, 2007.

Seattle Weekly, “Worst Scandal in NSA History Blamed on Defectors’ Homosexuality,” July 18, 2007.

New York Times, Frank Rich, “Just How Gay is the Right?” May 15, 2005.

Washington Blade, “Pivotal Protest: 40th Anniversary of Historic D.C. Demonstration,” April 8, 2005.

St. Petersburg Times, On Campus, “Being Gay in America: A Historian’s View,” September 9, 2004.

The Advocate, “Closeted in the Capital,” May 11, 2004.

National Public Radio, “Wait, Wait, Don’t Tell Me!” Dec 13, 2003.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Historical Profession

Manuscript Reviewer:

- Book Publishers: Oxford University Press, University of Chicago Press, Palgrave Macmillan, University of Illinois Press, Bedford/St Martin’s, University of Massachusetts Press, Beacon Press, Routledge.
- Journals: *Radical History Review*, *Gender & History*, *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, *Feminist Studies*, *The Historian*, *Left History* (Canada), *Journal of American History*.

Contributor, *Historians of Anti-Gay Discrimination Brief*, 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for *Kitchen v. Herbert* and *Bishop v. Smith*, March 2014.

Contributor, Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History, *Making the Framework FAIR: California History-Social Science Proposed LGBT Revisions to the FAIR Act*, 2013

Member, Organization of Historians (OAH), LGBT Task Force, 2011

Member, Nonfiction Book Award Committee, The Publishing Triangle (New York), 2009, 2006

Member, Advisory Planning Committee for Antioch University’s Sexuality and Identity Institute, 2007

Associate Scholar, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, 2006

Presenter, Florida Humanities Council, Florida Center for Teachers, Cold War Workshop, May 2005

Reader, College Board Advanced Placement U.S. History Exam, 2002-2004

Invited Participant, Summer Institute on the History of Sexuality, organized by the Sexuality Research Fellowship Program of the Social Science Research Council and the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender and Reproduction, Summer 2003.

DISSERTATION AND THESIS SUPERVISION

Chelsea Watts, Department of History, ABD (committee chair)

Dissertation: "Nothin' But a Good Time: Hair Metal and the Rise of Conservatism in the 1980s."

Keegan Shepard, Department of History, ABD (committee chair)

Dissertation: "Measuring Up: Standardized Testing and the Struggle for Postwar American Identity, 1945-1990."

Cyрана Walker, Department of History, Middle Tennessee State University, ongoing (Outside member)

Public History Dissertation Project: "Tampa Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans—Oral History Project"

Nathan Morris, Department of History, expected Fall 2015 (committee chair)

M.A. Thesis, "Constructing the Traditional Family: Evangelicals Respond to the Sexual Revolution"

Taylor Mitchell, Department of English, 2011 (committee member)

Dissertation: "Cold War Playboys: Models of Masculinity in *Playboy's* Literature"

Michael Johnson, Humanities and Cultural Studies, 2008 (committee member)

M.A. Thesis: "The Channel for Gay America: A Cultural Criticism of The Logo Channel's Commercial Success on American Cable Television"

Cyрана Walker, Women and Gender Studies, 2008 (committee member)

M.A. Thesis: "The Weather Underground and Political Violence: An Examination of Gender within Theory and Practice"

Ryan Ramsey, Honors College, 2008 (thesis director)

Honors Thesis: "Homosexuality and American Protestant Churches during the Cold War"

Rebecca Willman, Women and Gender Studies, 2006 (committee member)

M.A. Thesis: "A Feminist Guide to being 'Feminine' (or Not) in Second and Third Wave Feminism"

Kathleen Maguire, Honors College, 2006 (thesis director)

Honors Thesis: "Rhetoric of Hope: The Freedom Songs of the Civil Rights Movement"