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Making Barnard History: Professor McCaughey

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Barnard LGBT Oral History Project

**1956**

Psychologist Evelyn Hooker asserted that homosexuals were not significantly different from heterosexuals after conducting an experiment where she administered psychological tests to homosexual and heterosexual men. She presented her findings at the American Psychological Association Convention in Chicago.[[1]](#footnote-1)

**1964**

Kate Millett begun teaching English at Barnard College.[[2]](#footnote-2)

**1964-1968**

**Karla Jay\* attended Barnard**

*Profession:* Retired Professor of Women and Gender Studies at Pace University

*Campus Climate:*Homophobic, but an excellent academic institution

*Out while at Barnard:*No

*Lesbian Groups on Campus:*If they were there, she wasn’t a part of them

*Commuter:*Yes

*Race:* White

*Notes:*Not an active Alum. Attempted to form a Lesbians Alumnae Group in ‘80s, but it was not received well

**1966**

A group from *The Mattachine Society* stage a “sip-in” at a Greenwich Village. At the time the New York Liquor Authority does not allow bars to serve gay patrons because homosexuals are “disorderly.”[[3]](#footnote-3)

**1967**

Stephen Donaldson, a Columbia University student and LGBT activist, founded The Student Homophile League (SHL), which became the first student gay rights group in the country.[[4]](#footnote-4) In Karla Jay’s interview, she described the group as a “boys club.” SHL still exists today in 2015 but goes by the name *Columbia Queer Alliance.*

**1967**

The Stonewall Inn was founded in Greenwich Village. Stonewall was a popular gay bar run by the Mafia.[[5]](#footnote-5)

**1968**

Students at New York University and Cornell University follow Donaldson’s lead and found homophile groups.[[6]](#footnote-6)

**1968**

Kate Millett\*\* published *Token Learning,* which harshly criticized Barnard College for providing women with an inferior--“Jim Crow”--education.[[7]](#footnote-7) Following the publication, Millett was dismissed.

**1969**

The Stonewall Riots

The 1am bar raid turned into a six-day protest calling for police and the public to respect gay men and women.[[8]](#footnote-8)

**1970**

*Sexual Politics: A Manifesto for Revolution* by Kate Millett was published[[9]](#footnote-9)

**1971**

The Barnard Center for Research on Women was founded[[10]](#footnote-10)

Catherine R. Stimpson\*\* served as its first director[[11]](#footnote-11)

**1973**

Homosexualty was no longer considered a mentall illness by the American Psychological Association.[[12]](#footnote-12) This occurred 17 years after Hooker first fought to destigmatize homosexualtiy.

**1974-1978**

**Katherine Morrison\* attended Barnard**

*Profession:* Doctor

*Campus Climate:*Grateful to Barnard for the academic opportunity. That said, it was a very homophobic time.

*Out while at Barnard:*Yes, came out at age 18 during senior year of high school

*Lesbian Groups on Campus:*Yes, eventually became President of Lesbians at Barnard. Name of the group fluctuated between said title and Lesbian Activists at Barnard.

*Commuter:*No

*Race:* White

*Notes:*Morrison talked about how much the lesbian community she found at Barnard meant to her during college. She also noted that the group was primarily white.

**1976-1980**

**Gail Cohan\* attended Barnard**

*Profession:* Doctor and Associate Professor at Stony Brook University

*Campus Climate:*Received an excellent education but very homophobic

*Out while at Barnard:*Yes, out to her lesbian friends and others may have known

*Lesbian Groups on Campus:*Lesbians at Barnard provided her with a close-knit, supportive community. Cohan noted that the group was very white.

*Commuter:*No

*Race:* White

*Notes:*When it was discovered that Cohan’s girlfriend was spending the night, Cohan was asked to leave her current dorm. Meanwhile many of her hallmates regularly invited men to spend the night in their rooms and were never punished.

**1977**

Harvey Milk becomes the first open gay person to be elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.[[13]](#footnote-13)

**1979**

Dan White, Harvey Milk’s assassin, was convicted to seven years in prison. Thousands protested his lenient sentence.[[14]](#footnote-14)

**1979-Present**

Paul Hertz\*\*, Professor of Biological Sciences, teaches at Barnard[[15]](#footnote-15)

\* Completed interview

\*\*LGBT Barnard professors

1. “Milestones in the American Gay Rights Movement,” 2013, *The WGBH Educational Foundation. Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)*, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/stonewall/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Paul D. Buchanan (July 31, 2011). [*Radical Feminists: A Guide to an American Subculture*](http://books.google.com/books?id=c-5iUYZwNkQC&pg=PA125). Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO. p. 125. [ISBN](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Standard_Book_Number) [978-1-59884-356-9](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:BookSources/978-1-59884-356-9). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. “Milestones in the American Gay Rights Movement,” 2013, *The WGBH Educational Foundation. Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)*, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/stonewall/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. “1950s-1960s: Homophile Movement,” *Cornell University Library: Division of Rare & Manuscript Collections,* 2006, <http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/HRC/exhibition/stage/stage_14.html>. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. “Milestones in the American Gay Rights Movement,” 2013, *The WGBH Educational Foundation. Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)*, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/stonewall/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. “1950s-1960s: Homophile Movement,” *Cornell University Library: Division of Rare & Manuscript Collections,* 2006, <http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/HRC/exhibition/stage/stage_14.html>. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Rosalind Rosenberg (August 13, 2013). [*Changing the Subject: How the Women of Columbia Shaped the Way We Think About Sex and Politics*](http://books.google.com/books?id=fhiZFpE77tkC&pg=PA225). New York: Columbia University Press. pp. 225–226. [ISBN](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Standard_Book_Number) [978-0-231-50114-9](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:BookSources/978-0-231-50114-9). [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. “Milestones in the American Gay Rights Movement,” 2013, *The WGBH Educational Foundation. Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)*, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/stonewall/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Frank N. Magill (March 5, 2014). [*The 20th Century Go-N: Dictionary of World Biography*](http://books.google.com/books?id=I3sBAwAAQBAJ&pg=PA2536). London: Routledge. pp. 2536–2537. [ISBN](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Standard_Book_Number) [978-1-317-74060-5](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:BookSources/978-1-317-74060-5). [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. 2015, *Barnard Center for Research on Women (BCRW),* <http://bcrw.barnard.edu/about/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. “Catherine R. Stimpson: Biography,” 2015, *New York University School of Law,* <https://its.law.nyu.edu/facultyprofiles/profile.cfm?section=bio&personID=20538>. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. “Milestones in the American Gay Rights Movement,” 2013, *The WGBH Educational Foundation. Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)*, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/stonewall/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. “Milestones in the American Gay Rights Movement,” 2013, *The WGBH Educational Foundation. Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)*, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/stonewall/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. “Milestones in the American Gay Rights Movement,” 2013, *The WGBH Educational Foundation. Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)*, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/stonewall/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. “Paul Hertz,” 2015, *Barnard College Faculty Directory,* <https://barnard.edu/profiles/paul-hertz>. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)