What can we learn from the past lives of trans children and youth?

How have the challenges of trans children and youth historically changed?

How can the historical research of transgender existence help us imagine a future for trans freedom?

Professor of Trans History Jules Gill-Peterson explores in this youth-friendly webinar some of the amazing stories of children and youth from trans history. Learn about stories of trans children to uncover an unknown U.S. history when the term transgender didn't even exist. Stories of trans children and youth allows us to draw strength and imagine a future for trans freedom by reminding us that trans peoples have always existed. Witness the lives and challenges trans children have faced for the past century and as Jules mentions “walk today with trans kids who came before us”.

Guiding Questions

- What can we learn from the past lives of trans children and youth?
- How have the challenges of trans children and youth historically changed?
- How can the historical research of transgender existence help us imagine a future for trans freedom?
Resources

Short Videos

- A Trans History: Time Marches Forward And So Do We (2017) - ACLU
- Salacia (2019) - Tourmaline

Must-Watch Movies

- Framing Agnes (2022) - Chase Joynt
- No Ordinary Man (2020) - Chase Joynt
- Disclosure (2020) - Sam Feder
- Screaming Queens: The Riot at Compton’s Cafeteria (2005) - Victor Silverman & Susan Stryker

Listen to

- The Trans Past, Present, and Future - How attacks on trans kids shape lives, and a pioneer from the 1940s. Outward Podcast: March 23, 2022
- Histories Of The Transgender Child’ with Jules Gill-Peterson. The Katie Harper Show Podcast: June 27, 2021

Read

- Waters, Michael (2022). Barbara Ann Richards Designed—and Then Demanded—the Life She Deserved. In the 1940s, a young interior decorator fought California for recognition of her gender and her name. This is how she won. Slate.
- Gill-Peterson, Jules (2022). Anti-Trans Laws Aren’t Symbolic. They Seek to Erase Us From Public Life. Even if we beat every anti-trans bill in the nation tomorrow, too many trans young people would still be fighting to survive. Them.
- The Human Rights Campaign (n.d.). Seven Things About Transgender People That You Didn’t Know. The Human Rights Campaign
Resources

Lesson Plans

- LGBTQ History Timeline Lesson, GLSEN.
- Lessons Database, Berkley History-Social Science Project.

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- C. Riley Snorton @CRileySnorton
- Jules Gill-Peterson @gp_jls
- Susan Stryker @susanstryker

Add to Playlist

- Crazy Little Men (1957) by Christine Jorgensen
- Any Other Way (1962) by Jackie Shane