



# A Transgender History

Trans rights are often considered a modern topic. In reality, transgender and non-binary identities have existed for centuries globally- from the concept of 'Two Spirit' to 'Hijra'.

## Early History



**1919** Institute of Sexual Science- treating transgender people- founded in Berlin



**1930** Lili Elbe undergoes one of the first recorded gender reassignment surgeries in Denmark



**1949** Harry Benjamin introduces hormone treatment amongst transgender people in San Francisco

**1966** Compton Cafeteria Riots take place in San Francisco - marking a turning point for LGBT rights



**1969** Transgender and non-binary people participate in the Stonewall uprising, in response to police brutality at the now-iconic New York gay bar



## Fighting for Equal Rights

**1980** MIND Conference creates a framework on how to treat transgender people worldwide



**1998** Transgender day of Remembrance introduced to commemorate the murder of members of the transgender community

## The Legal Battle



**1999** UK Sex Discrimination Act includes protection on the basis of gender reassignment- later upheld in European law (Goodwin v. United Kingdom)



**2004** International Olympic Committee rules that trans people can compete in the Olympics with legal recognition- a topic that sadly remains contested

**2002** The UK Government issues a statement affirming that 'transsexualism is not a mental illness'



**2004/2005** The Gender Recognition Act came into effect- giving trans people full recognition of their gender (male or female), legally



## Progress & Challenge

**2010** Equality Act enacts protections for LGBT people from discrimination at work



**2020** Proposed reform of the GRA stops short of recommended amendments- against a backdrop of trans-exclusionary rhetoric. The Human Rights Council reports at least 34 known murders of trans people this year in the US alone

