**‘A BRIEF HISTORY OF LGBTQ IN TV’**

**RESEARCH LOOKS OK SO FAR, THERES CLEARLY A LOT OUT THERE YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH REGARDS TO REPRESENTATION. TV SHOWS THAT ARE HIGHLIGHTED AND EDITED ARE PROBABLY THE BEST WAY TO GO. IVE PROVIDED A BRIEF BLURB ON WHAT YOU COULD DISCUSS WITH REGARDS TO THEM.**

While some people may think LGBTQ hasn’t been addressed in entertainment until recent years, they are in fact wrong. (LOVE HOW BLUNT THIS IS, KEEP THIS TONE THROUGHOUT BUT DON’T COME ACROSS BITCHY) Although LGBTQ characters have been more mainstream and considered the norm in recent years, it was supposedly (ARGUABLY) back in the ‘70s that LGBTQ roles were first written into TV – although they were minor as opposed to leading roles, they were still being represented.

**1970s**

*All in the Family* (1971) has often been credited as the first primetime TV to represent an LGBT character. Called Steve, he was played by Philip Carey. However, Steve only appears in one episode cleverly titled *‘Judging Books by Covers’*  in whichArchie Bunker (Carroll O’Connor) makes thoughtless assumptions about a friend of a friend, only to discover that his own friend Steve is, in fact, **gay**.

*That Certain Summer* (1972) was supposedly the first TV movie to deal compassionately with a **gay couple**. Following Hal Holbrook’s Doug Salter and Martin Sheen’s Gary McClain as the former attempts to hide his life partner from his teenage son Nick (Scott Jacoby), before finally explaining their relationship to him.

* DISCUSS THE PUBLICS REACTION
* WAS IT A REACTION TO ANYTHING THAT WAS HAPPENING IN SOCIETY AT THE TIME (STONEWALL HAPPENED IN 1969 ETC)

*The Corner Bar* (1972) featured the first central, recurring LGBT character known a Peter Panama, played by Vincent Schiavelli, a flamboyant set designer. While Jodie Dallas (see *Soap* entry) is more recognised, Peter Panama was in fact the first recurring representation of a **gay** man.

*Hot L Baltimore* (1975) has earned recognition for depicting the first **gay couple** in a recurring TV show, in the shape of 50-something George and Gordon, played by Lee Bergere and Henry Calvert respectively.

*The Jeffersons* (1977) featured a **transgender** character, however the character also only appeared in one episode entitled *‘Once a Friend’.*  The instalment depicts George Jefferson (Sherman Hemsley) as he discovers that an old Army friend; Eddie, is now a transgender woman named Edie (Veronica Redd).

*All That Glitters* (1977) featured Linda Gray playing a transgender fashion model named Linda Murkland. The first transgender series regular on American television.

*Soap* (1977) is thought to have featured the most well-known early gay character on TV. Jodie Dallas is most commonly noted as the first recurring gay character, played by Billy Crystal. Starring as a **gay** dad – who fathered a child after a one-night stand - having an affair with a famous quarterback and contemplating gender-reassignment surgery. He amassed considerable media attention for his portrayal.

- PUBLIC REACTION

- LASTING LEGACY? DID OPEN ANY DOORS FOR MORE LGBTQ+ CHARACTERS

- HAS BILLY CRYSTAL EVER DISCUSSED IT SINCE GIVEN HIS SUCCESSFUL CAREER AFTERWARDS?

<https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2017/07/28/first-gay-lgbt-character-tv-show/>

FOR THE MAJORITY OF TALKING ABOUT THE 70S I WOULD GO WITH WHY THE NEED FOR LGBTQ+ REPRESENTATION WAS HAPPENING- MORE THAN LIKELY DUE TO STONEWALL IN THE U.S AND LEGALISATION IN THE U.K IN THE LATE 60S AND THE PUBLICS REACTION TO SEEING THIS ON THEIR SCREENS. INCORPORATE VIEWS OF HOW LGBTQ+ CHARACTERS WERE PORTRAYED, ITLL MORE THAN LIKELY BE AS SOME KIND OF STEREOTYPE, SEE IF WE CAN SUGGEST WHY THIS MIGHT HAVE BEEN DONE?

LINK BACK TO AGE AND SEE IF THERES A CERTAIN KIND OF ACTOR THAT WAS CHOSEN TO PORTRAY LGBTQ+ CHARACTERS

**1980s**

*An Early Frost* (1985) A Chicago lawyer (Aidan Quinn) returns home to reveal to his parents that he’s gay and has AIDS in [this NBC movie](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3Mt8qm6zt8)by John Erman, setting the stage for feature films like Jonathan Demme’s “Philadelphia.”

FOR THE 80S THE BIG ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM WILL BE THE AIDS CRISIS, DISCUSS HOW THIS WAS PORTRAYED WITHIN TV AND HOW THE PUBLIC REACTED TO IT. THERE WAS A LOT OF FEAR MONGERING AND FALSE INFORMATION SPREAD AT THE TIME- WAS TV RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OR DID IT TRY TO EDUCATE IN A SUBLIMINAL WAY?

LINK BACK TO AGE AGAIN HOW LGBTQ+ OR CHARACTERS WITH AIDS WERE PORTRAYED- THE 80S WAS WHEN A MORE MASCULINE IDEAL AMONGST GAY MEN WAS APPARENT AS IT WAS THOUGHT TO BE A SIGN OF HEALTH, WAS THIS SHOWN ON TV ETC?

**1990s**

**1994 — ‘**[**MY SO-CALLED LIFE**](https://www.nytimes.com/watching/recommendations/watching-tv-my-so-called-life)**’** In the episode [“Life of Brian,”](http://abc.go.com/shows/my-so-called-life/episode-guide/season-1/11-life-of-brian) this ABC drama about high school angst deals with young gay love when Rickie (Wilson Cruz) develops a crush on his new classmate, Corey (Adam Biesk).

**1994 — ‘[ROSEANNE](https://www.nytimes.com/watching/recommendations/watching-tv-roseanne)’**Mariel Hemingway [locks lips](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXOVZzDaRcY)with Roseanne Barr in “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” — an early same-sex kiss that 30 million viewers tuned in to watch.

**1996 — ‘**[**FRIENDS**](https://www.nytimes.com/watching/recommendations/watching-tv-friends)**’** In “[The One With the Lesbian Wedding,”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hlLno3iPKIE) the marriage of Ross’s ex-wife, Carol (Jane Sibbett), to her partner, Susan (Jessica Hecht), draws 31.6 million viewers to this NBC sitcom — even though the women don’t seal their vows with a kiss.

*Real World* (1992)

*Ellen* (1994)

ELLEN COMING OUT WAS HUGE AT THE TIME. DISCUSS IN DETAIL. THE REACTION TO IT IS APPLAUDED NOW BUT HER SHOW WAS CANCELLED BECAUSE OF IT AND SHE DIDN’T WORK FOR YEARS AFTER SHE CAME OUT- SEE IF WE CAN FIND PUBLIC REACTION TO IT AND ANY RETROSPECTIVE ACCOUNTS OF THE IMPACT IT HAD.

*Xena: Warrior Princess* (1995)

*Will & Grace* (1998) is said to have paved the way for shows with LGBT themes.

WILL AND GRACE IS THE FIRST SHOW THAT MANY MILLENIALS OF OUR GENERATION WILL PROBABLY REMEMBER BEING ON TV, LOOK AT REACTION TO IT, ITS IMPACT, WHY IT WAS SO SUCCESSFUL, DID IT HAVE A MESSAGE?, DID IT RELY ON STEREOTYPES

LINK TO AGE- MILLENIAL REACTION TO LGBTQ+ RERESENTATION ON TV COMPARED TO THE GENERATION WHO REMEMBER HOW IT WAS ON TV IN THE 70S

Go back to 1999 when Russel T Davies bought the lives of 3 gay men living in Manchester to our screens; *Queer As Folk* (1999). The Guardian ranked the series at number 13 in their list of “The Top 50 TV Dramas Of All Time”. Its success was followed by a North American version under the same title, which closely followed the original story likes but made changes and moved on as new seasons were produced.

[*The Guardian*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Guardian) ranked the serial at number 13 in their list of "The Top 50 TV Dramas of All Time".[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queer_as_Folk_(UK_TV_series)#cite_note-2) Followed by its success, a [North American version under the same title](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queer_as_Folk_(U.S._TV_series)) was produced, set in [Pittsburgh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania, running from 2000–2005, and closely following the original storylines but making changes and moving on as new seasons were made.

SEE ABOVE FOR WILL AND GRACE. QAF IS CREDITED AS BEING ONE OF THE FIRST POST-AIDS CRISIS SERIES TO PORTRAY REALISTIC LGBTQ+ ISSUES AND LIFESTYLES (VERY FAMOUS GAY SEX SCENE THAT WAS SHOWN ON CHANNEL 4).

LINK TO AGE- WAS IT SPEAKING TO A DIFFERENT GENERATION ACCURATELY?

*Once and Again* (1999)

*Bad Girls* (1999)

**2000 – 2010**

*Bob & Rose* (2001)

Tipping the Velvet (2002)

*Queer Eye* (2003)

LOOK INTO ITS IMPACT IN THE NEW MILLENIUM, PARTICULARY THE ORIGINAL SERIES WHICH CAME OUT AT A TIME WHE N THERE WERE LOADS OF MAKEOVER SHOWS

LINK TO AGE- DID IT RELY ON THE MESSAGE OF ‘YOUNG AND PRETTY IS BETTER’ LIKE A LOT OF STRAIGH SHOWS DID? DOES IT RELY ON STEREOTYPES

LOOK AT THE NEW 2018 SERIES- HOW DOES IT DOFFER? DOES IT PROVIDE A. DIFFERENT MESSAGE? WHAT ISSUES ARE ADDRESSED COMPARED TO THE OLDER SERIES?

*The L Word* (2004)

FIRST SERIES TO HAVE ALL ITS MAIN CHARACTERS AS LESBIANS. LOOK AT THE IMPACT THE SHOW HAD, THE PUBLIC REACTION, THE MESSAGE IT PORTRAYED. HAS THERE BEEN AN UNDERREPRESENTATION OF LESBIAN WOMEN IN TV?

LINK TO AGE- WAS THE SHOW ABLE TO PORTRAY A LIFESTYLE THAT WAS ACESIBLE TO ALL AGES OR WAS IT AIMED AT A PARTICULAT AGE BRACKET? LINK WOTH SUGAR RUSH BELOW

Nikki and Nora (2004)

Sugar Rush (2005)

SEE THE L WORD ABOVE

*Noah’s Arc* (2005)

*Fingersmith* (2005)

South of Nowhere (2005)

*Torchwood* (2006)

Girl Seeks Girl (2007)

Exes and Ohs (2007)

*True Blood* (2008)

Anyone But Me (2008)

*Modern Family* (2009)

LOOK AT REPRESENTATION OF FAMILIES WITH SAME SEX PARENTS

*Glee* (2009)

LOOK AT REPRESENTATION OF LGBTQ+ CHARACTERS OF A CERTAIN AGE (HIGH SCHOOL IN THIS CASE) DID GLEE RELY TOO HEAVILY ON A ‘GAYS IN MUSICAL THEATRE’ STEREOTYPE? WAS WAS THE SHOWS IMPACT ON THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY? PUBLC REACTION.

United States of Tara (2009)

Venice: The Series (2009)

Lip Service (2010)

Girl/Girl Scene (2010)

The Real L Word (2010)

Lost Girl (2010)

Out with Dad (2010)

**2010-2018**

*Shameless* (2011)

Happy Endings (2011)

Bomb Girl (2012)

Hit & Miss (2012) **[TRANSGENDER]**

*Last Tango In Halifax* (2012)

*The New Normal* (2012)

The L.A. Complex (2012)

Don’t Ever Wipe Tears Without Gloves (2012)

Wentworth (2013)

*The Fosters* (2013)

*Please Like Me* (2013)

*Orange Is The New Black* (2013)

*Vicious* (2013)

GOOD ONE FOR REPRESENTATION OF AGED 60+ LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

Hit the Floor (2013)

Starting From Now! (2014)

Brave New Girls (2014) **[TRANSGENDER]**

*Transparent* (2014) **[TRANSGENDER] ‘** This Amazon show stars Jeffrey Tambor as the patriarch of a California family who is transitioning late in life to the woman he has always identified as. Inspired by her own transgender parent, the show’s creator, [Jill Soloway](http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/12/14/dolls-and-feelings), makes a point of putting transgender people both in front of and behind the camera.

AGAIN, IS THE SHOW ACCURATLY REPRESENTING THE TRANS COMMUNITY? WHAT ARE ITS POSITIVES AND NEGATIVES, WHAT IS PUBLIC REACTION LIKE?

COMPARE TO REAL LIFE DOCUMENTARIES REGARDIG TRANS ISSUES, IS THE SHOW TAKING THESE INTO ACCOUNT OR IS IT BEING MORE OF A ‘FAIRYTALE FOR TV’?

*Looking* (2014)

Faking It (2014)

*Kingdom* (2014)

Carmilla (2014)

Janet King (2014)

I Am Jazz (2015) **[TRANSGENDER]**

I Am Cait(2015) **[TRANSGENDER]**

LOOK AT CAITLYN JENNERS IMPACT ON THE TRANS COMMUNITY AND THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE, SHES VERY CONTROVERSIAL. LOOK AT LGBTQ+ REACTION TO HER TOO, MANY OPINIONS HAVE CHANGED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER TIME REGARDING HER, PARTICULARLY IN TODAYS POLITICAL CLIMATE.

LOOK AT THE IMPACT OF HER SHOW AND WHETHER AGAIN IT WAS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TRANS COMMUNITY AND ADDRESSED ISSUES REGARDING TRANS PEOPLE.

LINK TO AGE- CAITLYN WAS OLDER WHEN SHE CAME OUT AS TRANS, MAYBE FIND SOME RESEARCH REGARDING AGE WITHIN THE TRANS COMMUNITY.

Becoming Us (2015) **[TRANSGENDER]**

Boy Meets Girls (2015) **[TRANSGENDER]**

The Rich Man’s Daughter (2015)

*Sense8* (2015) ?

*Grace and Frankie* (2015)

*London Spy* (2015)

*Cucumber* (2015)

Difficult People (2015)

One Big Happy (2015)

Skam (2015)

Banana (2015)

Take My Wife (2015)

*The Real O’Neals* (2016)

Her Story (2016) **[TRANSGENDER]**

The Switch (2016) **[TRANSGENDER]**

Class (2016)

Wynonna Earp (2016)

Strut (2016) **[TRANSGENDER]**

When we Rise (2017)

Star Trek Discovery (2017)

Doubt (2017) **[TRANSGENDER]**

American Horror Story

Class and Empire

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/16/arts/television/14-tv-shows-that-broke-ground-with-gay-and-transgender-characters.html>