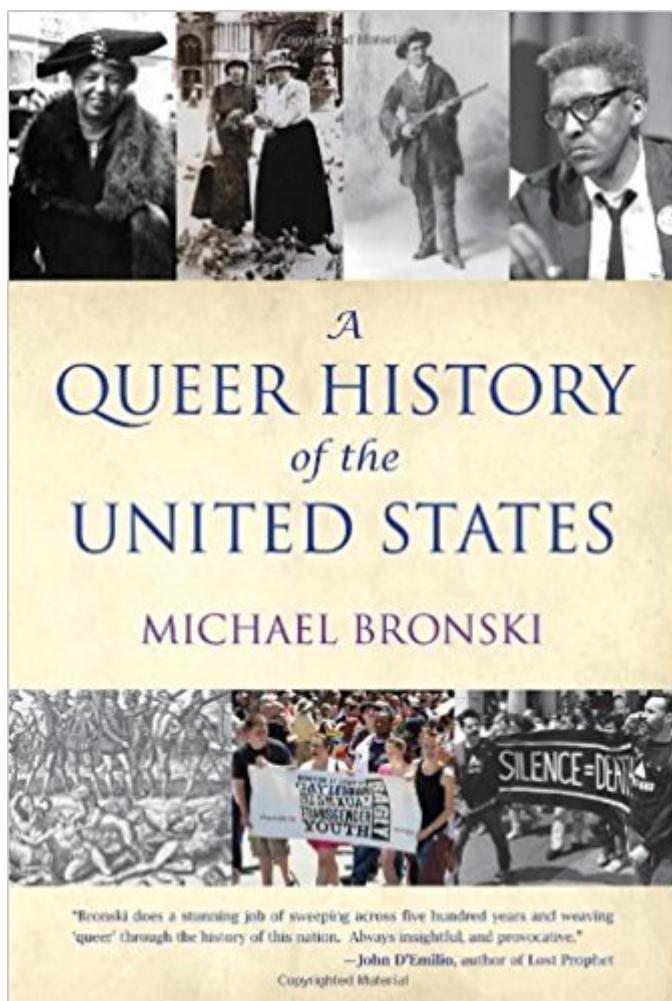


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# A Queer History Of The United States (ReVisioning American History)



## Synopsis

Winner of a 2012 Stonewall Book Award in nonfiction A Queer History of the United States is more than a "who's who" of queer history: it is a book that radically challenges how we understand American history. Drawing upon primary-source documents, literature, and cultural histories, scholar and activist Michael Bronski charts the breadth of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history, from 1492 to the 1990s.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Michael Bronski does a stunning job of sweeping across five hundred years and weaving queer through the history of this nation. Always insightful, and provocative. John D'Emilio, author of *Lost Prophet* "The first book to cover all of LGBT history from 1492 through the present is Michael Bronski's *A Queer History of the United States* (Beacon Press). It is wonderfully readable and looks at the way we understand the history of the United States. The LGBT population moves from the margins to the mainstream and we see that the history of this country also is our history." Windy City Times "Bronski's book provides an excellent overview for readers new to the field of gay history. Summing Up: Essential. All levels/libraries..." CHOICE Magazine "...A succinct distillation of the history of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenderers in America" Bronski's impeccable research bolsters his arguments a useful handbook for LGBT activist groups and other interested members of the

gay community.â€”•Boston Globeâ€”In the age of Twitter and reductive history, we need a complex, fully realized, radical reassessment of historyâ€”and A Queer History of the United States is exactly that. Along the way, there are enough revelations and reassessments to fuel dozens of arguments about how we got to where we are today. I donâ€”â€œt know when I have enjoyed a history so much.â€”•Dorothy Allison, author of *Bastard Out of Carolina* â€”Bronski has that rare ability to comprehensively synthesize a large body of material without simplifying or distorting it, taking as much care with historical evidence as with the shifts in language necessary to accurately understand it.â€”•Martin Duberman, Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus, City University of New York â€”This book is a revelation. Its lively and engaging narrative peels back layers of cultural interconnectionâ€”from the creation of corn flakes to curb masturbation to Bette Midlerâ€”â€œs rise to stardom that started at a gay bathhouseâ€”and much more. Bronski has a Zinn-like grasp of the ties that bind us all together and how to illuminate them on the page.â€”•Jewelle Gomez, activist and author of *The Gilda Stories* â€”Bronski demonstrates with wit, insight, and impeccable scholarship that queer lives are, and always have been, woven into the very fabric of this country. Readable, radical, and smartâ€”â€œa must read.â€”•Alison Bechdel, author of *Fun Home* â€”Elegant, insightfully selective, and unremittingly intelligent, Bronskiâ€”â€œs surveyâ€”â€œof the whys and the ways queer peopleâ€”â€œs work and struggle have been integral in forming what we call â€œthe United States of Americaâ€”â€œs.â€”•is an impressive and useful overview."â€”•Samuel R. Delany, author of *Times Square Red, Times Square Blue* â€”A savvy political, legal, literary (and even fashion) history, Bronskiâ€”â€œs narrative is as intellectually rigorous as it is entertaining.â€”•Publishers Weekly, starred reviewâ€”Bronski does a stunning job of sweeping across five hundred years and weaving â€œqueerâ€”â€œs through the history of this nation. Always insightful, and provocative.â€”•John Dâ€”â€œEmilio, author of *Lost Prophet*â€”[A] monumental achievement.â€”•The Bay Area Reporterâ€”From the Hardcover edition.

Michael Bronski is professor of practice in media and activism in the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Program at Harvard University. He has written extensively on LGBT issues for four decades, in both mainstream and queer publications, and is the author of three other books and editor of several anthologies.

As a scholarly work it needed a few more examples of early Americans. Perhaps speculation at best, but never the less, when referring to the early arrivals in America, one can only suspect at best on their private lives of whatever kind.

### Great Book about Gay history in the United States

I raced through this book, which isn't always the case with nonfiction. I strongly recommend it to anyone who has any interest in the history of the lgbt community, or even history in general. I found some of the figures cited fascinating in how far ahead of their times they were. An excellent book.

### important book

I thoroughly enjoyed this tome! It gives me much additional ammunition to aim at ignorant haters when I encounter them in public. Bravo, Mr. Bronski!

Don't know if I'll finish reading it. The author makes some short-sighted presumptions in the Introduction that lead me to think the rest of the book may not be factual nor tell the whole story. I was hoping for better.

I gave this book five stars. It's an interesting perspective on the rise of homosexual presence in American society, although it ends in the 1990s and doesn't cover the more recent years growing activism.

Professor Bronski does an admirable job of presenting a survey of U.S. LGBT history in this clearly written book. The author himself acknowledges his own biases in illustrating the events and personalities that have shaped and influenced current LGBT discourse and politics. Nevertheless this is a well written and fascinating account . I would love to read an updated edition with Bronski's take on queer history since the 1990s. Dr. R. J.

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