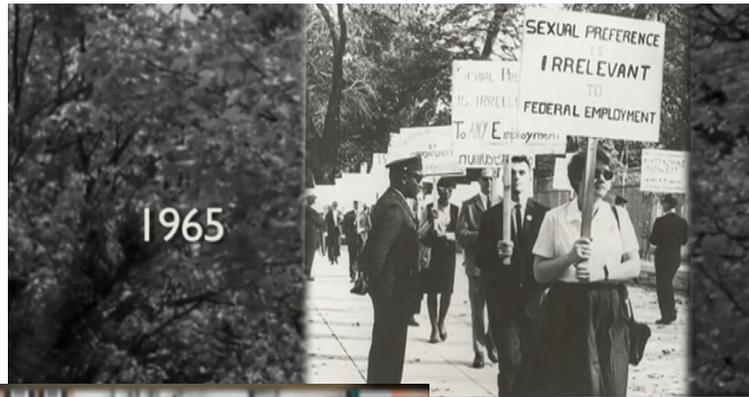


When Love Meets  
Silence in  
“Gen Silent”



A Digital Zine by  
Connor McGovern

“We never went to a parade because we didn’t want to be caught on video. We never, in a picture, touched each other. We didn’t want to be discriminated against”



It's heartbreaking to hear the stories of the past LGBTQ and it makes me want to look to our present and our future to understand how we can better their lives as well as better the lives of those who will come after us.

In this documentary, the fear to live and love isn't as prevalent compared to the present because of the actions taken to fight for a better society.

Who fights for those who fight for us?

“Our home is where the closet doesn’t exist”

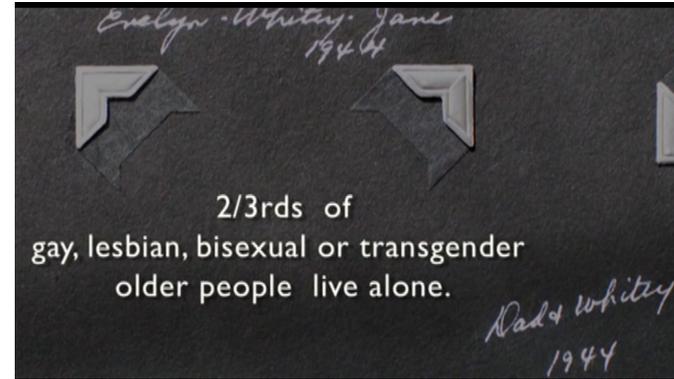


Although the closet doesn't exist within the home this is not necessarily the case.

The documentary shows how, with the reliance on home care services, many LGBTQ seniors are forced to hide themselves and the lives they live to prevent harm, harassment, or their well being to be threatened

How can we protect the right to live their authentic lives with LGBTQ seniors needing to rely on home care?

“They didn’t know these people are never going to come and ask for the services cause they don’t know how they’re going to be treated”



Fear is a driving factor that prevents LGBTQ seniors from seeking out the healthcare that they need in order to live in their homes. Some would rather choose to be who they are instead of hiding but many are forced to hide.

The fear of not knowing how they are going to be treated has caused many to return to the closet because of their reliance on the forced to rely on the tolerance of their care providers or endure their intolerance.

Who can they turn to so for care while being able to live their authentic lives?

“They hold out longer cause they think they can take care of themselves until it’s almost too late



- What am I gonna do when I can't do that myself?



Its a scary thing.



Lawrence has cared for Alexandre for 10 years.

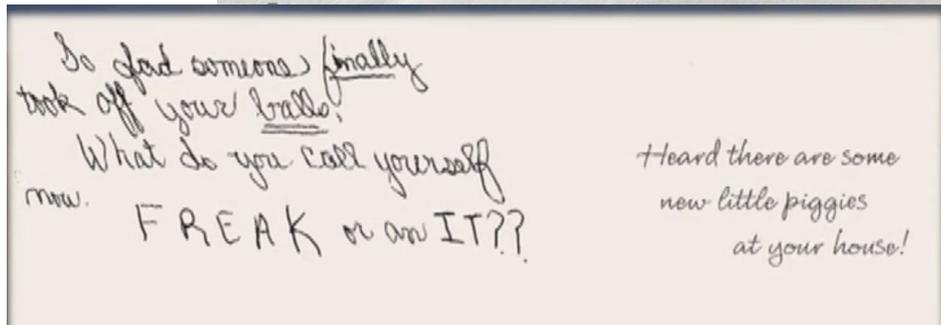
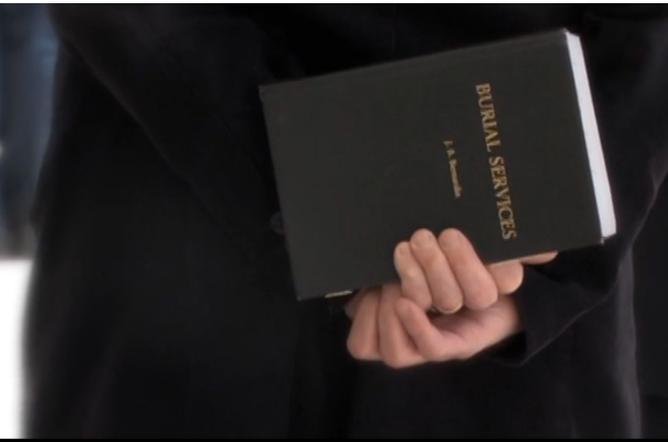
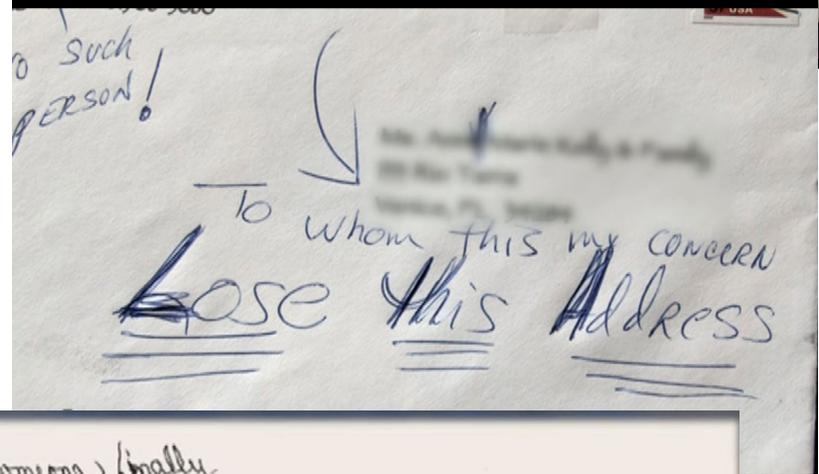


Those that refuse to change who they are to the risk of their health and safety can do so at their own detriment.

In the documentary, Lawrence faces this after falling down the stairs along with his partner, Alexandre, after helping him walk down. This leads to his search for a nursing home for Alexandre which, after numerous months of searching, results in finding somewhere that accepts Alexandre for who he is. The mental strain of this process is shown as Lawrence faces internal turmoil for making this tough decision.

What changes must we make to better accommodate an aging LGBTQ population?

# Silence and Loss



The documentary focuses on the loss or the fear of the loss of the freedom of expression for LGBTQ seniors in the documentary and those that are talked about by the seniors.

The documentary provides instances where the loss of individualistic freedom is explored where the loss of that freedom would result in a forced silence as they hide their queer identities.

How will we make sure this doesn't happen? What steps will we take to abolish the closet for those already out of it?



Hope



Pride Tea Dance  
for LGBT Seniors  
and Friends  
3:30pm-7:00pm



The documentary leaves me with a sense of hope.

This is not a sense of hope for myself but a sense of hope that we will continue to make strides to accommodate those that we have previously forgotten and neglected. I have hope that we will continue to do better and be better for those that need us.

Throughout the tragic parts of the documentary there are parts that make me hopeful that we are on the path to a better and more accepting future where the closet no longer exists

How will we make sure this happens?