



the at a glance series :: choice & our families

Family Pride is the national non-profit organization committed to securing family equality in our lifetime. Our work consists of strategically linked initiatives—broad in scope, but simple in vision—love, justice, family, equality. We make change. We share information. We build community. We are visible.

why choice is relevant & important for LGBTQ-headed families ::

There is a deep and lasting interconnectedness between **reproductive freedom** and **sexual freedom** ideologically, socially and politically. Fundamentally, these freedoms are both about access to our own bodies and what we do with them.

In 1973 in the landmark *Roe v Wade* decision, it was established that the choice whether or not to procreate falls under a fundamental **right of privacy** guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution under the Liberty Clause of the 14th Amendment.

In 2003, this same **right of privacy** served as the precedent in the *Lawrence v Texas* decision which declared that same-sex relations between consenting adults shall no longer be criminalized; government interference in our private sexual lives is unconstitutional.¹

> If same-sex sex is illegal,
how can we fight for marriage equality?

> If we can't choose how we reproduce,
how can we create our families?

“ WE MUST CONTINUE TO
ENSURE OUR RIGHT TO
PRIVACY AND OUR FREEDOM
TO CHOOSE THE DIRECTION
OF OUR REPRODUCTIVE AND

SEXUAL LIVES.”
LGBT Community Center
New York, NY



¹It is important to note that transgender individuals are not cited in the decision and it is unclear what impact, if any, the decision will have on transgender rights to privacy or reproductive choice.

valuing the connection ::

> the right to choose to reproduce

Some people want children. Some people do not. We should all have the right to make that decision.

Our families are families of choice, created through any array of biology, adoption and kinship. Governmental intervention in the reproductive lives of women and men limits not only their ability to make a choice about abortion; it also limits their access to safe and affordable reproductive assistance.

> legal, medical and financial access

Choice begs the question, what is real access? Abortion and reproductive technology may be technically legal, but are often financially inaccessible. Varieties of safe reproductive services are inaccessible to insured people, and are unaffordable and completely inaccessible to low income and uninsured people.

> choice is not just a women's issue

Gay, bisexual and transgender men creating families need both the protection of privacy and the access to reproductive choices—afforded by *Roe v Wade* and *Lawrence v Texas*.

choice—still under attack ::

Roe v Wade is being attacked in the legislatures and courts. If it gets overturned *Lawrence v Texas* and all other rulings based on the *Roe v Wade* precedent will essentially be null and void.

to learn more :: www.familypride.org

Visit the “Our Work” section of our website and check out our publications about other intersections with our families
Explore *Roe v Wade*, *Lawrence v Texas*, *Griswold v Connecticut*, *Planned Parenthood v Casey*, *Stenberg v Carhart*
Read “Causes In Common: Reproductive Rights & LGBT Liberation” a project of the LGBT Community Center in NY



“THE PETITIONERS ARE ENTITLED TO RESPECT FOR THEIR PRIVATE LIVES. THE STATE CANNOT DEMEAN THEIR EXISTENCE OR CONTROL THEIR DESTINY BY MAKING THEIR PRIVATE SEXUAL CONDUCT A CRIME.”
Supreme Court Justice Kennedy
Majority Opinion

LOVE :: JUSTICE :: FAMILY :: EQUALITY

Can you afford not to support family equality?

Help us secure equality for all loving families. An annual gift of \$35 is just 10¢/day. Major Donors begin receiving exclusive benefits for \$100/month.

Make the commitment to fight for family equality by going to www.familypride.org/donate today!