Understanding the LGBTQ Movement

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**Introduction**

In a society where every member appears to receive equal treatment by the law, it is often likely that people may forget, or even ignore, the efforts made by people in history to achieve the success enjoyed today. Groups considered and treated as minorities in the twentieth century receive significant recognition in the twenty-first century. Notably, one such group is the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) society. In particular, some of the rights enjoyed by the LGBTQ community in the twenty-first century, including factors as simple as recognition, are a result of the rise of the LGBTQ movement in the twentieth century. In particular, the conditions in the country and across the word were especially supportive for the revival of the movement in the latter half of the twentieth century United States.

**Body**

Firstly, the humanities at the time allowed for interaction and conversations surrounding gay rights and the movement were capable of influencing other members of society into supporting the movement. George Nicholas was able to publish and distribute the first gay and lesbian newspaper in Portland, in effect allowing the distribution of information related to the plight of the lesbian and gay community in his environment (Boag, 2004). The distribution and availability of such literature implied that Nicholas successfully made it possible for people, those considered lesbian and gay and the straight population, to interact and discuss the environment available for those that did not conform to scientific allocation of gender. He successfully created an environment that supported the future development of the LGBTQ movement, considering the awareness of some of the discriminatory issues faced by the population.

Secondly, support from developments made through natural and applied sciences in the country drove public attention away from sexist issues, and further towards the desire for improved social integration. In particular, the United States experienced significant political strife in the second half of the twentieth century with challenges such as the assassination of President Kennedy and the cold war with the Soviet Union. One of the primary developments with the latter was a significant government effort to encourage research that could in effect promote the technology available in the country as a deterrence and source of advantage against the Soviets. Ultimately, this saw the country have the first man to ever walk on the moon’s surface in addition to the development of nuclear technology. Ultimately, such scientific breakthroughs were a significant source of motivation on the potential for achievement of some issues considered unfathomable. Consequently, it was a source of hope for the LGBTQ community that they would eventually receive as much recognition and support as they deserved.

Further, history on the first LGBTQ movement members presents information about different experiences at the time. The Stonewall inn in Greenwich is one such area of significant history related to the LGBTQ community, providing much insight on the first meetings held in an effort to improve the welfare of the lesbian and gay population. Accounts from the experiences by the population therein provides an opportunity for people to understand the development of the LGBTQ movement from history accounts, ultimately providing an opportunity to understand the movement’s development with much clearer and understandable accounts.

Ultimately, the social environment in the American and global society in the twentieth century made a significant contribution to the developments as experienced at the time. In particular, the global perspective on activism and human rights was a significant source of influence on Americans and other people such as George Nicholas into making the effort to influence reforms on the treatment of marginalized groups (Frank, 2011). Civil rights groups in the United States and a general focus on human welfare were some of the defining developments of the later part of the twentieth century, which made it especially possible for a group such as the LGBTQ to acquire as much public support from the members of the community as well as the rest of society. Such factors ended up acting as significant enabling factors, which eventually influenced different people to reveal their sexuality without as much fear of the consequences such would have on their welfare. After all, the LGBTQ movement would offer the necessary support where such was necessary.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, the environment in the twentieth century significantly supported the development of various movements, most of which were concerned about access to the rights of different interest groups. Such an environment was highly instrumental to the eventual success of the group, leading up to some of the benefits experienced in contemporary society. The LBTQ movement of the twentieth century was one such movement, aided by the availability of media outlets that provided information related to the LGBTQ community in addition to a general social environment focused on improving access to basic rights for the marginalized communities. Ultimately, these measures were critical to success enjoyed by the movement to the extent of gaining national recognition and support in fighting for the rights of the LGBTQ members.

References

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