



**Episode 1:**

NSS IIT Delhi

# MARCHING WITH PRIDE



*Live with Pride*



“

YOU CARRY THE FIRE OF SHAKTI AND THE  
SILENCE OF SHIVA. YOU ARE NOT IN-BETWEEN  
— YOU ARE BEYOND.

”

# Sorry, but not sorry:

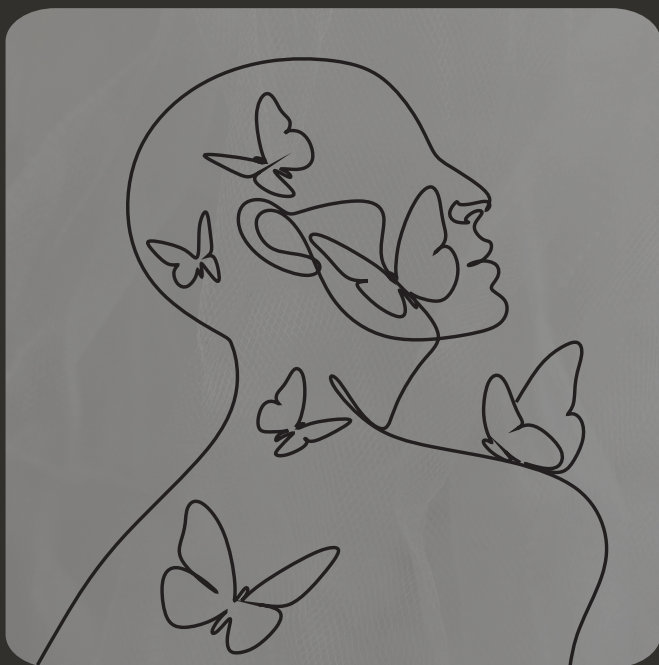
*Loud and clear, we are the queer*

Marching With Pride: A Celebration of Visibility, Resilience, and the Human Spirit. Every June, streets around the world erupt in a brilliant symphony of color, music, and movement. Rainbow flags flutter beside signs of solidarity, drag queens strut beside veterans, families march beside activists—and for a few sacred hours, the sidewalks feel a little more like home. This is the Pride March. But Pride is more than a parade. It's a living, breathing declaration of freedom. It's a loud, unapologetic “we are here” from those who, for generations, were told to shrink. It is joy in defiance. Celebration after silence. And above all, it's love—love for self, for community, for the radical notion that everyone deserves to exist fully and freely.



## WHERE IT ALL BEGAN: STONEWALL AND THE SPARK OF REVOLUTION

The roots of Pride trace back to a moment of rebellion. In the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, police raided the Stonewall Inn, a small gay bar in New York City's Greenwich Village. Raids like this were common. But that night, the patrons—many of them trans women of color, drag queens, and homeless LGBTQIA+ youth—refused to go quietly. They fought back. For six nights, protests and riots shook the streets. It was messy. It was fierce. And it was historic. Stonewall became a thunderclap in the fight for queer rights, the pulse that would echo through decades. A year later, the first Pride march—then called the Christopher Street Liberation Day March—was held to commemorate the uprising. It was not a party, but a protest. It wasn't just a celebration, but a call for change.



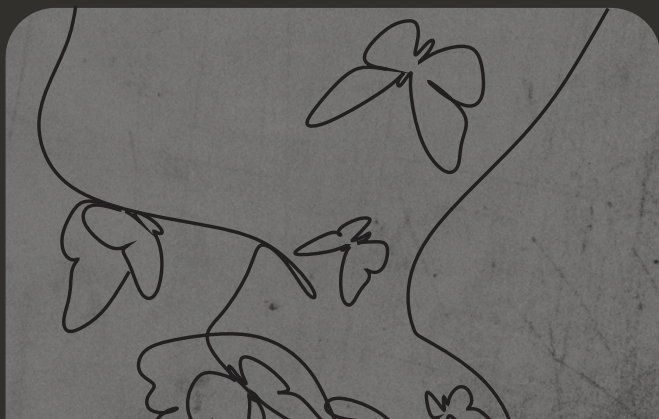
**1970:** To honor Stonewall's first anniversary, activists organized the first Pride marches in New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago.



**1980s-1990s:** Movements expanded internationally; pride events emerged in cities such as London, São Paulo, and Sydney, despite political backlash in many countries



**21st Century:** Legal milestones—from marriage equality in multiple nations to transgender rights legislation—catalyzed growth in Pride celebrations. Today, Pride events range from multinational parades drawing millions to smaller local gatherings centering community-specific issues.



# The Evolution

“SOME LOVES MUST CROSS OCEANS, WALLS, AND SILENCE — BUT STILL, THEY CHOOSE TO RISE.”



## PUBLIC PRIDE PRIDE PARADES AROUND THE WORLD

June 27, 1969 marked an important turning point in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history when the patrons of Stonewall Inn—a popular gay bar in Manhattan's Greenwich Village—galvanized a 6-day protest against routine police raids on gay-friendly establishments.

The following year, gay communities from New York City to Los Angeles organized marches—called pride parades—to commemorate the riots. Since then, the movement has spread across the globe in support of the 1969 event's original mission: civil rights for the LGBT community.

In honor of pride month, below is a look at the state of the pride parade around the globe. Which countries celebrate openly? And which countries force gay communities to embrace their identities in the dark?

● PRIDE PARADES EMBRACED.

● PRIDE PARADES EITHER DON'T OCCUR OR OCCUR IN THE FACE OF VIOLENCE OR POLITICAL OPPOSITION.

● HOMOSEXUALITY OUTLAWED. NO PRIDE PARADES.

● Countries where only male homosexuality is illegal.

### NOTABLE EVENTS IN PRIDE PARADE HISTORY

1969

- The Stonewall riots in Manhattan inspire the creation of the pride parade movement.

1970

- One year later, the Christopher Street Liberation Day March—named after the site of the rebellion—begins the pride parade tradition as we know it.

- Other LGBT pride parades are held in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Chicago.

1971

- The Georgia Gay Liberation Front organizes a march in Atlanta.

1972

- Pride parades spread to Texas, Florida, Minnesota, and other states.

1975

- 2,000 gather in Washington, DC for its first pride parade, "Capital March."

1977

- Anita Bryant, a former Miss Oklahoma, stirs up controversy after openly supporting anti-gay legislation and leading the highly-visible "Save our Children" campaign to repeal a gay rights ordinance in Florida. In defiance, scores of pride parade marchers turn out that year holding hands in unity as a public expression of gay love and acceptance.

1978

- The first rainbow flag makes its debut at the San Francisco Pride Parade and comes to symbolize the LGBT community. The original design has eight colors, including pink and indigo.

1981

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention publishes the first official documentation of AIDS. During the 1980s and 1990s, a growing number of AIDS awareness groups march in the annual pride parades to bring attention to the disease.

1990

- The first African LGBT pride parade takes place in Johannesburg. To this day, South Africa remains the only African country to host a pride celebration.

1992

- Europe holds its first pan-European pride event called "Europride" in London. Each year, a different European city hosts the event.

1994

- Japan has its first pride parade in Tokyo. In 2012, the city will host two pride events: Tokyo Rainbow Pride on April 29 and Tokyo Pride on August 11.

2001

- Attendees at Serbia's first pride parade are violently attacked by protestors who manage to break up the event. Since its inception, the event has been called off twice—in 2009 and 2011—by government authorities who can't guarantee protection from extremist groups.

2003

- Turkey becomes the first Muslim nation to hold a pride parade when a small group of marchers gather in Istanbul. In 2011, attendance reaches 10,000.

2009

- The Stonewall rebellion celebrates its 40th anniversary.

2010

- After numerous Congressional filibusters, the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) policy—which bans gay men and women from openly serving in the U.S. military—is repealed on December 22, 2010. In celebration and support, active-duty troops and veterans march proudly in gay pride parades around the country.

2011

- With an estimated 3.5 million attendees, São Paulo, Brazil, hosts the world's largest pride parade.

2012

- President Obama officially declares June to be LGBT Pride Month.

- Moscow's district courts determine that gay pride parades in the city are to be banned until at least 2112—a century from now. LGBT activists express intentions to appeal the decision.

From Protest to Pageant and Back Again: Today's Pride marches still carry the spirit of that first defiance, but they've evolved into something more expansive. They're celebratory but political, tender but powerful. From New York to Nairobi, Seoul to São Paulo, Pride is not only a cultural event—it's a movement. Alongside the glitter and glamor, there are demands: for justice, safety, healthcare, representation, and the right to love and live openly. Pride marches spotlight the still-rampant violence against transgender people, the criminalization of queerness in dozens of countries, and the persistent need for inclusive education and policy reform. And yet, amid the struggle, there is joy. There is dancing. There are Dads holding "I'm proud of my gay son" signs and churches marching beside sex workers. There are first-time marchers with shaky hands holding flags for the first time. Pride reminds us that queerness is not just something to survive—it's something to celebrate.



# VISIBILITY

*Not afraid of the spotlight*

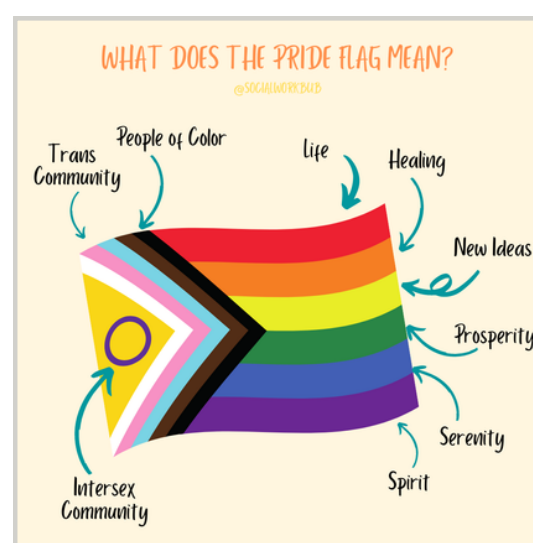
While June brings visibility, the real work lies in the other 11 months. True Pride doesn't end when the floats are packed away—it begins in our daily lives. It means modeling inclusion at home, like introducing yourself with pronouns or normalizing diverse relationships in bedtime stories. It means being an ally who listens, learns, and shows up even when the parade is over. It means asking your child's friend their pronouns. It means correcting someone gently but firmly when they misgender a peer. It means letting your children know, in small but steady ways, that everyone deserves love, safety, and dignity. It means choosing Pride not as a party, but as a practice.

To march in Pride is to claim space in a world that often asks LGBTQIA+ people to disappear. It's to say, "You don't get to erase me." Visibility can mean the difference between isolation and belonging. For a questioning teen in a small town, seeing that rainbow flag might be their first glimpse of hope. For a child with two moms or two dads, it may be the first time they feel "normal." For parents, it's a chance to affirm their kids loudly and publicly. We march because shame thrives in silence, and Pride speaks.



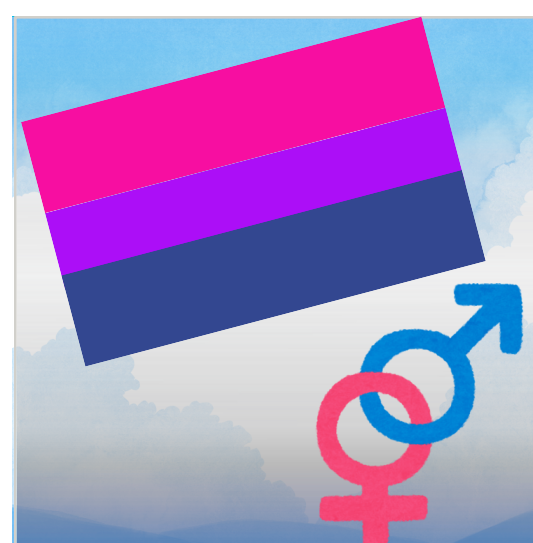
## TRANSGENDER SYMBOL:

A combination of the male (♂) and female (♀) symbols, along with a third symbol that represents those who identify outside the binary. It signifies the transgender community and the fight for gender identity rights.



## RAINBOW FLAG:

The most recognized symbol of the LGBTQ+ community, designed by Gilbert Baker in 1978. Originally featuring eight colors, it now typically has six stripes, each representing different aspects of the community's diversity. The rainbow symbolizes diversity and inclusivity among all sexual orientations and gender identities.



## BISEXUAL FLAG:

Consists of three horizontal stripes: pink, purple, and blue. The pink represents attraction to the same sex, blue represents attraction to the opposite sex, and purple represents attraction to both. It symbolizes the bisexual community and its unique identity within the LGBTQ+ spectrum.



## LAMBDA SYMBOL (λ):

Chosen by the Gay Activists Alliance in 1970, the lambda symbol represents the fight against oppression and the quest for equality. It signifies unity and the ongoing struggle for LGBTQ+ rights.

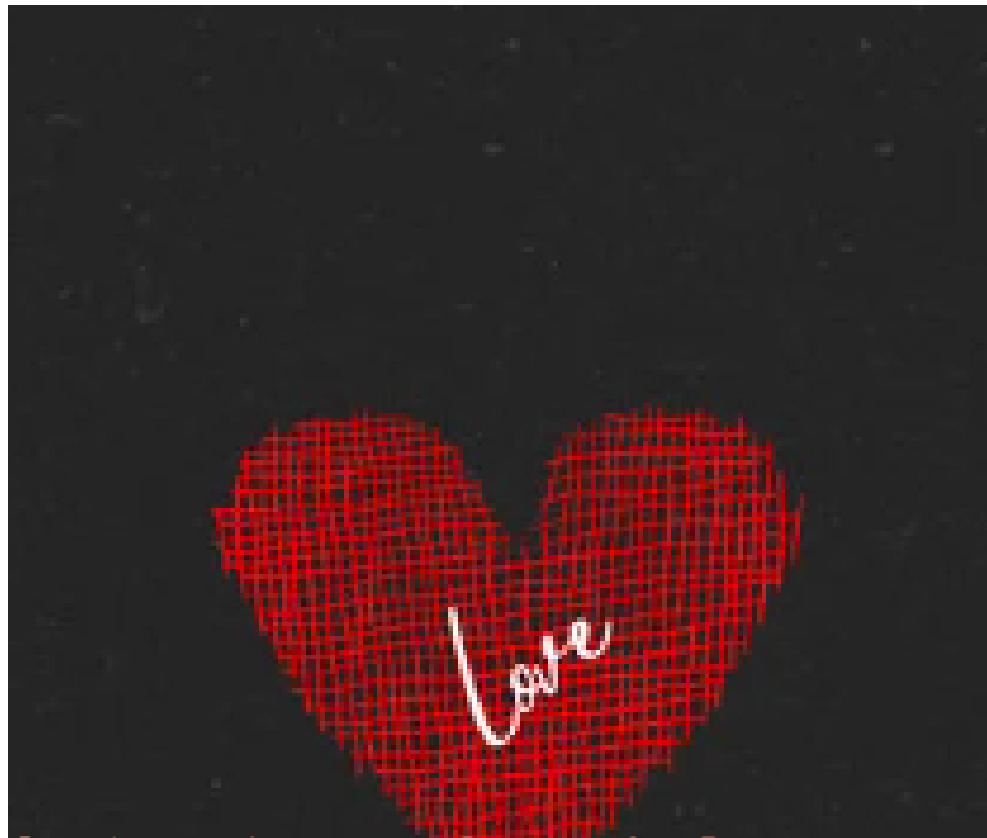


# Activists

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YOU DID IT!

Pride, like love, is a deeply human emotion. Not the arrogant kind, but the kind that quietly tells us we matter. It's the pulse that drives someone to raise a flag, to come out, to simply be. And like all emotions, Pride has its duality—its light and shadow. As researchers like Jessica Tracy and Richard Robins have found, there are two kinds of pride: authentic pride, rooted in self-worth and achievement, and hubristic pride, based in arrogance and ego. The Pride we celebrate in June is the former—an earned pride. The kind that blooms from survival, from truth-telling, from choosing love in the face of fear. Pride is what keeps communities creating, connecting, and refusing to settle for less. It is what drives the inventors, the artists, the dreamers—and those who simply want to be themselves without apology.



We celebrate Pride because silence was never golden for those who had to hide. We celebrate because inclusion starts with visibility. Because every color on the flag represents not just a spectrum of identity, but a kaleidoscope of experiences—of pain, love, history, and triumph. And ultimately, we celebrate because we are raising a generation that deserves better. A generation that may not remember every law passed or battle fought, but will remember how it felt to be seen, respected, and loved. That's why we march. That's why we listen. That's why we say loudly and often.

