

Silk Road Rising joins global LGBTQ+ movements in honoring Pride Month.
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Getting on the Right Side of History



On June 15, 2020, the Supreme Court of the United States issued a landmark 6-3 ruling on the case of *Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia*, granting nationwide workplace protection to LGBTQ+ employees. The ruling means that the term "sex" in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars employment discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, and sex, extends to gender identity and sexual orientation.

The impact of this historic decision is nothing short of monumental and affects the lives of millions of Americans. While LGBTQ+ residents of Illinois have enjoyed far-reaching legal protections since June 1, 2006, the LGBTQ+ residents of 27 states have not enjoyed any legal protections until now. That means that until June 15 of this year, LGBTQ+ people in a majority of US states could be fired from their jobs simply for being LGBTQ+.

However, the ruling **does not** extend similar protections in the areas of health care, housing, and accommodations. While we lift up and celebrate the SCOTUS ruling as an extraordinary victory for civil rights and equality, we also maintain that our LGBTQ+ movements have a long way to go before the dream of full equality is realized.



But wait! Last week's good news out of SCOTUS didn't stop there. On June 18, 2020, in the case of the Department of Homeland Security et al. v. Regents of the University of California et al, a 5-4 majority of the court ruled that the Trump administration's efforts to end the DACA program (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) cannot immediately proceed. In other words, 700,000+ young immigrants known as "Dreamers" cannot be deported, at least until the administration provides SCOTUS with a "reasoned explanation" for wishing to end DACA.

While we would have liked to see a majority ruling based on Constitutional principle rather than procedural requirement, we at Silk Road Rising celebrate this important victory along with 700,000+ Dreamers, their families, friends, and communities.

Last week marked another step forward in our long quest for justice.

We are learning just now about a SCOTUS ruling issue today regarding asylum seekers, which appears to be a step back.

[Read the Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia Ruling](#)

[Read the Department of Homeland Security et al. v. Regents of the University of California et al Ruling](#)

Happy LGBTQ+ Pride!

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month is currently celebrated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. The Stonewall Uprising was a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States. In the United States the last Sunday in June was initially

major cities across the nation the day soon grew to encompass a month-long series of events.

Read more at the [Library of Congress](#)



We celebrate the victories and milestones of our LGBTQ+ movements spanning decades of tireless activism, brilliant artmaking, extraordinary sacrifice, and tremendous courage.

We honor the fearless and all too often erased Black, Indigenous, and Latinx LGBTQ+ warriors, activists, and organizers who laid their lives on the line to secure a modicum of dignity, and who fight ever-so valiantly to build a just and loving union for us all.



We salute, thank, and pay tribute to the Black trans women and trans women of color who fought fearlessly in the trenches to secure many of the rights enjoyed by LGBTQ+ communities today.



We lift up our Asian, Middle Eastern, and Muslim LGBTQ+ heroes in their visionary daring and bold resistance to any and all who attempt to erase us and do us harm.

We acknowledge that the struggle against white supremacy and the struggle against patriarchy is indeed the same struggle.

We understand that all movements for human rights and civil rights are linked rather than ranked. And that our movements require abundance models, not scarcity models.

We refuse to silo the various aspects of our identities and insist on embracing and asserting our full selves.



We reject false binaries of Black vs. Queer, Muslim vs. Queer,



effort to pit us against each other as the work of white supremacy and patriarchy.

We celebrate last week's Supreme Court rulings and the knowledge that a victory for LGBTQ+ people is a victory for Dreamers and a victory for Dreamers is a victory for LGBTQ+ people.

We recognize that Black Lives Matter is also a Queer movement and that there is no Queer movement unless Black Lives Matter.



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