

History and Politics of the Civil Rights Movement

Third Assignment

In some ways, all history is biography. So, for your final assignment I want you to write a biography of one of the interviewees/characters in *Making Gay History*. Obviously, it won't be a full-blown biography -- that's impossible in such a short assignment - but you can begin to draft an imaginative recreation of an individual's struggles to come to terms with the world as a gay person in the last third of the twentieth century when so much of the world was in flux.

At the end of the book, beginning on page 453, is a list of the interviewees. Choose someone who engages you -- by gender, location, style, whatever - but be prepared to have to start over if one subject doesn't work out.

Please avoid the individuals who are (comparatively) well known like Larry Kramer, Dr. Evelyn Hooker, etc., and those (like Hooker) who are observers of and writers on homosexuality: I want you to follow someone "in the life" in order to understand what it was like to go through the kind of momentous changes that began for gay people in the 1960s.

I suggest you confine your reading for this assignment to Parts Three through Six of *Making Gay History*. You shouldn't need to go outside the text for sources, but if you do, please cite them. I don't mind which format of citation you use just so long as you are consistent.

And bear in mind my admonition on the syllabus about plagiarism. If you are in any doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, come and talk to me. You must submit your paper to Turnitin; details on that to follow.

Your paper should be at least 5 double-spaced pages - that is, 1500 words - in length. Leave one-inch margins on all sides of the paper, and please use at least a 12-point font size and preferably one of the "cleaner" fonts like Candara, Calibri, or Helvetica (rather than, say, Times New Roman or Bookman).

The paper is due in class on **Tuesday, November 21.**