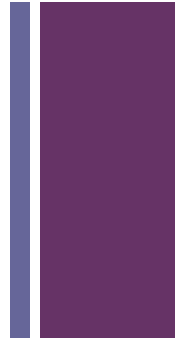


## The Trans\* Rights Movement

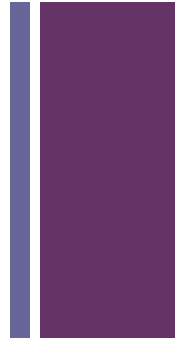
By Fall 2014 SS98jl student

# + Question



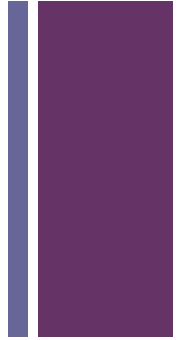
- What does today's trans\* activism look like?
  - *Particularly considering*
    - *the LG(B) marriage equality movement*
    - *increased communication abilities among various populations*

# + Context



- Informational
  - Stonewall
  - Homonormativity
  - ENDA
    - Sex, Gender, Sexual Identity, and Harassment
- Theoretical
  - Intersectionality and non-additive identities
  - Importance of dialogue with subjects
  - Political Process Model
  - Complex, sometimes contradictory stories

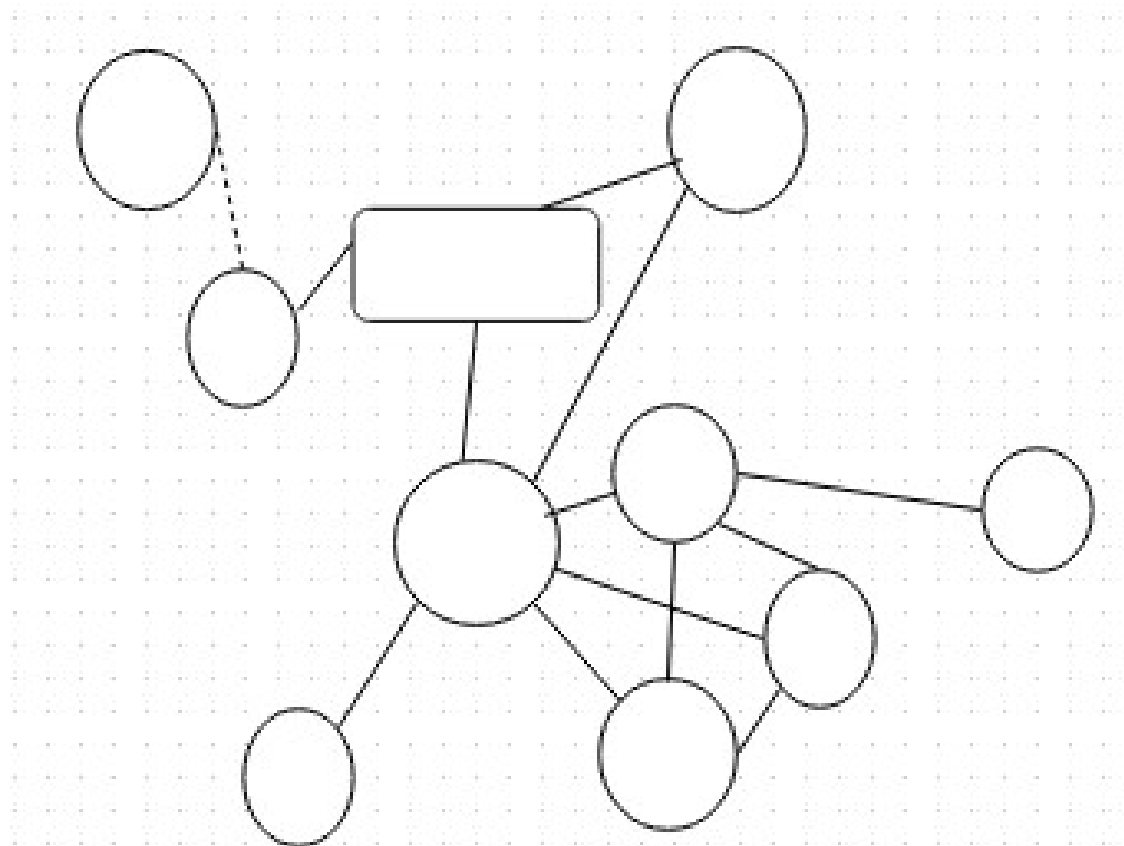
# + Motivation



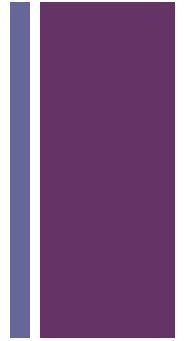
- Objectification of marginalized identities
- Literature on trans\* rights isn't there yet, but world is (and has been)
- Combining the issue of what's missing from bodies of literature with what's missing from theoretical approaches

# + Research Design and Methods

## *Contacting Interviewees*

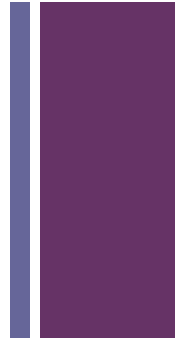


# + Research Questions



- What does activism mean to you?
- When did you get involved in queer issues, and why?
- How would you describe your involvement now?
- What kinds of words would you use to describe the marriage equality movement in terms of its strategies?
- What do you think changed to make people realize that the marriage equality movement leaves people out?
- Would you say that any of the trans\* rights work going on utilizes similar or related strategies/framing to marriage equality?

## + Research Questions, contd.



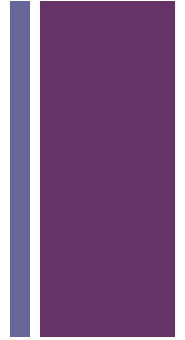
- Who do you see getting involved in trans\* rights work?
- What sort of frustrations have you (and others) had with the trans\* rights movement(s), and other queer movements it interacts with?
- Do you feel like it's difficult to fight for rights when so much of what we understand about trans\* identities is about individual, non-monolithic experiences (as opposed to how marriage equality was marketed)?
- Is there anything I haven't asked you that I should have?

1885



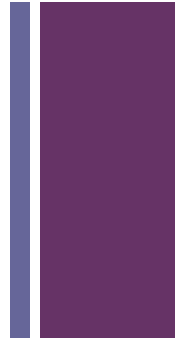


# + Predominant Issues



- activism as a consistent, but changing facet of life
- normalizing versus changing the discussion altogether
- privilege regarding who gets to determine prioritization of issues, messages
- different organizations taking different sides – but working together
  - e.g. MA H.1589: Equal Access in Public Accommodations
- money and attention
- power of social media

# + What now...?



- I'm thrilled with all of the thoughtful stories and discussions I was able to tap into in this project. However, the question I'm coming to is: in a paper, what kind of satisfying picture can I paint with this? Is there a way to, with what I have, academically say "wow, there is so much divergence – and this is just in one small city!" I think that it's indicative of something on a larger scale – not just that this divergence and diversity would fade away if I were to zoom out – and so I am pleased with it – but how might I present all of this information?!