LGBTQ+ COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

Equality California Institute

County of Santa Clara
2021 Advisory Redistricting Commission
September 22, 2021 [6:30 PM]
Equality California is the nation’s largest statewide LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer) civil rights organization with over 900,000 members.

Equality California brings the voices of LGBTQ+ people and allies to institutions of power in California and across the United States, striving to create a world that is healthy, just, and fully equal for all LGBTQ+ people.
AGENDA

▶ California’s LGBTQ+ Population
▶ Understanding Discrimination and Marginalization
▶ Santa Clara County LGBTQ+ Population
▶ Q&A
CALIFORNIA’S LGBTQ+ POPULATION
CALIFORNIA’S LGBTQ+ POPULATION

► EQUALITY: MADE IN CALIFORNIA

► California is home to the nation’s largest statewide LGBTQ+ population — and key LGBTQ+ population centers (West Hollywood, the Castro in San Francisco, Hillcrest in San Diego).

► Gallup estimates over 2 million Californians — 5.3% adults — identify as LGBTQ+. [Feb. 2021]

► Our internal polling shows that approximately 12% of registered California voters identify as LGBTQ+. [March 2017]

► We estimate our actual LGBTQ+ population to be closer to 4 million — 10% of California’s total population — based on the impact of stigma and long-term lack of acceptance.
CALIFORNIA’S LGBTQ+ POPULATION

► LGBTQ+ DIVERSITY

► A majority (52%) of LGBTQ+ adults in California identify as Latino/a, Asian, Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander or multiracial. (Williams Institute/Gallup Daily Tracking – Feb. 2021)

► An estimated 1.3 million LGBTQ+ adult immigrants reside in the U.S. today, with approximately 22% of them undocumented. (Williams Institute – Feb. 2021)

► An estimated 59,600 undocumented LGBTQ+ adults live in California. (Williams Institute – Feb. 2021)
UNDERSTANDING DISCRIMINATION & MARGINALIZATION
LGBTQ+ people have been historically underrepresented in the halls of power and frequently denied access to key social institutions and support networks. Despite rising acceptance of LGBTQ+ people, the community continues to fight for basic civil rights while experiencing hate and discrimination that perpetuates disparities in health and wellbeing.
In 1978, the Briggs Initiative sought to ban LGBTQ+ people from working in California schools.

In 2000, California voters passed Proposition 22 (the Knight Initiative), which limited marriage to between one man and one woman.

California voters passed Proposition 8 in 2008 and took away the freedom to marry for same-gender couples.

In 2014, proponents of a veto referendum for AB 1266 sought to repeal nondiscrimination protections for transgender students, gathering nearly 620,000 signatures.
UNDERSTANDING DISCRIMINATION & MARGINALIZATION

▶ BASIC CIVIL RIGHTS & PROTECTIONS

▶ HIV is criminalized in more than half of states, and gay and bisexual men are still restricted from donating blood, regardless of HIV-status.

▶ Transgender and gender nonconforming people have extraordinary difficulty accessing affirming healthcare and mental health services.

▶ Across the country, there have been hundreds legislative attempts and ballot measures (both successful and unsuccessful) to restrict or eliminate basic civil rights for LGBTQ+ people.

▶ This year alone, more than half of state legislatures across the country (28) are actively considering bills to restrict or eliminate basic civil rights for transgender people.
UNDERSTANDING DISCRIMINATION & MARGINALIZATION

▶ STIGMA, HATE, AND DISCRIMINATION

▶ Transgender, specifically transgender women of color, experience violence everyday and are being murdered, but fear turning to the police for help.

▶ LGBTQ+ children make up an estimated 40% of youth experiencing homelessness, largely because they so frequently do not find acceptance at home.

▶ LGBTQ+ elected officials and public figures are forced to endure highly publicized homophobic, biphobic and transphobic attacks, with a record number of attacks documented during the 2020 election cycle.
LGBTQ+ POPULATION IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY
Santa Clara County Supervisors Overview

LGBTQ+ POPULATION IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

EQUALITY CALIFORNIA
LGBTQ+ POPULATION IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY
LGBTQ+ POPULATION IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY
LGBTQ+ POPULATION IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Map layers:
- SD Council Districts
- Districts
- District Status
- Locked
- Completed
- EGCA Members
- 1899 and below (1)
- 1900 to 1999 (1)
- 2000 to 3999 (1)
- 4000 to 5999 (1)
- 6000 and above (1)
- Other (1)

Miles

EQUALITY CALIFORNIA

LGBTQ+ POPULATION IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY
THANK YOU