



Charles Silverstein and the Declassification of Homosexuality as a Mental Illness Interview

Unheard Voices: Stories of LGBT History

ADL, [GLSEN](#) and [StoryCorps](#) collaborated to create *Unheard Voices*, an oral history and curriculum project that will help educators to integrate LGBT history, people and issues into their instructional programs.



Between 1952 and 1973, homosexuality was classified as a mental disorder by the American Psychiatric Association (ADA). Gay men and women across the country were subjected to a variety of treatments aimed at curing their "condition."

During that era, **Dr. Charles Silverstein** was in graduate school training to become a psychologist. At Storycorps, he talks about his role in changing the medical community's ideas about homosexuality.

[LISTEN TO INTERVIEW](#)

Other Interviews and Backgrounders