

Current Hot Topics for LGBTQ issues in Japan and the US



John Lewis

He is a marriage equality expert and leader in the LGBTQ+ movement in the United States. He and his husband Stuart Gaffney were a plaintiff couple in the 2004-2008 California lawsuit that overturned the state's ban on same-sex marriage. John is a graduate of Stanford University Law School and Northwestern University. He practiced law in California, and was Legal and Policy Director of Marriage Equality USA from 2008-2016. He is now a visiting scholar at TGU.

Wednesday, June 19, 15:00-17:00
Library 1F Learning Commons (Seminar Area)

Come learn why LGBTQ issues in Japan and the US!

Japanese LGBTQ people are more visible than ever before in modern times. In June, the Japanese Diet passed the first law in Japanese history to “promote understanding” of LGBTQ people. But LGBTQ advocates say the legislation has many problems. Lawsuits for marriage equality are also progressing in the courts with generally favorable rulings.

The U.S. Congress late last year passed landmark bipartisan marriage equality legislation. However, state legislatures controlled by the Republican Party have passed laws this year preventing transgender youth from obtaining gender affirming medical care, limiting drag performances, and interfering with LGBTQ education in schools.

We will talk about all of these developments and how the LGBTQ community in both countries is standing up in the face of challenges.



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