[34. Kinsman - mental health [F0051-03-576-055].mov](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1b5uaVk2dLxpWwZxNcVeTR7P94YJtZ25s)

In 1971, there by that point in time there had been the emergence of a number of gay liberation groups across the country. And it's important perhaps just to reflect on what gay liberation was all about at this point in time. The gay liberation movement was rather different from the homosexual rights movement that had existed in the 1960s. That movement was basically based on trying to get liberal tolerance for homosexuals. Sometimes they would even be willing to say that we were not… that we might be mentally ill. Because they felt that was actually an avenue through which we could get more tolerance. So the gay liberation movement, which grew out of the Stonewall riots in 1969, in New York City, which was a direct movement against police repression, and was also in the context of the anti-Vietnam War movement, the student movements, the political protest movements of the late 60s, the feminist movement and so on. That movement went much further than the earlier homosexual rights organizing had gone, and actually put in question the supremacy of heterosexuality in our society. It championed the notion that lesbian and gay is good, directly challenged the notion that we are mentally ill. It led to all sorts of zaps and protests at psychiatric associations and eventually led to the American Psychiatric Association, in 1973, deciding that homosexuality was no longer going to be considered to be a mental illness in all cases. And that was actually a very important achievement.