

# *Resources for LGBTQI Researchers in Theology*

*Mark Hangartner*

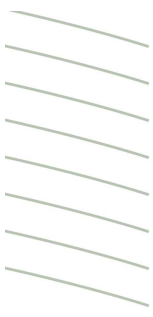


## **Resources for LGBTQI Researchers in Theology**

ANZTLA Conference – Mark Hangartner

**Libraries and Learning Services  
Te Tumu Herenga**

July 2018

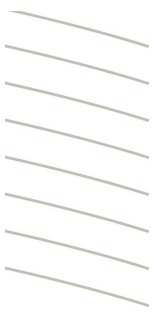


**Lesbian** = a woman who is sexually or romantically attracted (esp. wholly or largely) to other women; a homosexual woman. (1732)

**Gay** = orig. *U.S. slang*. (a) Of a person: homosexual (1922)

**Bisexual** = Sexually or romantically attracted to people of both sexes (1906).

Oxford English Dictionary



## Transgender

Designating a person whose sense of personal identity and gender does not correspond to that person's sex at birth, or which does not otherwise conform to conventional notions of sex and gender.

- Although now typically used as an umbrella term which includes any or all non-conventional gender identities, in wider use *transgender* is sometimes used synonymously with the more specific terms *transsexual* or *transvestite*. (1974)

Antonym = Cisgender (1997)

Oxford English Dictionary

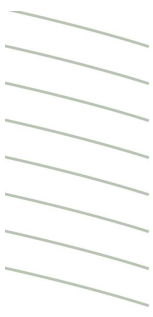


## Queer

Although originally chiefly derogatory (and still widely considered offensive, esp. when used by heterosexual people), from the late 1980s it began to be used as a neutral or positive term ..... **In some academic contexts it is the preferred adjective in the study of issues relating to homosexuality** (cf. *queer theory n.* ) .... (1914)

**queer theory** *n.* orig. *U.S.* an approach to social and cultural study which seeks to challenge or deconstruct traditional ideas of sexuality and gender, esp. the acceptance of heterosexuality as normative and the perception of a rigid dichotomy of male and female traits. (1990)

Oxford English Dictionary



## Intersex

A person who or animal which is physically intermediate between male and female, **having characteristics of both sexes** (in a species which normally has two distinct sexes), or having sexual organs which are not fully developed as either male or female or which do not correspond to the individual's chromosomal sex.... (1906)

Oxford English Dictionary

2018 is the year we stop making fun of:

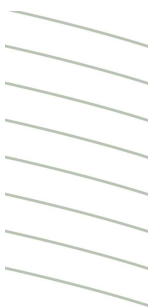
- bi/pan people
- trans people
- enby people
- ace/aro-spec people
- queer people

2018 is the year we stop acting like LGBTQ+ just means “gay and lesbian”

Reference: <https://twitter.com/gaylex>







# Who and why?



## Defining LGBTQI researchers:

- Researchers interested in LGBTQI topics
- Includes but not exclusive to people with LGBTQI identity.
- Is it problematised?

"On secular and religious campuses alike, LGBT students continue to face problems such as bullying and harassment" p. 89.

- Coley, J. S. (2017). Reconciling religion and LGBT rights: Christian universities, theological orientations, and LGBT inclusion. *Social Currents*, 4(1), 87-106.

## More LGBTQI content needed at medical schools - survey



The findings were published in the most recent New Zealand Medical Journal, after surveying staff from both the Universities of Otago and Auckland.

Two-thirds said it was important and both schools would like to see more content and earlier education for medical students. When asked how much LGBTQI content was included in their module, 54 percent responded "none at all", while 33 percent responded "a little."

THE NEW ZEALAND MEDICAL JOURNAL

Taylor, O., Rapsey, C. M., & Treharne, G. J. (2018). Sexuality and gender identity teaching within preclinical medical training in New Zealand: content, attitudes and barriers. *The New Zealand Medical Journal*, 131(1477), 35-44. [link](#)

# What



## Resources for LGBTQI researchers:

- Collections
  - Books
  - Journals
  - Websites
- Discovery tools
  - Catalogues
  - Databases
- Buildings, people, policies etc

# Building great collections

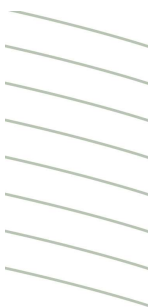


All researchers will agree on what libraries should be ...  
.....**great collections**,

all points of view, and prioritize the best research.

- Limited budgets and
- even more limited storage space.

Ridinger, R. B. (2017). Moved by the spirit: Theological literatures of LGBT advocacy. *Journal of Religious & Theological Information*, 16(1), 22-33. 10.1080/10477845.2016.1273025 Retrieved from <http://www.tandfonline.com.ezproxy.auckland.ac.nz/doi/abs/10.1080/10477845.2016.1273025>



# Moved by the spirit ...



"This bibliographical essay will present a survey of book-length works published since 1960 which have advocated for a critical reexamination of traditional limits within contemporary Protestant denominations, although works from the discussion of this issue within the Catholic Church will be included when relevant."

- Very useful survey arranged into sections for each decade, highlighting the major issues from that period. Coverage of major issues.
- 75 of 77 references are to North American published works.

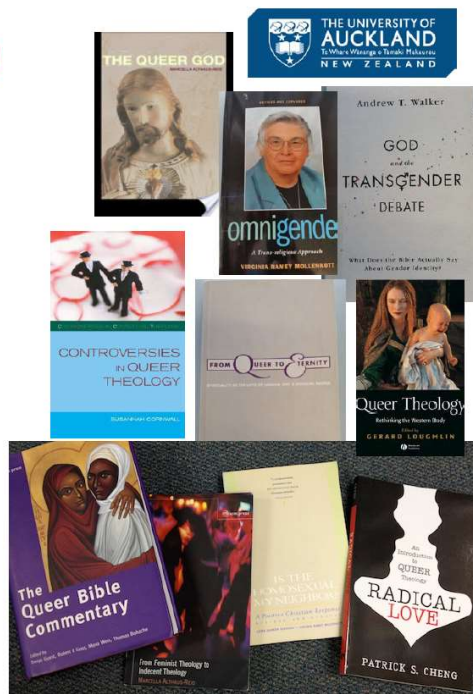
# Moved by the spirit ...

Who might we add?

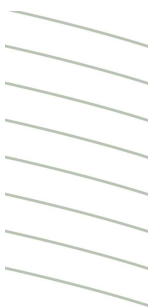
Marcella Maria Althaus-Reid was Professor of Contextual Theology at New College, University of Edinburgh.

Gerard Loughlin, Professor of Theology and Religion at the University of Durham

Deryn Guest, University of Birmingham



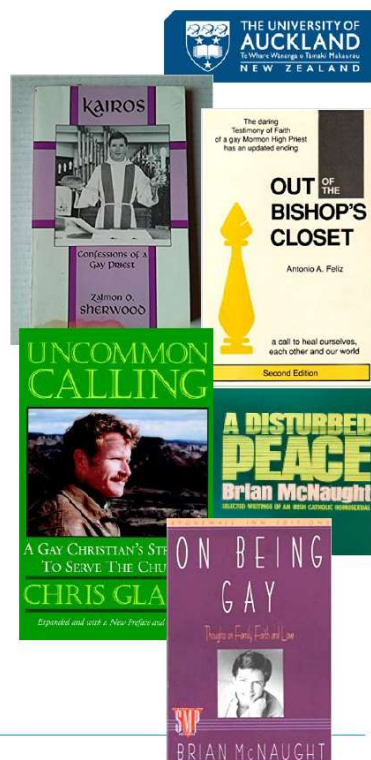




## Too much of ...

Too much autobiography:

In 1983 the autobiography of another MCC minister, Johannes Dimaria-Kuiper, appeared entitled *Hot Under the Collar: Self-Portrait of a Gay Pastor*. It was followed by Anglican Zalmon Sherwood's account of coming out, *Kairos: Confessions of a Gay Priest* in 1987, *Out of the Bishop's Closet* by Antonio Feliz from the Mormon hierarchy, and Presbyterian Chris Glaser's *Uncommon Calling: A Gay Man's Struggle to Serve the Church* in 1988. Readers interested in a similar voice from a lay perspective will also find Brian McNaught's *A Disturbed Peace: Selected Writings of an Irish Catholic Homosexual* (1981) valuable. ....A second volume of McNaught's writings, *On Being Gay*, would be published in 1987.

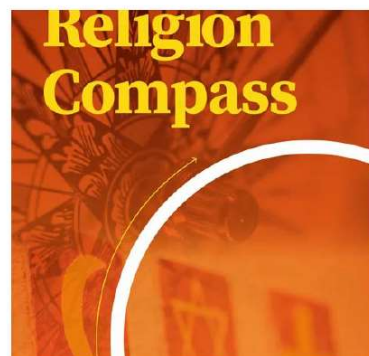


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## Other approaches

"In Latin American liberation theology, feminist theology, and black theology they found the methods and insights to formulate a contextual gay liberation theology."

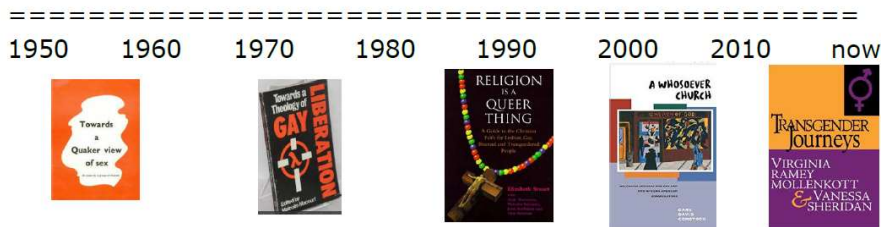
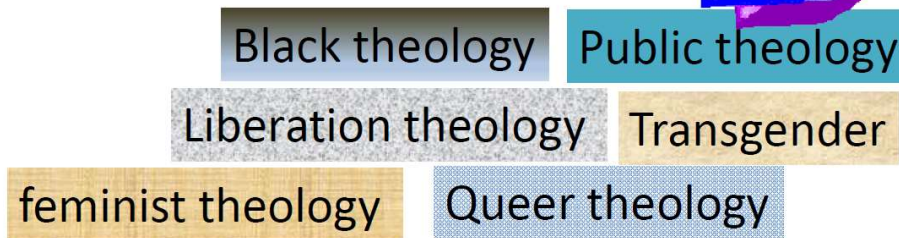
Schneider, L. C., & Roncolato, C. (2012). Queer theologies. *Religion Compass*, 6(1), 1-13. 10.1111/j.1749-8171.2011.00315.x



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# A timeline of theologies

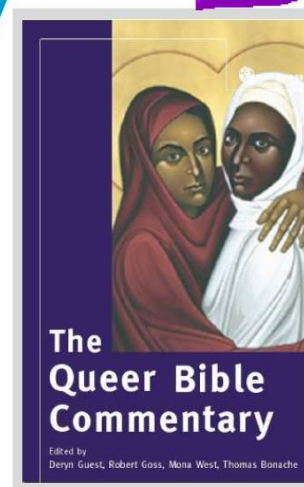


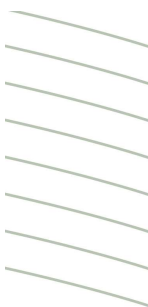
# Joining feminist / gender - liberation – public theology



...for readers interested in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues such as :

- the construction of gender and sexuality,
- the reification of heterosexuality,
- the complicated question of lesbian and gay ancestry within the Bible,
- the transgendered voices of the prophets,
- the use of the Bible in contemporary political, socio-economic and religious spheres and
- the impact of its contemporary interpretation upon lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities (p. xiii).





## Other bibliographies



Tabb Stewart, D. (2017). LGBT/Queer Hermeneutics and the Hebrew Bible. *Currents in Biblical Research*, 15(3), 289-314. 10.1177/1476993X16683331 Retrieved from <https://doi-org.ezproxy.auckland.ac.nz/10.1177/1476993X16683331>



Reference lists in handbooks etc, eg :

Goddard, A. (2014). Theology and Practice in Evangelical Churches. In *The Oxford Handbook of Theology, Sexuality, and Gender*. : Oxford University Press. Retrieved 26 Jun. 2018, from <http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com.ezproxy.auckland.ac.nz/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199664153.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199664153-e-30>.

Cornwall, S. (2015). *Intersex, Theology, and the Bible : Troubling Bodies in Church, Text, and Society*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. Retrieved from <http://ezproxy.auckland.ac.nz/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=1054032&site=ehost-live&scope=site>

## Journals



- GLQ : a Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies. (1993+) 45 ...
- Journal of Gay Lesbian Mental Health. (1989+) 35 ...
- Journal of Homosexuality. (1974+) 240 articles after 2000
- Journal of Lesbian Studies (1997+) 230 ...
- 
- Bible and Critical Theory. (2004+) [open access]. 17 items..
- Religion & Gender. (2011+) [open access]. approx. 12 articles
- Theology & Sexuality : the Journal of the Institute for the Study of Christianity and Sexuality. (1994+) >100 articles

# Catalogues

***It was a life-altering experience to learn of the category "lesbian" in the library – and not only that, lesbian was a library subject heading!***

- Alison Bechdel, paraphrasing acceptance speech at the 2007 American Library Association “Stonewall Book Awards” for *Fun Home*  
<https://www.lgbtran.org/>
- See also  
<https://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/guides/arts/gender-studies/#=4>



ONE DAY IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT I COULD ACTUALLY LOOK UP HOMOSEXUALITY IN THE CARD CATALOG.



# Access issues

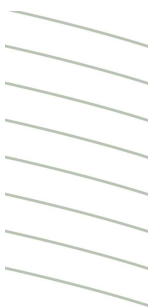


- Terms become outdated.
- Use of Gays as an umbrella heading for gay men and lesbians.
- Using sex and gender as synonymous terms.
- What do you do with Queer?
- Tags anyone?
  - There are certainly cases where tags work well. Take **Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City***, for example. The top tags include [queer](#) and [gay fiction](#), whereas the subject headings are [City and town life > Fiction](#), [Humorous stories](#) and [San Francisco \(Calif.\) > Fiction](#). Someone looking for *Tales of the City* is unlikely to start their search under [City and town life > Fiction](#) (San Francisco, however, might prove a good access point, which is also highlighted in the tags).\* (Originally in <http://blog.librarything.com/thingology/2006/05/tagging-meets-subject-headings/>)

## Reference:

Greenblatt, E. (2011). *Serving LGBTIQ library and archives users : essays on outreach, service, collections and access*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland.





# Databases



## General databases:

- Google Scholar [link](#)
- Ebscohost [link](#) to Academic Search Premier

## Specialist LGBTQI

- LGBT Thought and Culture [link](#)
- Archives of Sexuality & Gender: LGBTQ History and Culture Since 1940 [link](#)
- The LGBT Religious Archives Network (LGBT-RAN) [link](#)

## Specialist Theological material:

- ATLA Religion [link](#)
- Religion and Philosophy Collection [link](#)
- Australasian Religion Index .... 150 references [link](#)
- Index Religiosus [link](#)

# Archives of Sexuality & Gender

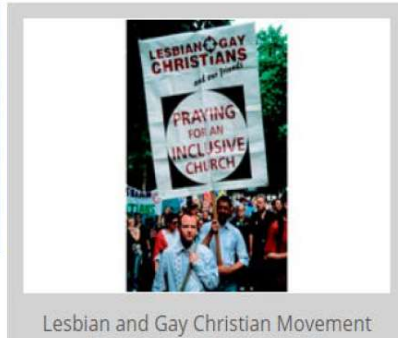


## Example archives:

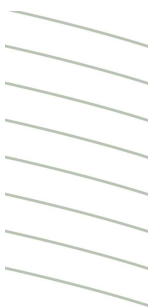
Twice Blessed (Jewish)

LGCM

Asian Pacific L & G







# Welcoming environment

Professional development for library staff:

Equity and trans students and staff - Trudie McNaughton, PVC Equity, Dr Terry O'Neill, Director - Student Equity and Dr JJ Eldridge Senior Lecturer in Science.

[Providing a safe, inclusive and equitable working and learning environment at the University.](#)



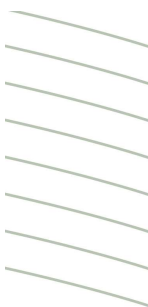
# Welcoming events

Visibility

Networking

Hospitality





# Inclusive policies



## Transgender people at the University of Auckland Guidelines & FAQs

- Legal name change
  - “The University of Auckland will cover the cost of legal name changes for trans and gender diverse students who meet eligibility criteria as assessed by the Equity Office. “
  - “Trans and gender diverse students’ experiences and University of Auckland research have identified that use of preferred rather than legal names is key to the provision of a safe and inclusive environment for trans and gender diverse students. Inappropriate use of legal names can lead to ‘outing’ and associated negative consequences including to health, safety and wellbeing.”

=====  
 Library focus – circulation notices (email, print slips, formal letters),  
 how personal details display on screen, how easy is it for patrons to  
 amend their record?

# Inclusive facilities



- Unisex toilets on campus
  - These are available for trans and gender diverse students and staff. The Equity Office is working with Property Services to increase the number of unisex toilets, initially on the City campus. [Link](#)
- Sport and recreation facilities
  - The University is committed to being safe, inclusive and equitable. As such, its Inclusion of Trans and Gender Diverse Students and Staff in Sport and Recreation Policy and Guidelines promote participation in sport and recreation without discrimination, and based on self-defined gender identity. [Link](#)

