

## Transgender People

Libertarians believe that there is no reason to for government to discriminate against transgender people.

Libertarians do acknowledge other people's perspective about transgender matters including religious objections to affirmation treatment. Nonetheless, there is no reason to ask *government* to discriminate against transgender people.

Regarding gender affirmation treatment

– assuming that it is done in a medically sound and



age-appropriate way – libertarians believe that government should not regulate or restrict the treatment in any way.

## The Core Libertarian Principle: No Violence

The Libertarian Party prides itself on being open and accepting of everyone regardless of who or what they are or what they do.

All *behavior* is accepted or at least tolerated with two major exceptions, 1) use of force other than for self-defense and 2) fraud – wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.

Regarding use of force, it is notable that to be a member of the Libertarian party the member must agree to what is sometimes called the non-aggression principle.

Consider the pledge that a prospective member signs before becoming a Libertarian Party member: *I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.*

## LGBTQ



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## Equal Treatment Under Law

A core concept for Libertarians is equal treatment under law, as stated in the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, including LGBTQ persons.

Clearly many government programs and policies of the past have not reflected that concept, such as: Jim Crow laws, housing and school segregation, unequal/unfair treatment of minorities by police and the prison industrial complex, redlining, Chinese Exclusion Act, incarceration of Japanese citizens during World War Two, denying women's right to vote, treatment of native Americans, and prohibiting same gender and interracial marriage.

In the future great care should be taken to design government programs and policies that do not treat various groups differently in violation of the 14th Amendment, even when addressing government unfairness and inequality of the past.

## Marriage Equality: Yes

Freedom for anyone to marry anyone has been part of the official Libertarian Party agenda since 1971.

Libertarians believe that government should not restrict, in any way, the prerogatives of LGBTQ persons to marry whoever, however and whenever wanted.

Marriage is a personal and religious matter and government should play no role in your marriage, whoever you want to be married to.

Consider several ways that government does or may meddle in marriage-related matters: 1) special tax treatment for married couples, 2) spousal Social Security, 3) issuance of marriage licenses, 4) prohibition of voluntary polygamy and 5) prohibition of trans and same gender marriage.



## Bias Against LGBTQ People Is not a Crime

Unfortunately, there are many people who have a bias against, dislike of or misconceptions about LGBTQ people. That manifests itself in various ways, some that are very unfortunate. For example, some religious entities do not want LGBTQ people participating in their religious activities. Another example is business owners who do not want to do business with LGBTQ people.

Because libertarians believe in freedom of association and freedom of religion – as unfortunate as it is – religious or private organizations should not be *forced* by government to associate with or accommodate any group.

However, libertarians certainly much prefer a world with less hatred, intolerance, and discrimination.