

JCSC STUDENT NEWSLETTER

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Marsha P. Johnson and The Stonewall Uprising of 1969

Written by Eddie Fogerty

Marsha P. Johnson was a gay liberation and AIDS activist and self-identified drag queen. She is well known as an outspoken advocate for gay rights and as one of the prominent figures in the Stonewall uprising of 1969.

June 28th, 1969 marks the beginning of the Stonewall Uprising, a series of events between police and LGBTQ+ protesters that stretched over six days. Patrons of the Stonewall, other village lesbian and gay bars, neighborhood street people fought back when police became violent.

The riots are widely considered the watershed event that transformed the gay liberation movement and the twentieth-century fight for LGBT rights in the United States. A few weeks after the event, new LGBTQ+ organisations and newspapers were founded. A year later, the first Pride parade took place on its anniversary, and the next day, Pride events and marches took place on the West Coast.

From then on, the marches spread across the USA and around the world and are still widely celebrated to this day.



JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH!

- Read all about the Stonewall Uprising and Marsha P. Johnson in this month's cover story by Eddie Fogerty.
- Look out for pictures of our fabulous Pride display outside of the Pastoral Office.
- Read about the history of Pride and why it is important by Alex Beal.
- Sixth Form Voice tackles Roe v. Wade

PRIDE AT JCSC

Come and have a read of our Pride Wall—where our school community shares things they are proud of as well as things they are grateful for.



What is Pride Month?

By Alex Beal

Pride month is the celebration of LGBT+ identity and recognition, and in many countries is celebrated in the month of June, commemorating the Stonewall riots that took place in New York City in late June and early July.

Pride month is important to celebrate because of the discrimination that LGBT+ people have faced in the past, and still face today, even in countries such as the USA and the UK. Pride month is about individuality and diversity, with both qualities being celebrated and recognised.

Yet, Pride month is also exploited by some, namely large companies. In a marketing scheme named 'Rainbow Capitalism', these companies plaster the pride flag and other LGBT+ icons on their products and advertisements, hoping it rakes in profit due to having pandered to LGBT+ people and allies.

As well as this, in many of the cases where rainbow capitalism happens, the organisations that act as allies to the LGBT+ cause have acted the direct opposite by donating to anti-LGBT+ politicians and charities. In the US, a company named 'Comcast' has donated millions to anti-LGBT+ congresspeople over the last few years, while also, one of their subsidiaries, Xfinity, has also stated on their twitter, 'Pride is the love we share. And with Xfinity, it's Pride all year.'

Of course, it is possible to help stop these companies and by doing research on companies you hope to use and to stop supporting them and buying products or services from them.

"You are worthy of love and belonging."

CURIOSITY CORNER

Step right up to read all about it! Salem Wilson and Ruby Shell share some hellishly interesting facts, history and theories about... well, hell!

Hellish Theories

There are many theories on what hell may look like, function like and what kind of people reside there. This is what we believe:

Let's begin with the obvious. Hell has seven layers, also known as wrings, along with limbo.

The wrings are: Pride, Wrath, Lust, Gluttony, Greed, Sloth and Envy.

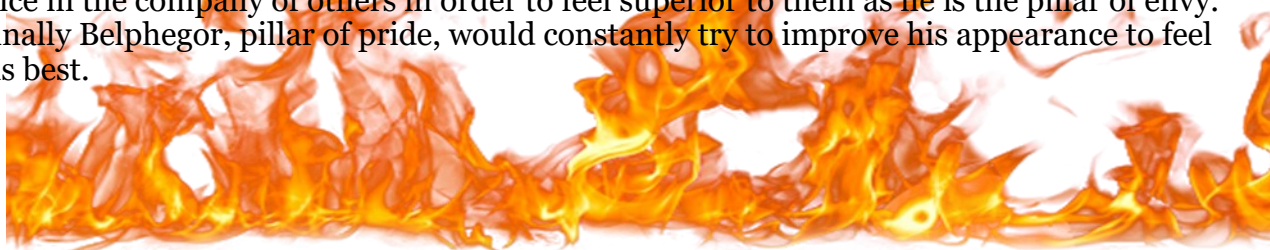
We also know some species of hellish creatures, including: Devils, Demons, Imps, Hellhounds, Incubi and Succubi.

The representatives of the wrings are known as pillars by the names of: Lucifer, Mammon, Leviathan, Beelzebub, Asmodeus, Solomon and Belphegor.

The pride wring is severely overpopulated and is represented as the colour purple, whereas the wrath ring is very agricultural, consisting of several farms which has a main colour of red. As for the lust wring it is self explanatory with a colour of pink. Gluttony's wring is where those who overindulge exist, the landscape in this wring is rather cruel as the sinners who go there have to wallow in disgusting mire created by eternally falling rain, hail, sleet, and snow and is represented by the colour orange. Greed is more violent as sinners are punished by being forced to fight each other while carrying huge heavy weights on each shoulder, greed is represented by the colour yellow. Sloth is more of a simple realm, as its pillar, Leviathan, shares many of the same traits as the sinners, in so, they are vowed to never be able to sleep, and must work quickly and constantly, leaving them in exhaustion. Sloth is represented by the colour navy blue. Finally, envy, represented by green. Those who inhabit the wring of envy are cursed to forever watch people succeed farther than they can, did or will, leaving them in a constant state of jealousy.

Now, for the theory side:

I believe that, once you enter hell, the wring you are placed in determines what type of demon species you become. I also believe that certain types of demonic creatures were never originally human, and exist to further torture the evil souls in hell. The species I believe are natural hell-spawn are devils, imps and hellhounds. I also have theories of how the pillars look. I believe that Lucifer is a tall, muscular man, most likely dark haired and stern-faced. I think that Mammon, being the pillar of greed, would be a shorter, skinnier man with a thin face, with a perpetually smug or sly look to him. Leviathan, in my belief, would be a short, chubby man with a round face and deep eyebags. Beelzebub, however, would be a very large man with a never ending appetite as he is the pillar of gluttony. Asmodeus, being the pillar of lust, I think, would be a unique situation, I believe that he would change his appearance and even gender presentation to fit the sexual desires of whoever he is in the company of. Solomon, I think, would often alter his appearance in the company of others in order to feel superior to them as he is the pillar of envy. Finally Belphegor, pillar of pride, would constantly try to improve his appearance to feel his best.



SIXTH FORM VOICE

TEHYA WADE

The right to an abortion should never be ‘circumstantial’

So now that I have provoked emotion in you as a reader I should probably elaborate...

Or rather I shouldn't because there really isn't much more to say than that.

My beliefs have always been (and will always be) that anyone who is capable of becoming pregnant should have the right to have an abortion if they choose to do so. There are hundreds of things that could cause one to seek abortion: financial situation, age, relationship status, family, abuse or maybe they simply do not want to be pregnant or have children. No one should ever have to justify their abortion because you wouldn't look someone who'd had one in the eyes and ask them why they aborted the embryo. You wouldn't tell a new mother that she should've aborted her baby and you wouldn't stand outside of an abortion clinic and harass people going in for procedures. Well... at least most of you wouldn't.

It is socially acceptable for people to have children without any of this interrogative questioning, so why isn't it socially acceptable for people to not have children? Yes, yes I know “we've come a long way” and “it's not the 50s anymore”, but it really is not as acceptable for people, especially women, to state that they do not wish to have children as you may think it is.

Following the issues raised in the USA at the moment, their logic is completely flawed. If a 13 year old girl cannot legally adopt a child because she isn't stable enough, old enough or financially secure enough to do so then why should she be forced to carry a child inside of her and why should she be forced through a birth that could potentially kill her?

We are faced with individuals questioning these rights all of the time, so I bare this onto you, are abortions essential medical procedures?

The simple answer is yes, yes they are.

Texas attorney general Ken Paxton has deemed all abortions ‘Non-essential medical procedures’ (not a huge shocker since sanitary pads and tampons are considered a luxury when it comes to taxes). **This is a very bold statement coming from a person that does not have a womb.** Someone that will never have to go through menstruation, pregnancy, miscarriage, labour or abortion.

Someone that will never know the full extent of losing a pregnancy or the pain of carrying one to full term and delivering a baby. Someone who does not have a womb, is making laws about the bodies of those that do have wombs.

It is mere common sense that women should have full autonomy over their bodies and they should be the only ones to have a say in the issues of abortion and contraception rights. 303,000 women a year die from pregnancy related complications and labour. This is roughly 830 deaths a day, 1 death every two minutes.

All these exceptional circumstances for abortion laws are an insult to all women. "Oh you can only get an abortion IF...", it is disgusting that anyone should have to give a reason that they would like an abortion. We don't ask for justification as to why people have children so why do we need justification in the opposite circumstances? Women are told constantly that their reproductive rights are circumstantial.

You can only go on the pill if...

You can only have the implant if...

You can only have an abortion if...

IF IF IF... Maybe if these "law-makers" truly started acknowledging and listening to the voices of so many women, who are so desperate to maintain their basic human rights, we'd have a society where far fewer women die through botched abortions and self induced abortions and even attempts on their own lives because they cant see any other way to get around these outrageous laws.

Not only are there heavy restraints wrapped around any sort of reproductive rights women have as a whole, laws like this send the message that women should be ashamed of their sexuality. A big defence that 'pro-lifers' use is 'well if you dont want to get pregnant dont have sex'. But why? Why shouldn't we? Men are not penalised the same way we are when an accidental pregnancy occurs. A man can impregnate 9 women everyday for 9 months (that's 2,430 pregnancies) whereas a woman can only get pregnant once in those same 9 months. So please explain to me why all the responsibility is burdened onto the woman? The woman is told that she should have been careful and she should've been cautious, as if it's something to be ashamed of.

Law upon law upon law is being passed with each coming year and where on earth are we going to end up if we let things carry on like this? We are beginning to live in a world where a woman has little to no say over her body, that genuinely terrifies me.



The lesson we need to learn is; have children, don't have children, have an abortion, don't have an abortion. It is your body and yours only. Do not try to dictate to other women what they should do with their bodies.

Gilead is looking a lot more like home than it should do.

OTHER JUNE NEWS

The Baltic Bus, a travelling art exhibition, graced our yard for two days. Students enjoyed learning about the exhibitions and the different artists that created them—as well as having a go themselves!



Duke of Edinburgh messages from Mr Gwillim:

Year 9 are took part in their first D of E expedition on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26th June 2022. Lots of fun was had by all!

Year 11 Silver are taking part in their expedition on July 7th – 9th after a long break due to Covid.



LAST BUT NOT LEAST: A MESSAGE FROM MR. RODGERS

You will be aware that Ofsted visited James Calvert Spence College on the 15th and 16th of June and I would like to thank everyone in our school community for just being themselves and demonstrating how our school runs every day.

A particular thank you to those parents and students who took the time to complete the Ofsted ParentView questionnaire. If you raised concerns or issues in that questionnaire, please do get in touch with us so we can understand your view and look to improve further.

We hope to have the report before the end of this term when Ofsted's judgements will be validated and shared with staff, students, parents and the wider community.