Lesbian Resources

National Center for Lesbian Rights [http://www.nclrights.org/]
NCLR is a national legal organization committed to advancing the civil and human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their families through litigation, legislation, policy, and public education.

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force [http://www.thetaskforce.org/]
The mission of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is to build the power of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community from the ground up. We do this by training activists, organizing broad-based campaigns to defeat anti-LGBT referenda and advance pro-LGBT legislation, and by building the organizational capacity of our movement. Our Policy Institute, the movement’s premier think tank, provides research and policy analysis to support the struggle for complete equality and to counter right-wing lies. As part of a broader social justice movement, we work to create a nation that respects the diversity of human expression and identity and creates opportunity for all.

Documentary Films

Freeheld
DOC FREE 2007
Detective Lieutenant Laurel Hester spent 25 years investigating tough cases in Ocean County, New Jersey, protecting the rights of victims and putting her life on the line. She had no reason to expect that in the last year of her life, after she was diagnosed with terminal cancer, that her final battle for justice would be for the woman she loved. The film chronicles Laurel’s struggle to transfer her earned pension to her domestic partner, Stacie Andree. With less than six months to live, Laurel refuses to back down when her elected officials - the Ocean County Freeholders - deny her request to leave her pension to Stacie, an automatic option for heterosexual married couples. The film is structured chronologically, following both the escalation of Laurel’s battle with the Freeholders and the decline of her health as cancer spreads to her brain.

Keep not Silent
KEEP 2004
Examines the struggles of three Israeli lesbians attempting to live within the context of Orthodox Judaism.

Lesbians of Buenos Aires
DOC LESB 2002
This documentary tells the tale of Buenos Aires lesbians, focusing on three personal stories. A former militant woman who now devotes her time to feminine soccer; a young woman who is active so no girl has to go through what she went through and a lesbian mother who recounts how hostile the laws are regarding the rights of lesbian women. In spite of the difficulties their characters go through, the stories have a lot of humour, some soccer and a tour of the city.

No Secret Anymore: The Times of Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon
DOC NOSE 2003
Chronicles the lives of two women who have been partners in love and political struggle for half a century. San Francisco icons, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon are known as the founders of the modern lesbian civil rights movement. No Secret Anymore follows them through six decades, tracing the emergence of lesbians from the fear of discovery to the expectation of equality.

Radical Harmonies
DOC RADI 2002
A look at the history of women’s music, a movement focusing on music by women, for women, and about women.
Books

5.340 PRIga 2008
Featuring advice from students and administrators at more than seventy of the nation’s top colleges, the Gay and Lesbian Guide to College Life lets you know how to thrive on campus as a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and/or questioning student. Including tons of student testimonials and dozens of parent tips, the Gay and Lesbian Guide to College Life offers no-nonsense guidance to LGBT students, their families, and allies on how to make the most of their college experience.

The Girls: Sappho Goes to Hollywood by Diana McLellan
8.236 MCLgi 2000
Diana McLellan reveals the complex and intimate connections that roiled behind the public personae of Greta Garbo, Marlene Dietrich, Tallulah Bankhead, and the women who loved them. Private correspondence, long-secret FBI files, and troves of unpublished documents reveal a chain of lesbian affairs that moved from the theater world of New York, through the heights of chic society, to embed itself in the power structure of the movie business. The Girls serves up a rich stew of film, politics, sexuality, psychology, and stardom.

GLBTQ: The Survival Guide for Queer and Questioning Teens by Kelly Huegel
6.130 HUEgl 2003
Describes the challenges faced by gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered teens, offers practical advice, real-life experiences, and accessible resources and support groups.

6.1302 POLjo 1995
"You are not alone" is the intrinsic message of this frank, reassuring book aimed at teenagers who either are questioning their sexual orientations or have acknowledged that they are gay. The authors repeatedly emphasize the importance of self-acceptance as they offer advice on such topics as coming out to family and friends, coping with prejudice and rejection, reconciling one’s sexuality with the sometimes conflicting tenets of organized religion and combatting myths and stereotypes. In addition to their own authoritative counsel, they include copious quotes from gay or bisexual teens and supply an extensive list of sources of additional information and help, including community centers, crisis hotlines and supportive religious organizations.

Lea's Book of Rules for the World by Lea DeLaria
9.806 DELle 2000
Cross Howard Stern with Sandra Bernhardt, add a one-two punch, and you have stand-up comic Lea DeLaria, who plays to rave reviews on and off the Broadway stage. Now, in this uproarious collection of essays, DeLaria shares her Modern Day Ten Commandments and X-Rated Rules for the World with anyone bold enough to read them.

Lesbian Epiphanies: Women Coming Out in Later Life by Karol Jensen
3.556 JENle 1999
This insightful book knocks down the sociological and psychological barriers that keep women from realizing or acknowledging their real sexual orientation by dispelling societal and cultural myths about what it means to be a woman in the United States. Lesbian Epiphanies is the first book to extensively quote from interviews of lesbians and bisexuals who had entered into heterosexual marriages.
Lesbian Subjects: A Feminist Studies Reader (American West in the Twentieth Century) edited by Martha Vicinus  
4.130 VICle 1996  
"Lesbian Subjects" includes essays drawn primarily from Feminist Studies from 1980 to 1993 and traces lesbian studies from its beginnings, examining the difficulties of defining a lesbian perspective and a lesbian past, a culture, social milieux, states of mind.

Out & About Campus: Personal Accounts by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender College Students by Kim Howard and Annie Stevens  
5.540 HOWou 2000  
If there is one thread that binds the stories in this collection, it is the question of "How do you know?" "How do you know who's safe to come out to?" "How do you know how to respond to hate?" "How do you know how to create change on campus?" These questions and a variety of others asked and answered in the following stories are the same questions many lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT), and questioning college students across the country ask.

Persistence: All Ways Butch and Femme edited by Ivan E. Coyote and Zena Sharman  
9.0063 COYpe 2012  
Persistence is a raucous, insightful, sexy, and sometimes dangerous look at what the words butch and femme can mean in today's ever-shifting gender landscape, with one eye on the past and the other on what is to come.

Secret Sisters: Stories of Being Lesbian and Bisexual in a College Sorority edited by Pamela W. Freeman  
5.546 WINse 2000  
The first-person accounts of 25 women stand as a powerful and courageous collective effort to address the traditionally homophobic and heterosexist atmosphere within sororities and gain greater understanding of the true nature of sisterhood.

Testimonies edited by Karen Barber  
6.1363 BARte 1994  
More than twenty women of widely varying backgrounds and ages recount their journeys toward self-discovery. Their stories portray their efforts to develop a lesbian identity, explore their sexuality, and build a community with other lesbians.

This Is What Lesbian Looks Like: Dyke Activists Take on the 21st Century edited by Kris Kleinsienst  
4.206 KLEth 1999  
In This Is What Lesbian Looks Like, dyke activists reflect on race, class, conflict, and differences within the movement, and the rise of the religious right. Carol Queen pieces together her erotic awakenings amid the sex wars of the early 1970s. Dorothy Allison writes about her and her partner's recent decision to move in with their son's birth father and form their "own design of a happy family." Carmen Vazquez argues against the urge to conform, claiming that we are so wounded "by the denial of belonging, by the loss of family, community, and a right to faith in whatever we understand to be god, that we accept the absurdity and the illusion that we can belong to America's family if we are 'good.'"

A Woman Like That: Lesbian and Bisexual Writers Tell Their Coming Out Stories edited by Joan Larkin  
6.163 LARwo 1999  
The act of "coming out" has the power to transform every aspect of a woman's life: family, friendships, career, sexuality, spirituality. An essential element of self-realization, it is the unabashed acceptance of one's "outlaw" standing in a predominantly heterosexual world. These accounts - sometimes heart-wrenching, often exhilarating - encompass a wide breadth of backgrounds and experiences. Extending from the 1940s to the present day, these intensely personal stories in turn reflect a unique history of the changing social
mores that affected each woman's ability to determine the shape of her own life. Together they form an ornate tapestry of lesbian and bisexual experience in the United States over the past half-century.

_The Essential Dykes to Watch Out For_ by Alison Bechdel  
9.856 BECes 2008

In honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the ground-breaking comic strip series, Dykes to Watch Out For brings together a new collection of cartoons recounting the lives and loves of a diverse group of lesbian friends, in a volume that features selections from eleven previous volumes, as well as sixty strips never before published in book form.

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