

## Partial Timeline of Adoption Rights for LGBT People

- **1976** – American Psychological Association declared that “The sex, gender identity, or sexual or orientation of natural, or prospective adoptive or foster parents should not be the sole or primary variable considered in custody or placement cases.” (source: <http://www.nclrights.org/site/DocServer/adptn0204.pdf?docID=1221>)
- **1979** – Family Pride Coalition was founded “to advance the well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender parents and their families through mutual parenting support, collaboration and public advocacy.” (source: <http://www.nclrights.org/site/DocServer/adptn0204.pdf?docID=1221>)
- **Mid-1980’s** – National Center for Lesbian Rights pioneers second-parent adoption legal strategy (source: <http://www.nclrights.org/site/DocServer/adptn0204.pdf?docID=1221>)
- **1986** – Becky Smith and Annie Afleck became the first lesbian couple able to jointly adopt (source: <http://www.uuworld.org/ideas/articles/2026.shtml>)
- **1986** – “The Arizona Court of Appeals upheld the denial of an adoption petition brought by a bisexual man, on the ground that ‘he testified that it was possible that he at some future time would have some type of homosexual relationship with another man.’” (source: <http://www.thefreelibrary.com/Adoption+by+lesbian,+gay+and+bisexual+parents:+an+overview+of+current...-a0160419620>)
- **1987** – New Hampshire issued a statute banning LGBT adoption. (source: <http://www.nclrights.org/site/DocServer/adptn0204.pdf?docID=1221>)
- **1992** – “New York courts allow adoption by gay partner (*Adoption of Evan*).” (source: <http://www.aclu.org/getequal/timeline.htm>)
- **[[1993** – Maureen Brodoff and Ellen Wade win second-parent adoption case]]
- **1995** – Florida Supreme Court “upheld the constitutionality of Florida’s ban on gay adoption.” (source: <http://www.nclrights.org/site/DocServer/adptn0204.pdf?docID=1221>)
- **1996** – Delaware permits single-parent gay adoption (source: <http://www.towardequality.org/Timeline.htm>)
- **1997** – “New Jersey becomes first state to expressly authorize joint adoption by gay couples.” (source: <http://www.aclu.org/getequal/timeline.htm>)
- **1999** – New Hampshire repealed statute banning LGBT adoption. (source: <http://www.nclrights.org/site/DocServer/adptn0204.pdf?docID=1221>)
- **2001** – Delaware permits second-parent adoption by gay family (source: <http://www.towardequality.org/Timeline.htm>)
- **2005** – “U.S. Supreme Court refuses to hear appeal of federal appeals court decision upholding Florida’s ban on adoption by lesbians and gay men (*Lofton v. Florida*).” (source: <http://www.aclu.org/getequal/timeline.htm>)
- **2006** – Catholic Charities ended their adoption work, not wanting to comply with the anti-discrimination laws of Massachusetts (source: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/03/11/catholic\\_charities\\_stuns\\_state\\_ends\\_adoptions/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/03/11/catholic_charities_stuns_state_ends_adoptions/))
- **2007** – Maine Law Court Ok’s joint adoption by two unmarried adults (source: <http://me.glad.org/index.html#adoptionvictory>)