losing matt shepard

Life and Politics in the Aftermath of Anti-Gay Murder

BETH LOFFREDA



Bertram Cohler

Losing Matt Shepard Beth Loffreda, 2001-11-05 Explores why the 1998 murder of gay student Matthew Shepard in Laramie Wyoming set off a media frenzy and continues to haunt the nation and examines how the politics of sexuality The Legacies of Matthew Shepard Helis Sikk, Leisa Meyer, 2019-01-08 This edited unfolded in the small town collection explores the deeper contexts and consequences surrounding the murder of Matthew Shepard This young gay man was brutally beaten and left tied to a fence on a chill Wyoming night in October 1998 Found the next morning by two cyclists he was transported to a hospital in Fort Collins Colorado where he died five days later His murder was one of the most publicized and for some most vividly remembered instances of hate crime related violence based on sexual orientation Twenty years after his death Matthew Shepard's story is at a critical turning point memories of his murder and its meanings can either fade into the past or be reinvigorated to make up part of more meaningful investigations into LGBTQ and modern U S history The multidisciplinary contributors to this book blend personal narrative with more conventional academic approaches to offer a 20 year retrospective that re examines the subject of Shepard's murder whilst also bringing to light questions of historical memory rurality race and public policy Each of the disciplines and genres included contributes unique understandings of the murder and responses to it that cannot be articulated solely through traditional academic writing This collection then not only tells the story of Matthew Shepard in the context of 2018 but also provides a compelling view of how and through which means American culture communicates painful histories of violence bias and death The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Christian Martyrdom Paul Middleton, 2020-01-27 A unique wide ranging volume exploring the historical religious cultural political and social aspects of Christian martyrdom Although a well studied and researched topic in early Christianity martyrdom had become a relatively neglected subject of scholarship by the latter half of the 20th century However in the years following the attack on the Twin Towers on September 11 2001 the study of martyrdom has experienced a remarkable resurgence Heightened cultural religious and political debates about Islamic martyrdom have in a large part prompted increased interest in the role of martyrdom in the Christian tradition The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Christian Martyrdom is a comprehensive examination of the phenomenon from its beginnings to its role in the present day This timely volume presents essays written by 30 prominent scholars that explore the fundamental concepts key questions and contemporary debates surrounding martyrdom in Christianity Broad in scope this volume explores topics ranging from the origins influences and theology of martyrdom in the early church with particular emphasis placed on the Martyr Acts to contemporary issues of gender identity construction and the place of martyrdom in the modern church Essays address the role of martyrdom after the establishment of Christendom especially its crucial contribution during and after the Reformation period in the development of Christian and European national building as well as its role in forming Christian identities in Asia Africa and the Americas This important contribution to Christian scholarship Offers the first comprehensive reference

work to examine the topic of martyrdom throughout Christian history Includes an exploration of martyrdom and its links to traditions in Judaism and Islam Covers extensive geographical zones time periods and perspectives Provides topical commentary on Islamic martyrdom and its parallels to the Christian church Discusses hotly debated topics such as the extent of the Roman persecution of early Christians The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Christian Martyrdom is an invaluable resource for scholars and students of religious studies theology and Christian history as well as readers with interest in the topic of Christian martyrdom The Geographical Imagination of Annie Proulx Alex Hunt, 2010-11-23 This highly readable edited collection focuses on the work of Pulitzer Prize winning author Annie Proulx Each contributor to this volume explores a different facet of Proulx's striking attention to geography place landscape regional environments and local economies in her writing Covering all of her novels and short story collections scholars from the United States Canada and abroad engage in critical analyses of Proulx s new regionalism use of geographical settings and themes of displacement and immigration Taken together these essays demonstrate Annie Proulx's contribution to new regionalist understandings of place on local national and global scales Readers will come away with a better understanding of Proulx's particular landscapes particularly those of Wyoming New England Texas and Newfoundland and the issues surrounding the significance of these regions in contemporary American culture and literature Pre-Gay L.A. C. Todd White, 2010-10-01 This book explores the origins and history of the modern American movement for homosexual rights which originated in Los Angeles in the late 1940s and continues today Part ethnography and part social history it is a detailed account of the history of the movement as manifested through the emergence of four related organizations Mattachine ONE Incorporated the Homosexual Information Center HIC and the Institute for the Study of Human Resources ISHR which began doing business as ONE Incorporated when the two organizations merged in 1995 Pre Gay L A is a chronicle of how one clandestine special interest association emerged as a powerful political force that spawned several other organizations over a period of more than sixty years Relying on extended interviews with participants as well as a full review of the archives of the Homosexual Information Center C Todd White unearths the institutional histories of the gay and lesbian rights movement and the myriad personalities involved including Mattachine founder Harry Hay ONE Magazine editors Dale Jennings Donald Slater and Irma Wolf ONE Incorporated founder Dorr Legg and many others Fighting to decriminalize homosexuality and to obtain equal rights the viable organizations that these individuals helped to establish significantly impacted legal policies not only in Los Angeles but across the United States affecting the lives of most of us living in America today Violence Against Queer People Doug Meyer, 2015-10-11 Violence against lesbians and gay men has increasingly captured media and scholarly attention But these reports tend to focus on one segment of the LGBT community white middle class men and largely ignore that part of the community that arguably suffers a larger share of the violence racial minorities the poor and women In Violence against Queer People sociologist Doug Meyer offers the first investigation of anti queer violence that focuses on the role played by race class and

gender Drawing on interviews with forty seven victims of violence Meyer shows that LGBT people encounter significantly different forms of violence and perceive that violence quite differently based on their race class and gender His research highlights the extent to which other forms of discrimination including racism and sexism shape LGBT people's experience of abuse He reports for instance that lesbian and transgender women often described violent incidents in which a sexual or a misogynistic component was introduced and that LGBT people of color sometimes weren t sure if anti queer violence was based solely on their sexuality or whether racism or sexism had also played a role Meyer observes that given the many differences in how anti-queer violence is experienced the present media focus on white middle class victims greatly oversimplifies and distorts the nature of anti-queer violence. In fact attempts to reduce anti-queer violence that ignore race class and gender run the risk of helping only the most privileged gay subjects Many feel that the struggle for gay rights has largely been accomplished and the tide of history has swung in favor of LGBT equality Violence against Queer People on the contrary argues that the lives of many LGBT people particularly the most vulnerable have improved very little if at all over Queering the Countryside Mary L. Gray, Colin R. Johnson, Brian J. Gilley, 2016-03-15 This collection the past thirty years of original essays confronts the assumption that queer desires depend upon urban life for meaning By considering rural queer life the contributors challenge readers to explore queer experiences in ways that give greater context and texture to modern practices of identity formation. The book s focus on understudied rural spaces throws into relief the overemphasis of urban locations and structures in the current political and theoretical work on queer sexualities and genders It highlights the need to rethink notions of the closet and coming out and the characterizations of non urban sexualities and genders as isolated and in need of outreach Provided by publisher Sex in Crisis Dagmar Herzog, 2008-07-01 The Religious Right has fractured the pundits tell us and its power is waning Is it true have evangelical Christians lost their political clout When the subject is sex the answer is definitively no Only three decades after the legalization of abortion the broad gains of the feminist movement and the emergence of the gay rights movement Americans appear to be doing the time warp again It s 1950s redux Politicians including many Democrats insist that abstinence is the only acceptable form of birth control Fully fifty percent of American high schools teach a sex education curriculum that includes deceptive information about the prevalence of STDs and the failure rates of condoms Students are taught that homosexuality is curable and that premarital sex ruins future marital happiness Afraid of sounding godless American liberals have failed to challenge these retrograde orthodoxies The truth is Americans have not become anti sex but they have become increasingly anxious about sex not least due to the stratagems of the Religious Right There has been a war on sex in America a war conservative evangelicals have in large part already won How did the Religious Right score so many successes Historian Dagmar Herzog argues that conservative evangelicals appropriated the lessons of the first sexual revolution far more effectively than liberals With the support of a multimillion dollar Christian sex industry evangelicals crafted an astonishingly graphic and effective pitch for the

pleasures of hot monogamy for married heterosexual couples only This potent message enabled them to win elections and seduce souls with disastrous political consequences Fierce witty and brilliant Sex in Crisis challenges America's culture of sexual dysfunction and calls for a more sophisticated national conversation about the facts of life Bertram Cohler, 2007-05-15 Exploring nearly sixty years of memoir and autobiography Writing Desire examines the changing identity of gay men writing within a historical context Distinguished scholar and psychoanalyst Bertram J Cohler has carefully selected a diverse group of ten men including historians activists journalists poets performance artists and bloggers whose life writing evokes the evolution of gay life in twentieth century America By contrasting the personal experience of these disparate writers Cohler illustrates the social transformations that these men helped shape Among Cohler's diverse subjects is Alan Helms whose journey from Indiana to New York's gay society represents the passage of men who came of age in the 1950s and 1960s when homosexuality was considered a hidden disease The liberating effects of Stonewall s aftermath are chronicled in the life of Arnie Kantrowitz the prototypical activist for gay rights in the 1970s and the founder the Gay and Lesbian Alliance against Defamation The artistic works of Tim Miller and Mark Doty evoke loss and shock during of the early stages of the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s Cohler rounds out this collective group portrait by looking at the newest generation of writers in the Internet age via the blog of BrYaN who did the previously unthinkable he outed himself to millions of people A compelling mix of social history and personal biography Writing Desire distills the experience of three generations of gay America Finalist LGBT Studies Lambda Literary Foundation Systemic Racism Ruth Thompson-Miller, Kimberley Ducey, 2017-10-17 This volume identifies some of the remaining gaps in extant theories of systemic racism and in doing so illuminates paths forward The contributors explore topics such as the enduring hyper criminalization of blackness the application of the white racial frame and important counter frames developed by people of color They also assess how African Americans and other Americans of color understand the challenges they face in white dominated environments Additionally the book includes analyses of digitally constructed blackness on social media as well as case studies of systemic racism within and beyond U S borders This research is presented in honor of Kimberley Ducey s and Ruth Thompson Miller's teacher mentor and friend Joe R Feagin **Sexuality, Rurality, and Geography** Andrew Gorman-Murray, Barbara Pini, Lia Bryant, 2012-12-27 This international edited collection contributes to knowledge about the geographies of sexualities experienced and imagined in rural spaces The book draws attention to the heterogeneity of rural contexts and the diversity of meanings about sexualities within and across these spaces The collection examines four key themes First Intimacies and Institutions focuses on how intimate relationships are governed by societal discursive and institutional structures and regulated by social political and legal frames of citizenship and belonging The chapters present historical and contemporary case studies of the constitution and management of intimate sexual lives and relationships in rural and non metropolitan spaces Second Communities explores how sexual identities are socially constructed and

relationally performed in rural communities scrutinizing the complex interplay of belonging and alienation inclusion and exclusion for sexual subjects and communities within rural spaces Analyzing films literature and interviews the chapters examine sexuality and community and queer notions of rural family and community Third Mobilities examines movement migration at different scales Cross national data provides insights into similarities and differences in rural migration and homemaking for lesbians gay men and same sex families The chapters consider how movement coming out and memories of time and place inflect home identity and belonging for rural lesbians and gay men Fourth Production and Consumption investigates the commodification of rural sexualities. The chapters interrogate the management of animal bodies and sexualities in industrial agriculture for consumer pleasure and commercial ends how heterosexuality and sexual relations are transacted in mining communities and the global commodification of rural masculine sexualities This book is timely It provides important new insights about ruralities and sexualities filling a gap in theoretical and empirical understandings about how sexualities in diverse rural spaces are given meaning This collection begins the processes of furthering discussion and knowledge about the inherently dynamic and constantly changing nature of the rural and the multiple varied and complex sexual subjectivities lived through corporeal experiences and virtual and imagined lives Brett Krutzsch, 2019-02-01 Finalist Best LGBTO Nonfiction Book Lambda Literary Awards 2020 On October 14 1998 five thousand people gathered on the steps of the U S Capitol to mourn the death of Matthew Shepard a gay college student who had been murdered in Wyoming eight days earlier Politicians and celebrities addressed the crowd and the televised national audience to share their grief with the country Never before had a gay citizen s murder elicited such widespread outrage or concern from straight Americans In Dying to Be Normal Brett Krutzsch argues that gay activists memorialized people like Shepard as part of a political strategy to present gays as similar to the country's dominant class of white straight Christians Through an examination of publicly mourned gay deaths Krutzsch counters the common perception that LGBT politics and religion have been oppositional and reveals how gay activists used religion to bolster the argument that gays are essentially the same as straights and therefore deserving of equal rights Krutzsch's analysis turns to the memorialization of Shepard Harvey Milk Tyler Clementi Brandon Teena and F C Martinez to campaigns like the It Gets Better Project and national tragedies like the Pulse nightclub shooting to illustrate how activists used prominent deaths to win acceptance influence political debates over LGBT rights and encourage assimilation Throughout Krutzsch shows how in the fight for greater social inclusion activists relied on Christian values and rhetoric to portray gays as upstanding Americans As Krutzsch demonstrates gay activists regularly reinforced a white Protestant vision of acceptable American citizenship that often excluded people of color gender variant individuals non Christians and those who did not adhere to Protestant Christianity's sexual standards The first book to detail how martyrdom has influenced national debates over LGBT rights Dying to Be Normal establishes how religion has shaped gay assimilation in the United States and the mainstreaming of particular gays as normal Americans

Activism and LGBT Psychology Judith M. Glassgold, Jack Drescher, 2014-01-02 Go beyond traditional approaches to therapy research and teaching Psychotherapy works toward change but has traditionally focused solely on the individual Today it is understood that discrimination and other adverse social conditions adversely affect the mental health of minority groups Activism and LGBT Psychology takes note of the influence of social factors and offers examples of how mental health professionals can use their professional skills to empower the LGBT community Respected leaders in the field of psychotherapy describe theoretical clinical community interventions and personal approaches to changing attitudes toward LGBT people and within LGBT communities Prejudice against a minority has an undeniable impact on mental health treatment Recognizing and understanding this dynamic Activism and LGBT Psychology reveals strategies to lessen societal discrimination work for positive change and reinforce LGBT affirmative mental health practices This valuable guide shows how to integrate the mental health professional s unique skills into activism for lesbian gay bisexual and transgender issues Topics in Activism and LGBT Psychology include integrating activism into clinical practice theoretical alternatives for clinical practice mental health issues as the consequences of social injustice strategies for using liberation psychology in psychotherapy with LGBT clients practical strategies to bring an integrated clinical approach which encourages client empowerment and self definition how research can be social activism providing training and support to make educational professionals agents of change personal accounts of integrating professional work with an activist role and more Activism and LGBT Psychology is a positive insightful guide for change that is valuable for community psychiatrists psychologists sociologists educators students and professionals in the mental health field **Sharing the Dream** Dominic Pulera, 2004-10-20 White males 100 million strong constitute approximately 35 percent of the U S population a percentage that declines slightly each year They matter very much to discussions of race ethnicity and gender in the US due to their numbers and the enormous influence they have wielded and continue to wield In this highly original and readable work Dominic Pulera offers the broadest and most balanced treatment of the white male experience in America to date He contends that virtually all white males are sharing the American dream with women and people of color in response to the nation's changing demographics and the multicultural mindset that informs policies and attitudes in our nation Some white males are sharing the dream voluntarily others are doing so involuntarily. The author also explores the heterogeneity of white male America taking into account such factors as age ethnicity ideology social class regional background occupational status and sexual orientation This timely work relies on a broad range of sources including extensive field research and hundreds of interviews along with the best primary and secondary sources available It includes original historical treatments discussion of contemporary dynamics and comparative material that takes into account the experiences of peoples in other countries In doing so Pulera places white males in the context of America's ongoing transition from a predominantly white country to one where people of color are increasingly numerous and consequently becoming more visible Dominic I Pulera is an

independent scholar who lectures and writes about issues related to race ethnicity and gender In the wake of his first book Visible Differences Why Race Will Matter to Americans in the Twenty First Century he spoke at 13 universities on 4 continents and appeared on a one hour segment of Book TV C Span He has been a frequent guest on radio and television programs in Atlanta Baltimore Chicago Detroit Los Angeles Philadelphia and Washington D C **Culture Wars** Roger Chapman, 2015-03-17 The term culture wars refers to the political and sociological polarisation that has characterised American society the past several decades This new edition provides an enlightening and comprehensive A to Z ready reference now with supporting primary documents on major topics of contemporary importance for students teachers and the general reader It aims to promote understanding and clarification on pertinent topics that too often are not adequately explained or discussed in a balanced context With approximately 640 entries plus more than 120 primary documents supporting both sides of key issues this is a unique and defining work indispensable to informed discussions of the most timely and critical issues facing America today The Bully Pulpit, Presidential Speeches, and the Shaping of Public Policy, Jeffrey S. Ashley, Marla J. Jarmer, 2015-11-11 Issue framing is the way that people especially politicians get other people to view a particular problem or issue By framing the issue in a particular way the goal is to get people to think about the issue to believe that an action is required and most importantly to believe that a particular action the one being proposed by the framer is the right one The use of language and imagery is an essential part of issue framing and has been an integral part of the presidency since our nation s founding but it has become particularly important since Theodore Roosevelt began to take his message directly to the people This work examines a selected speech delivered by every president from Roosevelt through Barack Obama to show how language has been instrumental in directing policy Each chapter will examine the situation or background for the problem include a transcript of the speech the president delivered and conclude with an analysis of the speech in terms of the particular frame that the speech utilized and the eventual outcome or policy direction Lost in the New West Mark Asquith, 2021-10-07 Lost in the New West investigates a group of inspired by the speech writers John Williams Cormac McCarthy Annie Proulx and Thomas McGuane who have sought to explore the tensions inherent to the Western where the distinctions between old and new myth and reality authenticity and sentimentality are frequently blurred Collectively these authors demonstrate a deep seated attachment to the landscape people and values of the West and offer a critical appraisal of the dialogue between the contemporary West and its legacy Mark Asquith draws attention to the idealistic young men at the center of such works as Williams s Butcher s Crossing 1960 McCarthy s Blood Meridian 1985 and Border Trilogy Proulx s Wyoming stories and McGuane s Deadrock novels For each writer these characters struggle to come to terms with the difference between the suspect mythology of the West that shapes their identity and the reality that surrounds them They are in short lost in the new West Oueering Paradigms Burkhard Scherer, 2009 This book brings together original peer reviewed research providing new perspectives on the status quo and

challenges for the future of Queer Theory Queer Studies Drawing inspiration from the conference in Queer Studies that was held at Canterbury Christ Church University in February and March 2009 the chapters offer analyses and insights into changing academic and public discourses on sexual and gender normativities within a wide multi and trans disciplinary scope Transcending the binary axis of homo vs heterosexuality the book analyzes queries and challenges multiple overt and hidden heteronormative and gender binarist assumptions in six larger areas paradigmatic discourses in academia and public life are discussed Queered Identities Queer Politics Queering Public Discourses Queering the Classroom Pop Queer and Queer Readings The contributing authors represent the wide spectrum of scholarship engaged with Queer Theory including political and social science philosophy history literary criticism cultural studies education psychology and legal studies They conversely and discursively contribute to the evaluation reformulation and if appropriate reclaiming of academic approaches in Oueer Studies **Death on the Fourth of July** David A. Neiwert, 2015-01-06 On July 4 2000 three young Asian American men visiting the small town of Ocean Shores Washington were attacked by a group of skinheads in the parking lot of a Texaco station Threats and slurs gave way to violence and ultimately a fatal stabbing But this tragedy culminated with a twist A young white man flaunting a Confederate flag just moments before was slain by one of his would be victims In the ensuing murder trial a harsh lesson on what it really means to be an American unfolded exposing the layers of distrust between minorities and whites in rural America and revealing the dirty little secret that haunts many small towns hate crime In Death on the Fourth of July veteran journalist David Neiwert explores the hard questions about hate crimes that few are willing to engage He shares the stories behind the Ocean Shores case through first hand interviews and weaves them through an expert examination of the myths legal issues and history surrounding these controversial crimes Death on the Fourth of July provides the most clear headed and rational thinking on this loaded issue yet published all within the context of one Law and the City Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos, 2007-05-07 This invaluable guide compelling real life tragedy offers a lateral critical and often unexpected description of some of the most important cities in the world each one from a distinctive legal perspective

Decoding Losing Matt Shepard Life And Politics In The Aftermath Of Anti Gay Murder: Revealing the Captivating Potential of Verbal Expression

In an era characterized by interconnectedness and an insatiable thirst for knowledge, the captivating potential of verbal expression has emerged as a formidable force. Its ability to evoke sentiments, stimulate introspection, and incite profound transformations is genuinely awe-inspiring. Within the pages of "Losing Matt Shepard Life And Politics In The Aftermath Of Anti Gay Murder," a mesmerizing literary creation penned by way of a celebrated wordsmith, readers embark on an enlightening odyssey, unraveling the intricate significance of language and its enduring impact on our lives. In this appraisal, we shall explore the book is central themes, evaluate its distinctive writing style, and gauge its pervasive influence on the hearts and minds of its readership.

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