



東海大學學生報告 ePaper

報告題名：

二戰以降，同志權利在英國的發展

Progress on Homosexual Rights in the United Kingdom since WWII

作者：黃千慈、陳禹含、簡佳妤、廖育鈺、張宇萱

系級：外文二

學號：1021007、1021042、1021003、1021237、1021014

開課老師：陳玫樺 教授

課程名稱：研究方法

開課系所：外文系

開課學年：103 學年度 第二學期

中文摘要

這篇研究報告的目的是為了研究同志權利在英國的發展，我們的靈感來自電影《模仿遊戲》，片中主角 Alan Turing 在二戰時期為英國貢獻良多，卻因其同性戀性傾向被英國政府定罪，我們對於 Turing 的遭遇感到痛心，因此，我們決定了這個研究主題，藉由這份研究報告，來向偉大的計算機之父 Alan Turing 致敬。首先，我們在圖書館借閱許多與同性戀相關的書籍，囊括前人的研究、社會運動、法律等，其次，我們從網路上搜尋二戰以來，所有與同志平權有關的重大事件，其中包含組織成立、法案廢立、抗爭運動、請願、許多同志的社會成就等，最後，我們將所有蒐集到的資料彙整，整理並歸納出了三大類重要的主題：組織、事件與法律。

我們的研究結果顯示出，自二戰以來，英國的同志權利有大幅度的提升，但這些改變並不是容易的，在這七十年間，所有請願與抗爭過程都非常艱辛，雖然路途坎坷，但英國政府對同志權利的重視著實日益提升。這份研究使我們堅信，假使 Alan Turing 生活在我們的年代，他必定能獲得英國政府相當的重視與讚賞。

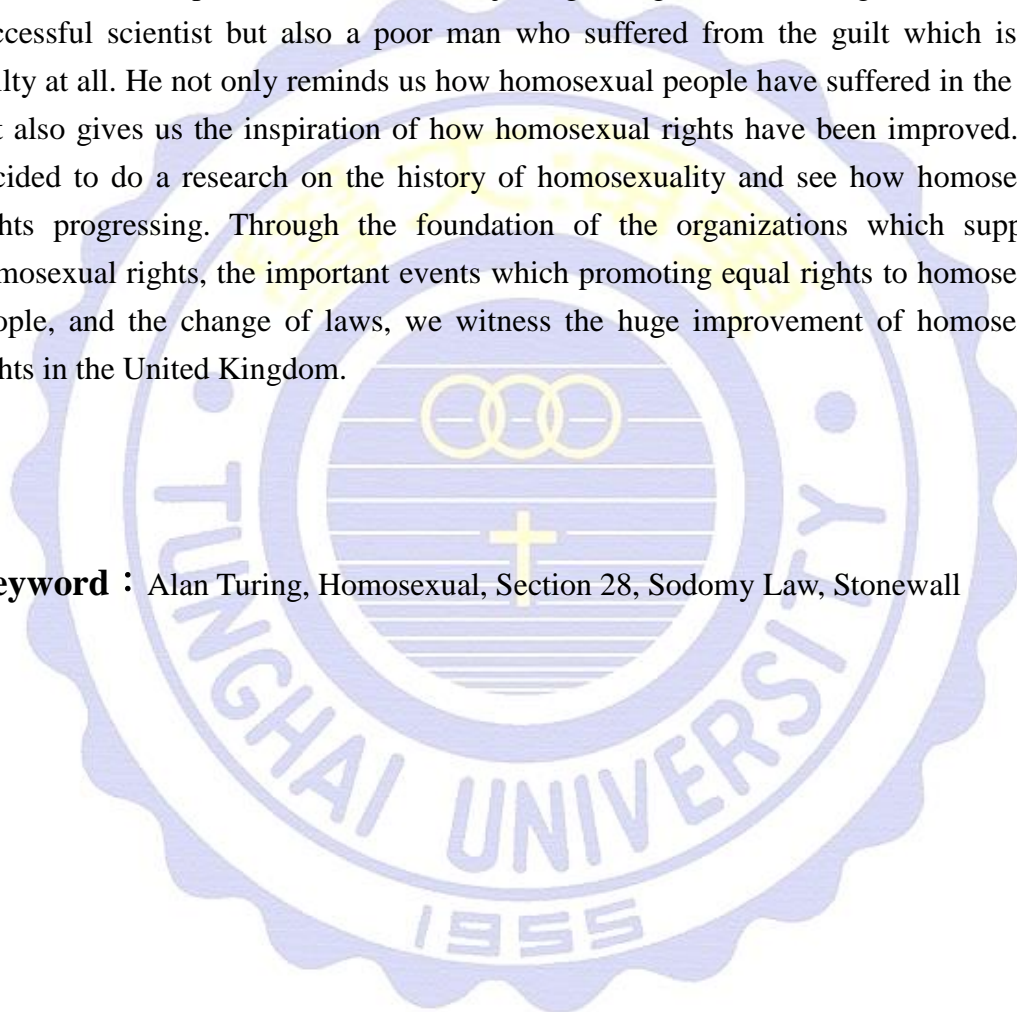
關鍵字：同志權利、同性戀、英國同志、模仿遊戲



Abstract

The winner of Best Adapted Screenplay of the 87th Oscars is Graham Moore, who is the screenwriter of the movie *the Imitation Game*. [1] His award acceptance speech reminds us of the main character Alan Turing in the movie. [2] Alan Turing devoted his whole life to his country, the United Kingdom, and invented a machine to break the complex settings of Enigma which helped the Allied Powers defeating the Axis powers during World War II. Nevertheless, when the government discovered that Alan Turing's sexual orientation was homosexuality, they sentenced him as a criminal and gave him a harsh punishment which is injecting estrogen. Alan Turing was not only a successful scientist but also a poor man who suffered from the guilt which is not guilty at all. He not only reminds us how homosexual people have suffered in the past but also gives us the inspiration of how homosexual rights have been improved. We decided to do a research on the history of homosexuality and see how homosexual rights progressing. Through the foundation of the organizations which supports homosexual rights, the important events which promoting equal rights to homosexual people, and the change of laws, we witness the huge improvement of homosexual rights in the United Kingdom.

Keyword : Alan Turing, Homosexual, Section 28, Sodomy Law, Stonewall



目 次

| | |
|--|---|
| I. Foundation of Homosexual Related Organizations..... | 4 |
| II. Important Events and Activities..... | 4 |
| III. Laws related to homosexual rights..... | 6 |
| IV. Conclusion..... | 8 |



I. Foundation of Homosexual Related Organizations

After the Wolfenden reported to begin a campaign of making homosexuality legal in the UK, the Homosexual Law Reform Society was founded in the UK in 1958. The first lesbian social and political organization in the United Kingdom was the Minorities Research Group (MRG). They published a magazine called Arena Three for lesbian.[3]

The North West Homosexual Law Reform Committee was founded in 1964. And the main concept of this organization is to abandon the idea that homosexuality is a sickness and make it legalize. And later in 1969, the branch of North West Homosexual Law Reform Committee became the national Campaign for Homosexual Equality. In the same year, Stonewall riot began in New York at the midnight on June 28th. This riot made Gay Liberation Front & Gay Activists Alliance set up in New York. Because many cases that homosexual people cannot adopt children happened, Action for Lesbian Parents was founded in 1975.[4]

In 1980, the first black lesbian and gay group was founded. Capital Gay, a weekly London newspaper, founded in 1982. Then in 1989, the campaign group Stonewall UK is set up to oppose Section 28 and other barriers to equality. Direct action group Outrage set up in May after the murder in London of gay actor Michael Boothe in 1990. And the next year, Lesbian & Gay Police Association (LAGPA, later the Gay Police Association GPA) was formed.[5] The most important issue among homosexual people is AIDS. So in 1992, a group called Gay Men Fighting AIDS (GMFA) was founded. Because Euan Sutherland that unequal age of consent violates convention rights, the Commission of the ECHR found in 1997.

II. Important Events and Activities

Trace back to the history of homosexuality, there are many big events happened to improve the right of the homosexual people. In 1970, June 28th, first ever organized lesbian and gay pride march took place in New York City commemorating the previous year's Stonewall riot. First gay demonstration in the UK took place in Highbury Fields in Islington. Then, October 13th Gay Liberation Front (GLF) was established at London School of Economics to debate how gay men and lesbians were

being treated unfairly in Britain. It was also influenced by the Stonewall Rebellion in the USA that started on 28 June 1969.[6]

In 1971, First gay march through London took place, ending with a rally in Trafalgar Square, protesting against the unequal age of consent for gay men. In 1972, The First British Gay Pride Rally was held in London with 1000 people marching from Trafalgar Square to Hyde Park. Gay News, Britain's first gay newspaper was founded. First UK Pride carnival and march through London held on 1 July.

Different conference for gay and lesbian had held in following years, such as, first national lesbian conference held in Canterbury, First International Gay Rights Conference held in Edinburgh, in 1972. Even the first gay lesbian Trades Union Congress (TUC) conference took place to discuss workplace rights for Gays and Lesbians in 1977. Then in 1979, a huge and important event happened on the media industry, Gay Life which is the first ever gay TV series commissioned for British TV by London Weekend Television.[8]

After seven years, London Borough of Haringey's Lesbian and Gay Unit wrote to all school's teachers in the borough asking them to promote positive images of homosexuality to their students. In 1988, the first British national conference for lesbians and gay men with disabilities was held. And in 1990, the first gay pride event was held in Manchester.

Moreover, OutRage called for the police to start protecting gay men instead of arresting them. In September, lesbian and gay police officers established the Lesbian and Gay Police Association (LAGPA/GPA). In 1993, Stonewall launched first challenge to the European Court of Human Rights on the age of consent with three gay teenagers aged 16 - 18; Hugo Grenhalgh, Will Parry and Ralph Wild. Stonewall and ILGA produced first European survey of lesbian & gay rights for the European Commission.

Then, in 1995, Stonewall Parenting Group was formed. And when times went to 2005, December 5, the first civil partnerships for same sex couples can be registered which was a really big improvement to homosexuals. Two years after, the first Gay Youth Event was held at the City Hall in London in June.

III. Laws related to homosexual rights

Law is a significant element in a society, especially when we are looking into the issue of homosexual rights. Laws that forbidding homosexual activities had already existed for a long time, and the most well-known one is Sodomy Law. Not only Alan Turing but Oscar Wilde, a famous playwright was sentenced being a criminal of sodomy.[7] The table down here shows the laws which were created to punish homosexual activities.

| | |
|------|-----------------------------|
| --- | Sodomy Law[7] |
| 1956 | The Sexual Offences Act |
| 1971 | The Nullity of Marriage Act |
| 1988 | Section 28[9] |

Lots of people in the United Kingdom devoted their whole life fighting for homosexual equality. Although lots of the protests and petitions failed, they successfully raised the attention of the government and the society. People in the United Kingdom started to listen to the voice of homosexual people. Finally, more and more unfair laws which considered homosexual activity as crime were abolished. The table below shows how each change of the law decriminalizing homosexuality gradually.

| | |
|------|---|
| 1967 | The Sexual Offences Act (England and Wales) |
| 1980 | The Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980 (Scotland) |
| 1981 | United Kingdom struck down Northern Ireland's criminalization of homosexual acts between consenting adults. |
| 1992 | UK Crown Dependency of Isle of Man repealed sodomy law |
| 1994 | UK Crown Dependency of Isle of Man decriminalized homosexuality. |
| 2000 | Scotland abolished Clause 2a (Section 28) of the Local Government Act. |
| 2003 | Section 28 is repealed (England, Wales, and Northern Ireland) |
| 2004 | Sexual Offences Act |
| 2006 | Section 28 is repealed (UK Crown Dependency of the Isle of Man) |

The decriminalization of the laws guarantees homosexual people freedom to love along with their heart. Furthermore, homosexual people started to have the right to give birth or adopt children as the follow laws in table guarantee.

| | |
|------|--|
| 1990 | Human Embryo Fertilization & Embryology Bill |
| 2005 | The Adoption and Children Act 2002 |
| 2008 | Human Fertilization and Embryology Act 2008 |

Besides, although the amendments of the law seem to equalize the rights of homosexual people with heterosexual people, still some people in the country cannot accept the existence of homosexuality. Therefore, in order to protect homosexual people from being bullied or discriminated, the government has made some acts into force. The table below displays the protections which the government sends to homosexual people.

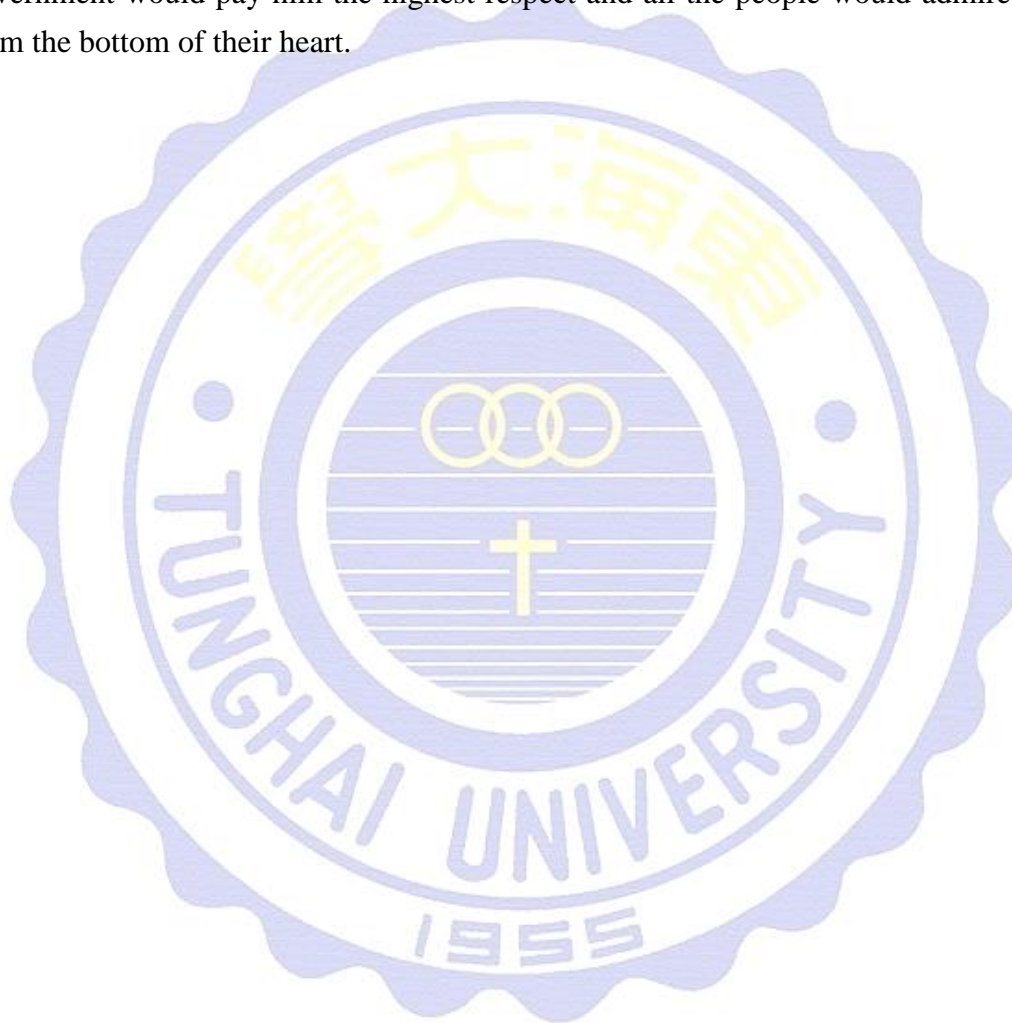
| | |
|------|--|
| 2003 | Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) Regulations |
| 2005 | Equality Bill |
| 2007 | The Equality Act (Sexual Orientation) Regulations |
| 2008 | Criminal Justice and Immigration Act |
| 2009 | Homosexual couples equality in adoption and fostering (Scotland) |

Finally, the United Kingdom government legalized homosexual marriage. To lots of homosexual people, this step just made their dream come true.

| | |
|------|---|
| 2004 | Civil Partnership Act 2004 (England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales) |
| 2006 | The age of consent is equalized |
| 2014 | Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013(England and Wales) |
| 2014 | The Scottish Parliament (Scotland) |

Conclusion

After we finished all the research, we really feel happy for homosexual people who live in the United Kingdom nowadays. Their government tries hard to guarantee them the same rights with the heterosexual people. This makes us think about Alan Turing's life. He was a great man, and he deserved all the best. However, his government treated him in an inhuman way for his sexual orientation. We all feel sorry about the mistreatment he received. Nevertheless, we think that if Alan Turing were living in our time, he would be treated in an opposite way. The United Kingdom government would pay him the highest respect and all the people would admire him from the bottom of their heart.



參考文獻

1. *The Imitation Game*. Perf. Benedict Cumberbatch. StudioCanal, 2014. Film.
2. "Graham Moore Winning Best Adapted Screenplay for "The Imitation Game"" *YouTube*. Oscars, 9 Mar. 2015. Web. 20 Apr. 2015.
3. "LGBT Rights in the United Kingdom." *Wikipedia*. Wikipedia. Web. 1 June 2015.
4. "History of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Equality." *Stonewall*. Stonewall. Web. 1 June 2015.
5. "Our History." *LGPOA Austin*. LGPOA Austin. Web. 3 June 2015.
6. Steven. "A Brief History of the Gay Liberation Front, 1970-73." *Libcom.org*. Libcom.org, 21 Nov. 2007. Web. 3 June 2015.
7. "Sodomy Law." *Wikipedia*. Wikipedia. Web. 4 June 2015.
8. Corraze, Jacques, and 浩 陳. *同性戀*. Ed. 錫德 吳. Taipei City: 遠流出版公司, 1992. Print.
9. McGee, Derek. *Homosexuality, Law and Resistance*. New York: Routledge, 2001. Print.

