

LSVD

20 Years of campaigning for equal rights

Berlin, 22 November 2010



www.hirschfeld-eddy-stiftung.de
www.lsvd.de



————— 1990 —————▶

- February 18th: SVD founded in Leipzig (former GDR)
- first regional branches: three in East Germany and one in West Germany
- SVD becomes member of ILGA
- Regular press work (including public relations work) as essential SVD-strategy from the very beginning

—————1991—————▶

- First intensive debates about opening marriage
- President of German Parliament Rita Suessmuth: "partial equality of same-sex couples necessary"
- SVD's draft law for same-sex marriage,

—————1992—————▶

- Campaign "Civil Registry Office"
- 250 lesbian and gay couples follow SVD's call for a run to registry offices in Germany
 - demanding registration of their partnerships
 - PR success

———— 1993 — 1994 —————▶

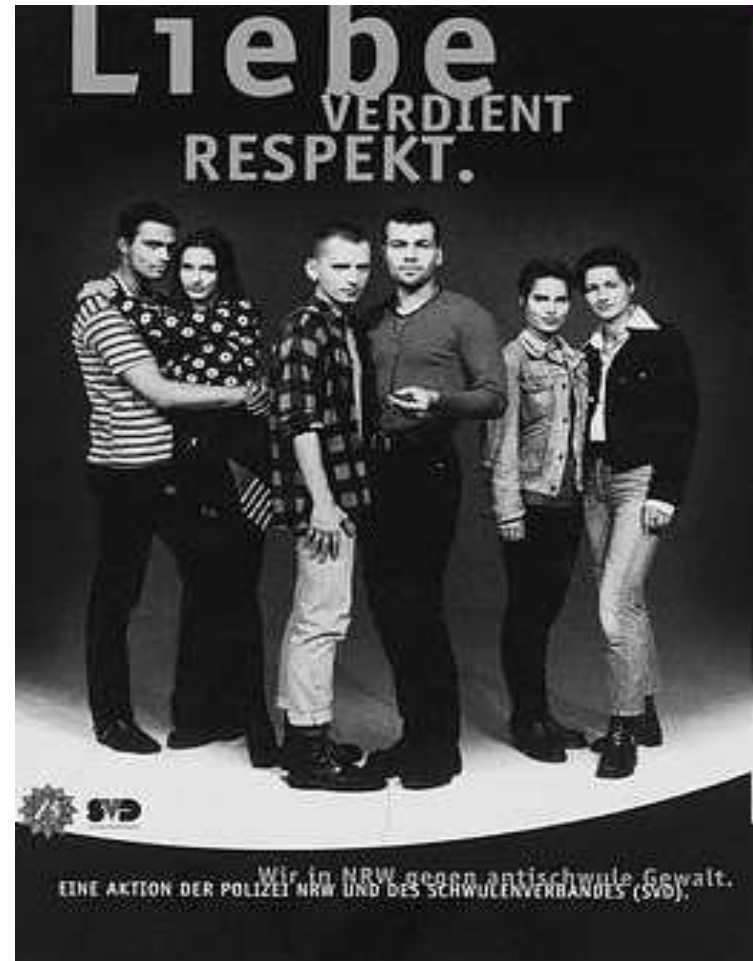
- Beginning of 1990s: explosion of right-wing violence in Germany
- SVD asks for a national action plan to fight homophobic violence
- June 1994: abolition of § 175
- European Parliament resolution in favour of equality of gays and lesbians, based on a petition of SVD

1995

- Oct. 1995: first congress "Gay and Grey" takes place in Cologne

1996

- Campaign "Love deserves respect" by SVD and police :
- First rainbow flag for gay pride on Berlin city hall



—————1997—1998—————▶

- **1997** First Anti-discrimination laws in Germany (Sachsen-Anhalt, Saarland)
- SVD demands liberal visa rules for binational couples
- **1998** new govt. promise to improve legal situation of gays and lesbians

1999



- SVD becomes LSVD
- Intense campaigning for same sex marriage, "Say Yes! campaign"



2000



- A „year of meetings“ with Federal President Johannes Rau, a visit of the Minister of Family Affairs Christine Bergmann
- End of fights for the registered partnership law, which is finally adopted in November 2000
- End of protests: against christian-democrat and conservative counter attack

2001

- 2001: August 1st registered partnership law comes into force
- ban of discrimination of gays in German army
- Campaign for a memorial for homosexual victims of NS regime



—————2002—————▶

- Constitutional court decision that registered partnership law is constitutional
- Parliament decision for rehabilitation of homosexual victims of § 175 during NS regime

2003

- „A family year“:
 - Start of rainbow family project, funded by federal ministry of family affairs
 - First rainbow family conference for consultants, teachers, politicians and other experts
- Ratzinger's hate speech brings new members for LSVD
- LSVD's membership campaign
- Parliament's decision for a memorial for homosexual victims of NS regime



VORSICHT:
■ **Gefährlicher Eiferer mit erheblichen Nebenwirkungen auf die Demokratie**

Das beste Mittel gegen Hasspredigten: Eintreten in den LSVD!

Benedikt XVI. diffamiert die Eingetragene Lebenspartnerschaft als "Legalisierung des Bösen". Der Lesben- und Schwulenverband (LSVD) bietet den Hasspredigten des Vatikans Paroli. Mit Aktionen, Protesten und Pressearbeit.

Damit der Vatikan keinen Einfluss auf die deutsche Gesellschaftspolitik bekommt, müssen Lesben und Schwule sich organisiert wehren. Je stärker der LSVD wird, desto besser können wir weitere Schritte zur Gleichstellung durchsetzen.

"Es ist nicht gut, dass der Mensch allein bleibt" (1. Buch Mose 2, 18). Das gilt auch für die Politik. **Nur gemeinsam sind wir stark.**

Deshalb: Jetzt eintreten in den LSVD!

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—————2004—————▶

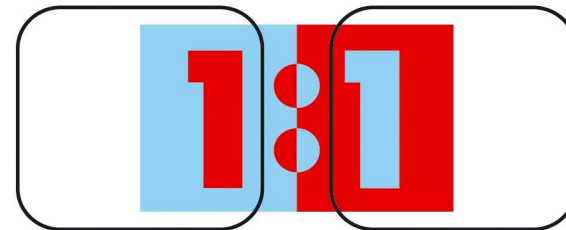
- Begin of campaign against hate music
- Campaign for an antidiscrimination law
- Begin of „Gay Solidarnosc“ campaign

2005

- Begin of our project „Homosexuality and Migration“
- New Pope, new hope?
- Gay prides against catholic hate speech
- campaign 1:1 for fully equal rights



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● act for equality ●



- Antidiscrimination law including sexual identity
- President Köhler speaks out in favour of rainbow families
- LSVD's ECOSOC status at UN

—————2007—————▶

- Hirschfeld Eddy Foundation
- Another year of protest and campaigning for fully equal rights



2008

- Inauguration of Memorial for homosexual victims of NS regime
- Continuing campaign for fully equal rights (tax law)



2009



- Intensifying campaign (started in 2007) to get sexual identity included in section 3 of German constitution (ban of discrimination), lots of public support of VIPs and allies
- LSVD celebrates 10 years of LSVD

2010

- German President meets LSVD
- 20th anniversary
- Making new friends in Africa
- ...



Thank you!

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