

## Queering the Lone Star State Episode 1 Guiding Questions

What might have motivated the state of Texas to approve a sodomy law in 1860? What interests were served by regulating sexuality in this way? Do you think those interests were legitimate?

Why did the state of Texas approve a new sodomy law in 1943? What was different about this new sodomy statute compared to the old one?

Why did many gay men use public or quasi-public places for sex during the 1960s and 1970s?

What does a constitutional right to privacy protect? How did attorney Henry McCluskey apply a constitutional right to privacy to Alvin Buchanan's case? How did he use a right to privacy to challenge the legitimacy of Article 524, the state sodomy law?

How did Judge Sarah T. Hughes justify her decision to strike down the Texas sodomy law as unconstitutional in 1970?

Can Judge Sarah T. Hughes's 1970 opinion in *Buchanan v. Batchelor* be considered a victory in the movement for queer equality?

In her interviews with members of the DFW queer community, historian Karen Wisely has found that most of her interviewees don't talk about *Buchanan v. Batchelor*. Why might today's activists want to avoid including this case in the history of the gay and lesbian rights movement in the state?