The Gay Marriage Generation: How the LGBTQ Movement Transformed American Culture

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The rapid increase in support for gay marriage in the US between 1988 and 2015 is unprecedented in modern polling. How did an idea that was once nonsense become widely accepted in such a short time? This book analyzes historical trends, public opinion data, and interviews with two cohorts of Americans to explain the role of generational change in causing the legalization of gay marriage. The shift in public opinion was caused by a change in the social imagination of homosexuality: as cultural understandings of sexuality evolved, cohorts coming of age in different periods developed new orientations toward gay marriage.