

# The Wolfe Institute

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*The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities,  
in collaboration with Kurz Chair of Constitutional Rights, the Departments of Africana Studies,  
English, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, Secondary  
Education, Sociology, the American Studies Program, the Program in Studies of Religion,  
the Women's and Gender Studies Program, the LGBTQ Resource Center, and the LGTBTA at BC,  
presents*

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## LGBTQ Equality v Religious Rights?



Having overcome anti-sodomy laws, overturned the military's Don't-Ask-Don't-Tell policy, and achieved marriage equality, the LGBTQ movement is at a crossroads. Despite the Supreme Court's recent landmark ruling in *Obergefell v Hodges* (2015), the marriage equality case, sexual orientation has not been elevated to a protected class. The consequence is that LGBTQ citizens may still be open to discrimination in employment, housing, adoption, and other areas of public and private life.

At the same time, the United States has a long and proud history of respecting the free exercise of religion. Are we as a nation prepared to force religious persons to act against their sincere and deeply held religious beliefs and conscience? How do we balance LGBTQ claims to equal treatment against those claiming religious freedom?

Helping us sort through these issues are law professor **Steve Sanders** of the University of Indiana School of Law, and Brooklyn College's own professor **Paisley Currah**.

**Steve Sanders** of the University of Indiana School of Law, is a nationally recognized expert on constitutional law and the legal issues of same sex couples and their families, conflict of laws, federalism, and academic freedom. He has argued cases before the Supreme Court.

**Paisley Currah** is a political scientist and pioneer in the field of sexuality and gender studies and founding co-editor of *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly*. His areas of expertise are in LGBT studies, queer legal theory, public policy, and political theory.

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**Monday, October 26, 2015**  
**11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
**Woody Tanger Auditorium**  
**Brooklyn College Library**

**For information:** [alaw@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:alaw@brooklyn.cuny.edu) **Twitter:** [twitter.com/Wolfe\\_Institute](https://twitter.com/Wolfe_Institute)