



**in and out of the closet**  
being lgbtq on vashon island

## INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE

Vashon Heritage Museum LGBTQ History Exhibit

The purpose of the exhibit:

Provide a rich experiential look at the lives of LGBTQ residents of Vashon, the challenges they faced and their impacts on the Island over the decades.

Please send completed questionnaire to [lgbtqvashon@gmail.com](mailto:lgbtqvashon@gmail.com).

Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation/livelihood (former, if retired) \_\_\_\_\_

1. How do you self-identify as part of the LGBTQ community?

Lesbian    Gay    Bisexual    Transgender    Queer    Straight

Other Please specify:

2. When did you move to Vashon Island? How old were you?

3. Why did you move to Vashon? Were you out of the closet when you moved here? If not, what was it like coming out of the closet on Vashon? At work? In the community?

4. What do you know about LGBTQ history on Vashon? Were you aware of it when you moved here?

5. How would you describe living as an LGBTQ person on Vashon?

6. How have you been involved in Island activities?

7. How do you believe LGBTQ people have contributed to Island life?

8. Have you experienced anti-LGBTQ discrimination on Vashon? Do you feel your ethnicity or class made a difference?

9. Do you think Islanders' attitudes have changed towards their LGBTQ neighbors since you have been here? If so, how?

10. Did the AIDS epidemic affect you? If so, how?

11. Did you serve in the military? How did that relate to your LGBTQ experiences?

12. Are you in a long-term relationship? Do you have children? Is it easy to be single on Vashon?

13. Is there an LGBTQ community on Vashon, or is it just small clusters of friends?

14. Are your friends predominantly in the LGBTQ community, or is that association irrelevant to you? How do you meet other LGBTQ Islanders?

15. Did you have mentors in the LGBTQ community? Have you mentored others?

16. Were there any LGBTQ organizations anywhere that you were involved with, or helped by?

17. Have you participated in LGBTQ activism?

18. Do you have any advice for young LGBTQ Islanders, or those exploring their sexuality?

19. Do you have any artifacts that might be useful in our exhibit? Please send photos of them to [lgbtqvashon@gmail.com](mailto:lgbtqvashon@gmail.com)

20. Are there other people you think we should interview?