

# 2008

## What You Need to Know About...

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I'm 19 years old. I live deep in the Bible Belt. People here talk about Sodom and Gomorrah. A lot.



Jesse Helms? Is he a porn star? GRID? Sounds like an acronym for a gay alliance. Rock Hudson? Is he Jennifer Hudson's husband? Until someone started throwing names at me, I'd never heard of Divine or Lawrence v. Texas or Larry Kramer.



And Stonewall? Never heard of it. I'm from the South and we don't catch wind of these things. We don't read about this in our textbooks at school. Maybe I'll Google it.



They tell me it's gay pride in Seattle. I've never been to a gay-pride anything.



While you're out sipping wine in the city, watching the gay-pride parade out your window, our scenery is a little different. We look outside our windows and see farmers and homophobes and cows.



The only gay-pride parade where I live is in my bedroom. We don't have pride and rainbows here. We have MySpace. We don't have bathhouses. We have outhouses.



I can't tell you anything about years past. But maybe I can tell you something about next year.



In 2008, I'm going to make the leap from living with my Pentecostal grandparents to living with drag-queen roommates. I'm going to star in my own TV show. I'm going to make the leap from outhouses to bathhouses, and from bathhouses to my very own house.



And here's all you need to know about 2008: It's not about the muscles so much anymore. It's not about dick size anymore. It's about Hillary. It's about being a top and carrying a purse. And rainbow cupcakes.