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The term *LGBT* was chosen for this encyclopedia as a shorthand, yet inclusive, notation for the class of people who experience marginalization and discrimination perpetrated by heterosexual norms. In the late 19th century, the word *heterosexual* was invented to denote abnormal sexual behaviors between persons of the opposite sex. Ten years later, the word *homosexual* was invented for the same purpose of medicalizing same-sex behaviors and psychology. Many people found it offensive to categorize their lifestyle as pathology. They also thought that the emphasis on sex restrictive in describing their experiences and, instead, created and used the term *homophile* or *Uranian*. By the mid 20th century, the word *gay* came into common usage. As the gay political movement took roots in the 1950s and 1960s, it became apparent that, in the eyes of the public, gay women were invisible. In response to that phenomenon, many gay organizations changed their names to include women, as in—"lesbian and gay" or "gay and lesbian." Still, bisexuals, the transgendered (which includes transsexuals, transsexuals, and transsexual people), and those questioning their sexual orientation believed that "lesbian and gay" was not inclusive enough to describe their experiences and challenged the status quo.