



CITY OF HOUSTON

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All across this country people will be sharing Valentines Day with the ones they love. It is a bittersweet observation in the LGBT community, where we yearn for that day when we'll have the right to marry the ones we love.

My life partner of 20 years and I would love to be able to wed in the state we call home. I know it will happen in my lifetime because the world is changing on LGBT issues. It is amazing to me the progress that we've made since my early activist days. At times the pace seems slow. It is also frustrating for those who are waiting, but I know it will happen.

Events like Freedom to Marry Day help bring attention and awareness to the issue. There can be no more positive public influence than a show of commitment between loving couples. Thank you for the work you are doing.

As we continue to wait for that day that I am certain will become reality, I am not going to let one day pass without letting my partner know how much I love her and how blessed I am to have her in my life.

Happy Valentines Day and Happy Freedom to Marry Day!

Annise D. Parker
Mayor

