# HARVEY MILK



The Life of Harvey Milk

### Harvey's Early Life

- Harvey Milk was born May 22, 1930.
- He had one older brother.
- When he was fourteen he acknowledged he was gay.
- When he graduated from high school he joined the navy in 1951.
- □ In 1955 he was discharged.
- Harvey started to teach high school mathematics and history.
- A few years later he quit that job and started a new one as a finance associate.
- Just two years later he also quit that job and moved to San Francisco with Scott Smith.



- Harvey Milk moved to San Francisco in 1972.
- He opened a camera shop called Castro Camera in the Castro District of S.F.
- In 1973 he ran for City Supervisor, but lost.
- In 1975 he ran again, but instead of winning the position for City Supervisor, he won the spot as one of the Permit Appeals for Mayor Moscone making him the first Gay Commissioner in the country.
- In 1977 he ran once again for City Supervisor and won the election as City Supervisor for District 5.
- He was the first openly gay man elected in major office in the US.

### **New Ideas**

- Harvey had made changes in his last campaign.
- First he got himself a new manager, a female named Anne Kronenberg.
- He also got himself a crowd gatherer named Cleve Jones.
- Cleve was about 18 or 19 when he moved to San Francisco.
- He was 23 when he started gathering people for Harvey.



### **City Supervisor District 5**

- Within the first month of being City Supervisor District 5, Harvey initiated the *Dog Mess Ordinance*.
- It was an ordinance listing a dog owner to be fined for not cleaning up after their dog.
- After that passed, Harvey started a new ordinance called the *Gay Rights Bill*.
- The gay bill was for a gay person to have the same rights as any other person.
- 10 out of 11 members of the board voted for the bill. The only member that opposed it was Dan White, City Supervisor District 6.
- Harvey was elated that the bill passed.

#### **Gay Freedom Day Parade**



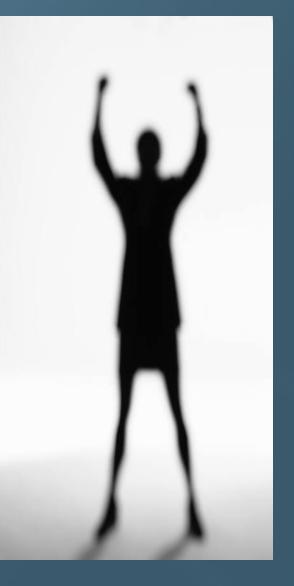
- On June 25, 1978 the gays had one of the biggest parades that San Francisco had ever seen.
- It was a parade for any gay person and supporter on the Castro Street.
- While Anne was driving the car Harvey was sitting on top of the car, waving to everybody.
- Anne was afraid that someone might try to shoot him but Harvey turned around and said," It could happen any day, any place, anytime and I'm just not going to worry about it."

### **Proposition 6**

- Senator John Briggs started Prop. 6 in 1978.
- Prop. 6 was a referendum to be able to fire all gay teachers and anybody that supported them.
- Harvey was appalled by this measure and decided to run against it.
- Four months before the final results, the Opinion Poles predicted that the majority of the people agreed with Prop. 6.
- Election night, the people of the State of California voted and their voices were to oppose Prop. 6.
- Prop. 6 was defeated 2 to 1.
- A moment after the winning Harvey said," This is not my victory, its yours. If a gay man can win it proves that there is hope for all minorities who are willing to fight."

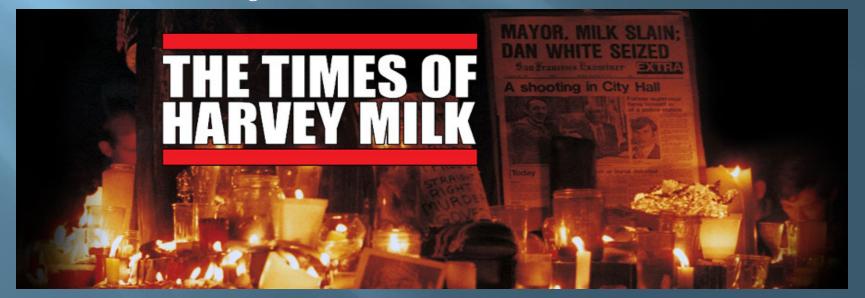
#### Dan White

- Dan was very angry.
- He thought that there should not have been a gay parade.
- Dan felt that Harvey owed him.
- Not long after Prop. 6 was opposed, Dan White resigned from his position as City Supervisor for District 6.
- The next day Dan realized he had made a mistake and wanted his job back.
- Mayor Moscone made the decision not to give Dan his job back.



### **Two Dead at City Hall**

- On November 27, 1978 Dan White went to City Hall to talk to Moscone.
- Dan went into Moscone's office at 10:45am, and shot him three times in the chest.
- He then walked over to the other side of City Hall, went into Harvey's office, closed the door and shot him four times in the chest, then walked up to Harvey and shot him in the head.
- Anne's worst nightmare had come true.



#### **The Candle March**

- When Anne and Scott Smith went down to City Hall that night to be at the vigil.
- Cleve had been gathering thousands of people to march from the Castro to City Hall.
- Scott and Anne walked outside and saw thousands of people marching down the street.
- There were over 30,000 people paying their respects to Milk and Moscone.



Kat Wade / Special to the Chronicle

### The Legacy

- Harvey's legacy is hope, hope in the personal progress, more than the political.
- Harvey had recorded a will in the event of his assassination. It said, " If a bullet should enter my brain, let it destroy every closet door."
- Harvey's legacy has lead to the Oscar-winning documentary, *The Times of Harvey Milk* (1984) and the Gus Van Sant film, *Milk* (2008) starring Sean Penn as Milk, Josh Brolin as Dan White, Emile Hirsch as Cleve Jones and costarring Alison Pill as Anne Kronenberg.





## The End







By Natalie Jones