# M. Rhys Dotson

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2022

# **EDUCATION**

PhD in Modern American History	
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Texas A&M University

Dissertation title: "Texas Pride: The Formation of Dallas' Gay Community, 1966-2003" Advisor and Committee Chair: Dr. Albert S. Broussard

MA in Political Science 2014

The University of Texas at Tyler

MA in History 2009

The University of Texas at Tyler

BA in History 2006

The University of Texas at Tyler

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Instruction	2023-present

The University of Texas at Tyler

Lecturer of History and Political Science 2011-2022

The University of Texas at Tyler

Adjunct Faculty 2010-2011

The University of Texas at Tyler

Adjunct Faculty 2009-2011

Kilgore College

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

#### **Articles**

Dotson, M. Rhys. 2017. "Hate Behind the Pine Curtain." *The Activist History Review*, October 18, 2017. http://activisthistory.com/2017/10/18/hate-behind-the-pine-curtain/

# **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

"Fight the Pulpit: The Dallas Gay Community and Their Resistance to a Cultural Holy War," The Texas State Historical Association, Austin, TX, February 2022.

"Fighting the Pulpit: The Dallas Gay Community and Their Resistance to a Cultural Holy War," The Southern Historical Association. Virtual, November 2021.

"Phyllis R. Frye: The Transgender Menace Who Fought for Trans Equality, 1980-2015," World History Association of Texas. Commerce, TX, February 2019.

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

#### **Articles**

"Homophobia and Hate: The Murder of Nicholas West"

This article explores the use of homophobia rhetoric in public spaces and the impact it had on the three men who abducted and murdered Nicholas West in Tyler, Texas in 1993.

"The Dallas Way: Passive Protests and Resistance Methods of the Dallas Gay Political Caucus"

This article explores the Dallas Gay Political Caucus' use of passive protests and resistance, which were uncommon during the Gay Liberation movement, during the late-seventies and into the early eighties.

#### **Manuscripts**

The Dallas Way: The Formation of Dallas' Gay Community, 1966-2003

This manuscript explores the formation and eventual dissolution of the Dallas Gay Political Caucus during the 1970s through the mid-1980s. During its infancy, the DGPC attempted to gain political favor through passive resistance and coalition building. Unfortunately, once the AIDS crisis swept through Dallas, the political caucus fractured and some members opted for more direct protests and demands. By exploring the evolution of the Gay Liberation movement in Texas, this project illuminates and contributes to the overall national narrative of community building by LGBT Americans, focusing on an overlooked region of activism in the broader historical arc of gay rights in the United States.

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Excellence in Teaching Award, The National Society of Leadership and Success, The University of Texas at Tyler

2016

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Member, Commencement Committee, 2023-present

Advisor, Psi Alpha Chapter, Phi Alpha Theta National Honor Society, 2023-present

Advisor, Queer Straight Alliance, 2023-present

# PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, Southern Historical Association, 2024

Member, Phi Alpha Theta National Honor Society, 2006-present

## **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

Guest Lecturer, Whitehouse High School

January 2023

Guest Lecturer, Whitehouse High School

August 2019