**CHAPTER 12**

**Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Americans**

**Classroom Activities and Suggestions for Discussion**

1. Consider sexual identity and sexual orientation. Can one of these exist for someone without the other? Does one have to identify as homosexual or heterosexual? Explain by providing support for your arguments and discuss in small groups.
2. View the film *Milk* (2008). Consider the following:
   * + How did Milk identify before arriving in San Francisco?
     + How did Milk identify once he was in San Francisco?
     + What was the political climate for Milk in San Francisco?
     + Identify scenes of homophobia within the film, as well as internalized homophobia and coming out.
     + Of the issues presented in the film, which have been resolved within American society and which remain to be resolved?
3. View the film *The Buyers Club* (2013).
   * + What key terms do you feel define Ron’s feelings about homosexuality?
     + How did Ron react as the movie progressed?Ask students to provide examples.
4. Through the readings you have learned something about the long history of same-sex relations. What are some of the forces behind modern-day rationales for homophobia? Provide examples to support your arguments\. Consider the retracted military policy of *Don’t ask, Don’t tell* as well as the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).