Loving Day Celebration Kit

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Easy! Positive! Social! Educational!
1. Introduction

Loving Day celebrations are a simple and fun way to bring people together for a good cause. Just pick a location and choose some great people to invite. Everything else you need is in this kit!

The details are up to you - it’s how this Loving Day celebration will become your own.

You could host almost any kind of event, including a backyard barbecue, a potluck dinner party, a Sunday brunch, a cocktail party, a picnic, or even a night at the bowling alley! For more ideas, visit us online: www.lovingday.org.

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2. Invitation

You can create an event invitation on the Loving Day website. It’s free and it’s fast!

1. Go to LovingDay.org.
2. Log in or register
3. Click “Create Content” or choose “Celebrate > List Your Celebration” from the main menu

You can also send invitations and collect RSVP’s directly from LovingDay.org. After you create your event, look for the RSVP tab at the top of your event listing (when you log in).

Include all of the details to make your event public, or just add the basics so you can share your celebration with the Loving Day global community.

Prefer to invite people the old fashioned way? Use Evite, Facebook, or the paper invitation on the next page. Just fill in the blanks, make photocopies, and invite your favorite people! Use the space under “What” to personalize your event with a description like “barbecue,” “dinner party,” or whatever you like.
Come celebrate the anniversary of Loving v. Virginia (1967), the Supreme Court case that legalized interracial marriage in the United States! You're invited to a Loving Day celebration on [date].

RSVP: [email]

Where: [location]

When: [time]

What: [description]

Host: [name]

Learn more about Loving Day at www.lovingday.org

RSVP: [email]
3. Handout

Print out the handout on the next page, make photocopies, and give one to each of your guests.

It’s a great way to start conversations and discussions. Each of your guests will go home knowing something new.
Loving Facts

Facts About The Loving Decision

• Loving v. Virginia is the Supreme Court case that legalized interracial marriage in the United States. This landmark civil rights case was decided on June 12th, 1967.

• Mr. and Mrs. Loving were arrested at night while asleep in their home for the crime of being interracially married.

• At the time of their arrest, interracial marriage was a felony in Virginia and it carried a minimum penalty of one year in prison.

• During a trial before finally reaching the Supreme Court, a judge said the following to Mr. and Mrs. Loving:

  “Almighty God created the races, white, black, yellow, Malay, and red and placed them on separate continents, and but for the interference with his arrangement there would be no cause for such marriages. The fact that he separated the races shows that he did not intend the races to mix.”

Facts About Interracial Marriage Laws

• Laws against interracial marriage predated slavery, and lasted longer than segregation.

• 35 states outlawed interracial relationships at one time during their history. This included marriage, living together, and more.

• Lawmakers tried to pass a constitutional amendment that would have banned interracial marriage.

• It wasn’t just “black and white.” Laws against interracial marriage affected people of African, Asian, Native American, Hispanic, South Asian, and European descent.

• States have the power to regulate marriage, but the Supreme Court can declare their laws unconstitutional and unenforceable.

• The last state law against interracial marriage was removed from the books in Alabama in 2000, which barely passed the popular vote. This law was not enforceable after the Loving decision, but it shows that the issue still exists.

Facts About Loving Day

• Loving Day fights prejudice through education and builds multicultural community.

• Loving Day is a global network of annual celebrations that you can host or attend. When you celebrate Loving Day, you are sharing the experience with people all over the world who are celebrating with you.

• Loving Day is not a federal holiday (at least, not yet). It is a new tradition that is shared among friends and family and passed down among generations.

• You don’t need to be in an interracial relationship to celebrate Loving Day! Anyone who values equality can be a part of it.

• Loving Day is also an educational campaign that you can be a part of every day. The Loving Day website is available all year. Learn more about history, see what’s happening now, and share your experiences online at www.lovingday.org

How You Can Support Loving Day

Participate
The best way to support Loving Day is to host your own celebration! It’s fun and easy, especially with the free Celebration Kit. Download it at www.lovingday.org

Donate
Loving Day is a project that relies on volunteers and donations to operate. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation by check or at www.lovingday.org

Spread The Word
Loving Day is an educational project. Everyone should know our history, especially the Loving case. Use conversations, email, and blogs to spread the word!
4. Speech

If you’re the host, then make a speech!

Don’t know what to say? Just fill in the blanks on the speech template and use it as a guideline.

It’s your chance to share what Loving Day means to you, and inspire your guests to be an active part of it.
Hello, can I have your attention please? My name is ______________________.

Thanks for coming out to ____________________ to celebrate Loving Day.
Is everyone having a good time?

As you may already know, Loving Day is named after a case and the people who were fighting for their rights: Mr. and Mrs. Loving.

Mr. and Mrs. Loving were arrested at night while asleep in their home for the crime of being interracially married.

Loving Day celebrations commemorate the anniversary of Loving v. Virginia, the 1967 Supreme Court decision that legalized interracial marriage in the United States.

Thanks to the Loving decision, laws against interracial marriage were declared unconstitutional and interracial marriage became a part of our civil rights.

Interracial marriage is legal today, but there is still a lot of prejudice. We can use education about the past to fight prejudice in the present and the future.

We can work together to fight prejudice by building a strong sense of community among people from different backgrounds and cultures.

I celebrate Loving Day because: ___________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Loving Day is celebrated by many people across the United States and in countries around the world, and we are sharing this celebration with them today.

Thanks so much for coming, and please spread the word about Loving Day.
Thank you!
5. Share Your Celebration

Update Your Celebration On LovingDay.org

After your Celebration, let the world know how everything went!

1. Log in to LovingDay.org
2. Go to Celebrate > Find a Celebration
3. Click on your Celebration
4. Click the “Edit” tab
5. Edit the “After The Event” section
6. Click “Submit” at the bottom of the page

Add Pictures To Your Celebration

Remember to take photos of your event! Use your digital camera, or ask someone to bring one. Everything you share will inspire others to host great celebrations like yours. Follow the direction above, and look for the “Photos From This Event” box.
Thank you so much for hosting a Loving Day celebration! With your help, we can fight racial prejudice through education and multicultural community - and we can have a good time doing it! We look forward to working with you to make Loving Day the next great tradition.

About Loving Day

Loving Day celebrations commemorate the anniversary of Loving v. Virginia (1967), the Supreme Court decision that legalized interracial marriage in the United States. Loving Day fights racial prejudice through education and builds multicultural community.

Learn more about Loving Day online: www.lovingday.org