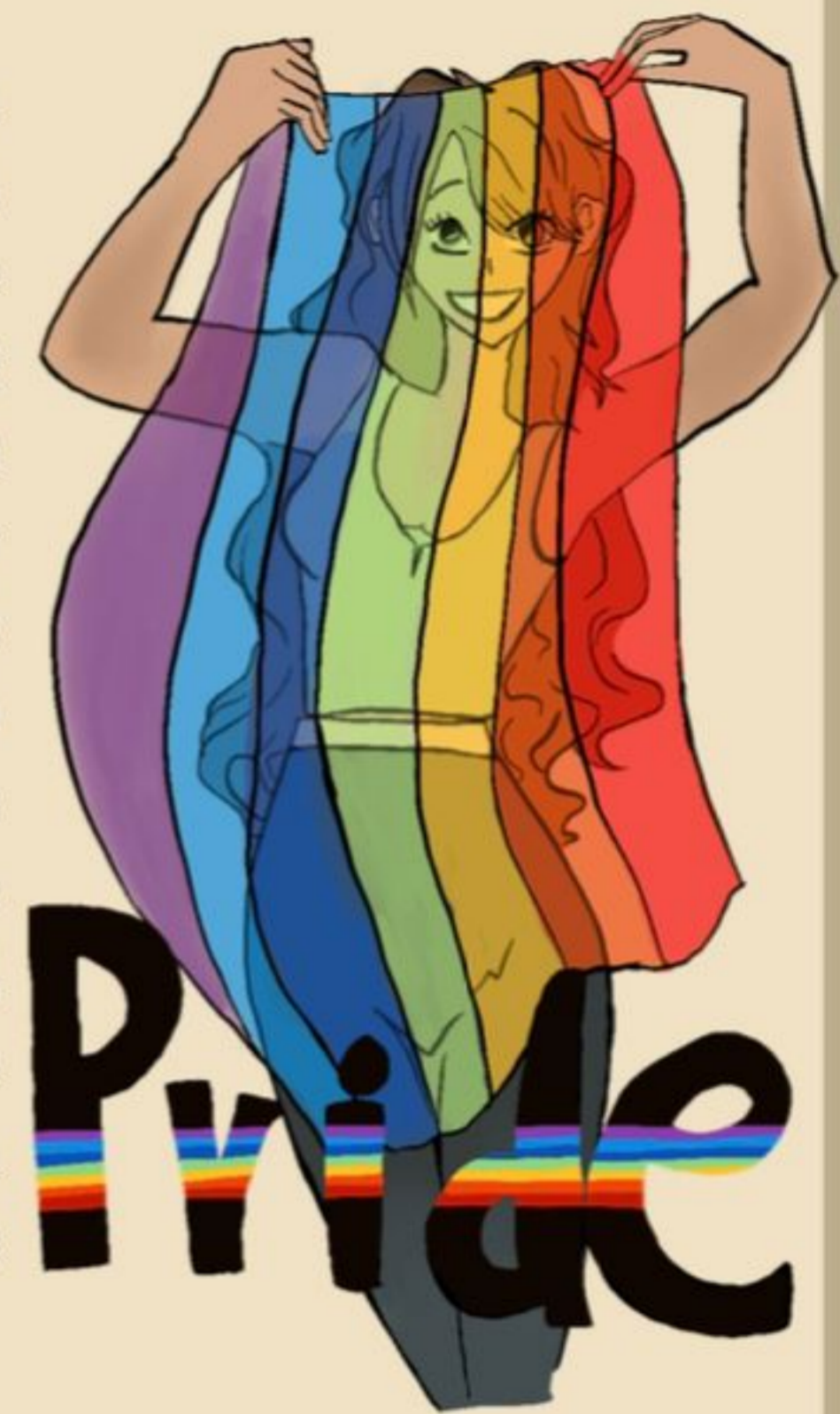


THE STONEWALL RIOTS- LESSER KNOWN HISTORY BEHIND PRIDE MONTH

Pride Month is a month dedicated to celebrating the LGBTQIA+ communities all around the world. It is about standing united and coming together to celebrate and accept love of all kinds while reminiscing on their path-breaking progress towards gaining rights and how far they have come over the years.

While most of us are aware of the fact that June has been chosen as Pride Month, the history behind it may still be a mystery to a lot of you. On the night of 28th June 1969, the police raided the Stonewall Inn, a bar in New York, notoriously known for serving the city's gay and transgender people. This night went down in history, for it was the first time the LGBTQIA+ community fought back for their rights. They retaliated fiercely by calling the cops names and throwing bricks and bottles their way, leading to the start of a major rebellion. Despite the events of the previous night, the bar opened again the next day, resulting in the community being tear-gassed and beaten up by officers and labelled homophobic slurs in the press. Yet, their perseverance was commendable and to this day they continue to fight in solidarity for the rights they deserve. Global Pride Day is celebrated on the 28th of June, to honour the historic day.



Although June is a notable month in which parades of self-acceptance take place each year, we need to keep in mind that pride doesn't exist only in June. We encourage all of you to continue to support the LGBTQIA+ community and be an ally all year long and not just cave to rainbow-washing during June.

- Saanya Anand
(illustration by Aanya Patra)