



Gay Days



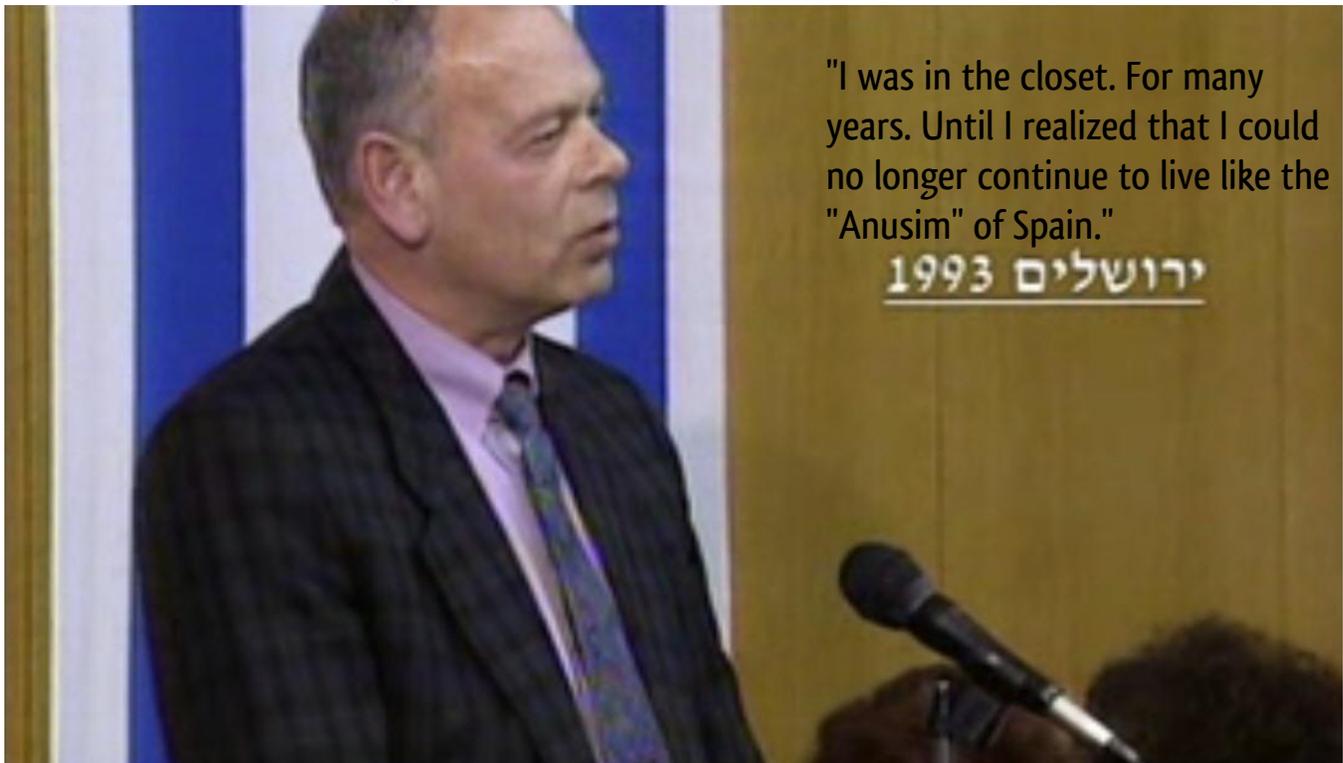
1. Key "gathering" questions:

- Having seen the movie, what is your "question mark", and what is your "exclamation mark"?
- In what way do you see the issues being dealt in the film as universal issues that the gay community has had to deal with anywhere in the world, and in what way do you see them as specific to Israel?
- Do you see this film as a celebration of Israel's relationship to GLBT issues?





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In his famous speech to the Knesset in 2003, Uzi Even drew a resonant analogy to living in the closet, by referring to the "Anusim" of Spain. In 16th Century Spain, many Jews would practice their religion in secret, for fear of the Inquisition. Generations of "Anusim", sometimes known by the more perjorative "Marranos", continued to practice Judaism in secret, such that many did not know that most Jews do not light Friday night candles inside a darkened cupboard...

Even's deliberate use of an archaic analogy will have struck the historically-aware Knesset members.

- Does it strike you, or is it now a reference to a by-gone age that is no longer relevant to Jews?
- Have you ever felt "in the closet" as a Jew?
- Have you ever felt "in the closet" as to your views about Israel?



3. Bringing things to a close

Gay Days brings together some of the key heroes in the fight for the quality of gay life in Israel.

- Out of all the characters mentioned or interviewed, which one touched you most? Why?
- Were you to make a short film about the history of the gay community in the States, which five people would you insist should be featured?

A Wider Bridge works to bring the LGBTQ communities of Israel and North America closer together. Our programs include educational and cultural activities here in the U.S., including this film series, LGBTQ trips to Israel, and our online magazine, www.awiderbridge.org.

A Wider Bridge commissioned these study guides from Makom, and consulted fully in their development. Makom is the think-and-do tank for adult Israel engagement. You can find Makom at www.makomisrael.org and at facebook.com/makomisrael.

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