

Robin L. Bodiford, Esq.

In 1995, this Miami native was instrumental in obtaining an amendment to the Broward County Human Rights Ordinance, adding sexual orientation as a protected class, resulting in the broadest protections provided by a County in the U.S., at that time.

She was the chair of Americans for Equality, defeating repeal referendums of that ordinance in 1996 and again in 2001. She was also the co-author of the Broward County Domestic Partnership Ordinance passed in 1999 and was instrumental in its passage.

She has been recognized by the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of South Florida's annual Stars of the Rainbow Awards four times, once for greatest political contribution, twice as female role model, and once for chairing Americans for Equality, and was again recognized by the GLCC in 2005 for her lifetime achievements for the LGBT community: Far and away the most awards given to a single individual in the 15-year life of the center.

In 1999 Robin defended gay marriage against the rabid right wing leader, Peter LaBarbera, in a live televised debate from CNN's studios in Atlanta. She has appeared in the motion picture *I Can't Marry You*, and has on numerous occasions debated local anti-gay leaders in public forums and local television.

Robin Bodiford brought pride back to the South Florida LGBT community in the 1990s, which at that time had yet to recover from the stunning defeat dealt by Anita Bryant in the late 1970s. She has received numerous awards for her community work, and remains an iconic figure to many in the South Florida area.