Description: This talk argues that the contemporary transgender movement can best be characterized as a *hybrid* movement—as a social movement with multiple identities that it holds simultaneously and non-exclusively. Specifically, the transgender movement is a hybrid movement in that it is simultaneously an independent, autonomous movement *and* a constituent part of the LGBT movement. But this was not always the case. The establishment of this status quo required a process of *hybridization*. This article traces this process historically, demonstrating in detail how an independent transgender movement emerged after it became clear transgender interests and individuals would not be represented by the new LGB movement, how the young transgender movement employed contentious politics to enter the LGB alliance system, and how the transgender movement has maintained its independence, and thus its hybrid status, since joining the alliance system of the now-LGBT movement field.

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