The quest for equal rights for LGBT people continues to be one of the most active and resisted movements in contemporary American politics. The paradox of simultaneous progress and resistance is evident in Minnesota, an innovative state which led in enacting nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity but now confronts an amendment to ban marriage equality. This talk explores the challenges faced by the LGBT movement today, the emerging issues with which it must grapple, and what the prospects are for LGBT rights in the next decade.

Urvashi Vaid is a respected attorney and leading national figure in the LGBTQ rights movement and is widely recognized for her work as a strategist and leader for gay rights and social justice. She is a community organizer, writer and attorney who has been a leader in the LGBT and social justice movements for nearly three decades. Vaid’s forthcoming book, Irresistible Revolution: Race, Class and the LGBTQ Imagination, will be published in 2012 by Magnus Books. She lectures extensively on the issues of social justice, civil and human rights and LGBT equality.

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