



**Brian Finnegan** is the current editor of GCN, Ireland's LGBT magazine, which has been in publication for 30 years. GCN is a free publication with a mission to educate, support, give members of the LGBT community access to information about their rights, and to provide a core sense of community for a non-geographical, wide-ranging group. It also plays a key role in sexual and mental health promotion for LGBT people. Brian is also the author of two novels, one non-fiction title and he works with other authors to bring their books, fiction and non-fiction to the page and publication.

Brian will be talking about the boundaries that still exist for many LGBT people in Irish society, despite the advances in equality legislation, and how this effects our mental health. He will be considering the internalised messages of separation, lack of value and isolation over generations before the decriminalisation of homosexuality, marriage equality, and gender recognition legislation, and how this continues to create a boundary for LGBT people. He will also be talking about invisible borders, particularly through the experience of LGBT asylum seekers in Ireland, who have a very different experience of what it means to live as an LGBT person here.