LGBT (LESBIAN, GAY, BI-SEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER) COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD

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Abstract

LGBT community and citizens are a major issue in the present world. Day by day their numbers are increasing. Most of the countries of the world are against the rights and protection of this vulnerable number of community people. Religious and social values are playing as the most predominant impediment for the recognition of these sorts of sexually orientated people. In every sphere of the society, they are treated in an inhuman way. It is always obvious that there must be the provision for equal treatment of all citizens. But they are hardly met in case of increasing number of LGBT people. They are not treated as humans among the humans lauding the rhymes of Humanity. Sexual orientations are still penalized with life imprisonment and death penalty. Some good steps have been taken in upholding of the condition and rights of the LGBTs. A remarkable number of human rights organizations are working to improve their social, political and civil status. However, the number is still not enough to meet the requisite assistance needed for this community. Several countries have arranged a congenial atmosphere for this community. Several laws are enacted, some are nulled, and some are amended to secure the rights and protections of this unwanted minority. As a result, the future is better than what they have started from the point of.

Keywords: LGBT, Mental Disorder, Rights, Homosexuality and Religion, Future.

Introduction

1. LGBT:

LGBT is a matter of contention in recent times. This concept got several explanations. This bunch of alphabets is abbreviation of some ongoing phenomena. They are as follows:

- Lesbians
- Gays
- Bisexuals
- Transgendered

However, sexual orientation is usually discussed in terms of three categories: heterosexual (having emotional, romantic, or sexual attractions to members of the other sex), gay/lesbian (having emotional, romantic, or sexual attractions to members of one's own sex), and bisexual (having emotional, romantic, or sexual attractions to both men and women).^[1]

LGBT multiculturalism is the diversity within the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) community as a representation of different sexual orientations, gender identities—as well as different ethnic, language, religious groups within the LGBT community. These sorts of people are always despicable in the most of the countries. Even they are not met with the minimum human rights a person entitled.

2. WHAT CAUSES HOMOSEXUALITY?

Study shows that homosexuality depends not only on the nature but also on the nurture. Perhaps a better question is "What determines sexual orientation (i.e., heterosexuality, bisexuality, and homosexuality)?" The factors that determine sexual orientation are complex. There is a growing understanding that human beings have a basic sexuality that can be expressed in a variety of relationships: homosexual, bisexual, and heterosexual, categories that are fluid and may overlap. Although the causes are not known, some researchers believe that one's basic sexual orientation is predisposed at birth. While one's orientation may not be recognized or acknowledged for many years, once established, it tends not to change.^[2]

¹Author.[Retrieved from www.apa.org/topics/sorientation.pdf.], 1-6, at 1.

²http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/ topics-issues/glbtq/ 606-frequently-asked-questions-about-sexualorientation-and-gender-identity.

3. WHETHER IT IS A MENTAL DISORDER:

Research has found no inherent association between any of these sexual orientations and psychopathologies.Lesbian, gay, and bisexual relationships are normal forms of human bonding have been proved so many times through research and clinical experiences.^[3]It is notclear why homosexuality should be treated differently from any other sexual preference (e.g. blonds vs. brunettes).^[4]There are no metal illness. Rather, there are problems.^[5]

4. NUMBER OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

The contemporary lesbian and gay community has a growing and complex place in the American & Western European media. The most common ranges given for the LGBT population are from 1% to 10%.^[6]

Research indicates that many lesbians and gay men want and has committed relationships. For example, survey data indicate that between 40 percent and 60 percent of gay men and between 45 percent and 80 percent of lesbians are currently involved in a romantic relationship. Further, data from the 2000 U.S. Census indicate that of the 5.5 million couples who were living together but not married, about 1 in 9 (594,391) had partners of the same sex. Although the census data are almost certainly an underestimate of the actual number of cohabiting same-sex couples, they indicate that there are 301,026 male same-sex households and 293,365 female same-sex households in the United States.^[7]

5. ATTITUDES TOWARD LGBT AROUND THE WORLD:

Public opinion studies over the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s routinely showed that, among large segments of the public, lesbian, gay, and bisexual people were the target of strongly held negative attitudes. More recently, public opinion has increasingly opposed sexual orientational discrimination, but expressions of hostility toward lesbians and gay men remain common in contemporary American society.Currently, homosexual acts are legal in almost all Western countries, and in many of these countries violence against LGBT people is classified as a hate

³Author.[Retrieved from www.apa.org/topics/sorientation.pdf.], 1-6, at 3.

⁴Paul King, neuroscience and cognitive osychology, updated 7 July, 2015.

⁵ Homosexuality: The Mental Illness That Went Away, Updated January 2, 2013.

⁶https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_sexual_orientation.

⁷http://www.apa.org/topics/lgbt/orientation.aspx.

crime.^[8] Prejudice against bisexuals appears to exist at comparable levels. In fact, bisexual individuals may face discrimination from some lesbian and gay people as well as from heterosexual people. Severe antigay prejudice, verbal harassment and abuseatwork place and housing appears to remain widespread.^[9]LGBT youths endure hostile verbal and physical harassment that can be excruciating for them.^[10]In the early morning hours of June 12, the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community found themselves in the crosshairs of the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history.^[11]Even This community people are treated as the carriers of HIV virus.^[12] It is still a matter of mourning that media is not giving the right information about this particular community.

6. RIGHTS OF THE LGBT AROUND THE WORLD:

People around the world face inequality, violence, torture and execution only for the way of their love and attitude towards their loving person despite the presence of Human Rights Watch.^[13] Sometimes, it is asked whether these people are human or not. If they are humans, they must have access to human rights.For example, the Charter of the United Nations (1945)^[14] encourages "respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction"(Chapter I, Article 1, Clause 3). Similarly, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1945)^[15] states in Article 2: "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind. "Though most of the member states have sworn to protect human rights of their citizens, still the same sex relation is illegal.

Human Rights Day, December 2010 & 2011: Marking the occasion of Human Rights Day on December 9, 2010, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon spoke at a Ford Foundation event in New York City entitled, "Speak Up, Stop Discrimination."He called for individuals to stand up

⁸ Stotzer, R.: Comparison of love Crime Rates Across Protected and Unprotected Groups, Williams Institute, 2007–06. Retrieved on 2007-08-09.

⁹Author.[Retrieved from www.apa.org/topics/sorientation.pdf.], 1-6, at2.

¹⁰Human Rights Watch, 2001, p. 35.

¹¹http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2016/06/29/gun-safety-is-an-lgbt-issue-east-bay-times-commentary.

¹²Author.[Retrieved from www.apa.org/topics/sorientation.pdf.], 1-6, at2.

¹³https://www.hrw.org/topic/lgbt-rights.

¹⁴(United Nations.(1945). *Charter of the United Nations*. New York, NY: UN Department of Public Information. Retrieved from www.un.org/en/documents/charter/ index.shtml.

¹⁵United Nations.(1948). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. New York, NY: UN Department of Public Information. Retrieved from www.un.org/en/documents/udhr).

for the rights of all and specifically referred to defending the rights of people jailed for their sexual orientation.^[16]

The following year, in a Human Rights Day, addressing to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland on Dec 6, 2011, the United States Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, stated that the protection of rights of the LGBT community is the biggest challenge. She has treated this as "Invisible minority". She argued that there can't be any discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.^[17]

On Dec 8, 2011, Mr. Ban-Ki-Moon termed orientation as "Homophobic Bullying".Mr. Ban articulated the profound psychological suffering that ensues from bullying, including depression and suicide.^[18]

In April 2011, the U.N. Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the U.N. Development Program (UNDP), the Joint U.N. Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and the World Health Organization (WHO) collaboratively published a brochure titled "The United Nations Speaks Out: Tackling Discrimination on Grounds of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity."^[19]

The U.N. High Commissioner, Navi Pillay, quoted on February 2011: "Laws criminalizing homosexuality pose a serious threat to the fundamental rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals.By jointly issuing this brochure, OHCHR, UNDP, UNAIDS, and WHO showed that the United Nations partners speak together on this matter.

On December 15, 2011 OHCHR released its first report on the human rights of LGBT persons.^[20]

The publication of this report followed two historic developments of the Human Rights Council. First, 85 countries signed on to a statement calling for the decriminalization of

¹⁶United Nations.(2010). *Secretary-General SG/SM/133309 HR/5042 OBV/951*. Retrieved from www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2010/sgsm13309.doc.htm.

¹⁷Clinton, H. (2011, Dec. 8). *Remarks in recognition of Human Rights Day*. Washington, DC: United States Department of State. Retrieved from www.state.gov/ secretary/rm/2011/12/178368.htm.

¹⁸United Nations.(2011). *Secretary-General SG/SM/14008 HR/5080*.Retrieved from www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2011/sgsm14008.doc.htm.

¹⁹United Nations. (2011). *The United Nations Speaks Out: Tackling Discrimination on Grounds of Sexual Orientation* and *Gender Identity.* [Brochure].Retrieved from.www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Discrimination/Pages/LGBTBrochure.aspx.

²⁰See reference 13.

homosexuality in March 2011. Subsequently, a resolution initiated by South Africa was passed in June 2011 and became the first U.N. resolution calling for support of gay rights.

The report emphasizes the shared community responsibility in combating homophobia and trans-phobia, and to that end, calls on nations to:

- repeal laws that criminalize homosexuality,
- $^{\circ}$ abolish the death penalty for offenses involving consensual sexual relations,
- ° enact comprehensive anti-discriminatory laws,
- $^{\circ}$ standardize the age of consent for homosexual and heterosexual conduct,
- investigate all killings or serious violence against sexual orientation or gender identity,
- ensure that asylum laws recognize sexual orientation and gender identity as a basis for claiming persecution and
- enable LGBT persons fleeing to avoid persecution, returning to countries or territories where their freedom is threatened.^[21]

The Yogyakarta Principles on the Application of International Human Rights Law in Relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, developed in 2006 by a group of LGBT experts in Yogyarkarta, Indonesia in response to well-known examples of abuse, provides a universal guide to apply international human rights law to violations experienced by lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender people to ensure the universal human rights protections.

Human rights abuses based on sexual orientation or gender can include violation of the rights of the child; the infliction of torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment (Article 5); arbitrary detention on grounds of identity or beliefs (Article 9); the restriction of freedom of association (Article 20) and the denial of the basic rights of due process.^[22]

In most of the developed countries same-sex marriage and sexual orientation have been legalized though this practice was considered to be a crime from its first practicing. A great number of business organizations offer huge opportunity for this community. The CEI (Corporate Equal Indexes) rates companies and top law firms on detailed criteria falling under five broad categories:

²¹ United Nations.(2012). *Secretary-General SG/SM/14145 HRC/13*. Retrieved from www.un.org/News/Press/docs/ 2012 / sgsm14145.doc.htm.

²² Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 10th December, 1948.

- Non-discrimination policies
- Employment benefits
- Demonstrated organizational competency and accountability around LGBT diversity and inclusion
- Public commitment to LGBT equality
- Responsible citizenship

"Even in the face of relentless attempts to undermine equality, America's leading companies and law firms remain steadfast and committed to supporting and defending the rights and dignity of LGBTQ people," said HRC President Chad Griffin.^[23]

7. ORGANIZATIONS WORKING FOR LGBT:

Not only in America or Europe but also other parts of the globe are now being assembled with several Human Rights Organizations for upholding the Human Rights of the LGBT community. They are as follows:^[24]

Name of the Organization	Website
MovimentoChileno de MinoriasSexuales	http://www.movilh.org
National Center for Lesbian Rights	http://www.nclrights.org
Human Rights Campaign (HRC)	www.hrc.org
Council for Global Equality	http://www.globalequality.org
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF)	http://www.thetaskforce.org
Immigration Equality	http://www.immigrationequality.org

 ²³http://www.hrc.org/blog/record-number-of-top-u.s.-businesses-embracing-inclusive-policies-for-lgbtq.
²⁴https://www.outrightinternational.org/content/lgbtisexual-rights-organizations



AI: Outfront (LGBT rights)	http://www.amnestyusa.org/lgbt-human-
	rights/page.do?id=1011002
Amnesty International (AI)	http://www.amnestyusa.org
Human Rights Education Associates	http://www.hrea.org
(HREA)	
Global Rights	http://www.globalrights.org/site/PageServer?p
	<u>agename=index</u>
Colombia Diversa	http://www.colombiadiversa.org
HRW: LGBT Rights	http://www.hrw.org/en/category/topic/lgbt-
	rights
Human Rights Watch (HRW)	http://hrw.org
Center for Women's Global Leadership	http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu
Romania Association Against Aids	http://www.arasnet.ro
(ARAS)	
ACCEPT Romania	http://www.accept-romania.ro
Gay and Lesbian Arabic Society (GLAS)	http://www.glas.org
ARC International	http://www.arc-international.net
The Fence (Canada)	http://www.thefence.ca
Egale (Canada)	http://www.egale.ca
IGAMA	http://www.geocities.com/igamamalang
GrupoHomossexual de Brasilia	http://www.estruturacao.org.br



Grupo Arco-Iris	http://www.arco-iris.org.br/_prt/grupo/ c_grp_
	<u>missao .php</u>
General Secretary ABGLT	http://www.abglt.org.br/port/index.php
Associacao da Parada do Orgulho GLBT	http://www.paradasp.org.br
de Sao Paulo	
Barbados Gay and Lesbians Against	http://bglad2000.tripod.com
Discrimination (BGLAD)	
Comunidad Homosexual Argentina	http://www.cha.org.ar
AsociacionTravestisTransexualesTransge	http://www.attta.org
neroArgentinas	<u>Intp://www.autuorg</u>
notor ingentination	3
Women's Support Group (Sri Lanka)	http://www.wsglanka.com/scripts/about.html
	and the second second
Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian Human	http://www.tglrg.org
Rights Group	
ASWAT	http://www.aswatgroup.org/english
ASWAI	http://www.aswatgroup.org/english
Bali Rainbow Community	http://www.bali-rainbows.com/special-
	event/fund-raising.html
GrupoDidnidade	http://www.grupodignidade.org.br
ArusPelangi (Indonesia)	http://asia.googitics.gom/ama.polangi
Arusrelangi (muonesia)	http://asia.geocities.com/arus_pelangi
Blue Diamond Society (Nepal)	http://www.bds.org.np
AngLadLad (The National Association of	http://www.angladlad.org
LGBT Filipinos)	



Horizon Community Association of	http://www.hoca4rwanda.9f.com
Rwanda	
Gay Egypt	http://www.gayegypt.com
Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ)	http://www.galz.co.zw
Out in Africa (The South African Gay and	http://www.oia.co.za
Lesbian Film Festival)	
The Botswana Center for Human Rights	http://www.ditshwanelo.org.bw
(DITSHWANELO)	
Lesbians, Gays, and Bisexuals of	http://www.legabibo.org.bw
Botswana (LeGaBiBo)	
Behind the Mask	http://www.mask.org.za
	and the second second
Coalition of African Lesbians	http://www.cal.org.za
Gay Kenya	http://www.gaykenya.com
Freedom and Roam Uganda (FARUG)	http://www.faruganda.org
Icebreakers Uganda	http://www.icebreakersuganda.org
Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG)	http://www.sexualminoritiesuganda.org
T C A A I	
ILGA Asia	<u>http://asia.ilga.org</u>
	http://omoniog.lating.com/hailes.org
ILGA Latin America	http://america_latina_caribe.ilga.org
ILGA Africa	http://africa.ilga.org/
	<u>http://africa.ilga.org/</u>
ILGA Europe	http://www.ilga-europe.org/
illon Europe	http://www.nga-curopc.org/

International Lesbian and Gay	www.ilga.org
Association (ILGA)	
Puntos de Encuentro(Nicaragua)	http://www.puntos.org.ni/default.php
Jamaica Forum for Lesbians, All-Sexuals,	http://www.jflag.org
and Gays (JFLAG)	
	<u>http://www.jflag.org</u>

Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Human Rights Campaign are the major organizations in upholding the rights and protection of the LGBT community.^[25]

8. COUNTRIES WHERE LGBT ALLOWED AND PROHIBITED:

In the late 20th century, religious rites of marriage without legal recognition became increasingly common. The first law providing for marriage of people of the same sex in modern times was enacted in 2001 in the Netherlands. There are almost 23 countries around the world where same-sex marriages are allowed. As of 22 July 2016, same-sex marriage is legally allowed(nationwide or in some parts) in the following countries: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Uruguay, and Finland (law will take effect in 2017).^[26]

As of August 2016, 72 countries as well as five sub-national jurisdictions have laws criminalizing homosexuality,most of them located in Asia and Africa. In 2006, that number was 92.^[27] Plenty of Christian countries especially in Africa where homosexuality is banned including IndianHindu. Lots of the anti Gay laws in Muslim countries were enacted by Christian colonialists.

²⁵ World Report-Human Rights Watch, published on 1st January, 2013.

²⁶https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Same-sex_marriage.

²⁷"State Sponsored Homophobia 2016: A world survey of sexual orientation laws: criminalisation, protection and recognition."

Not all the Muslims countries have banned LGBT or same sex marriages. There are five Muslim states where same-sex marriage is legalized. In Indonesia, Jordan, Albania, Turkey and Mali homosexuality is legal.^[28] In 13 countries, gay or bisexual is punishable by death. These are; Sudan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Mauritania, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Qatar, UAE, parts of Nigeria, parts of Somalia, parts of Syria and parts of Iraq.In 17 countries, bans are in place to prohibit 'propaganda' interpreted as promoting LGBT communities or identities. These are; Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Somalia, Tunisia, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Lithuania and Russia.Many countries only criminalize sex between men due to historic penal codes from British colonial rule which define sex as penal penetration.^[29]

9. HOMOSEXUALITY AND RELIGION:

Religious fundamentalism has been found to correlate positively with anti-homosexual bias.^[30] Many argue that it is homosexual actions which are sinful, rather than the state of being homosexual itself. To this end, some discourage labeling individuals according to sexual orientation.^[31] Several organizations exist that assert that conversion therapy can help diminish same-sex attraction.

Historically, some cultures and religions accommodated, institutionalized, or revered same-sex love and sexuality.^{[32][33]} Such mythologies and traditions can be found around the world.^[34] For example, Hinduism does not view homosexuality as a religious sin.^[35] In 2009, the Hindu Council UK released the statement "Hinduism does not condemn homosexuality".^[36]

²⁸ http://islamandhomosexuality.com/5-muslim-nations-gay-legal.

²⁹http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/gay-lesbian-bisexual-relationships-illegal-in-74-countries-a7033666.html.

³⁰*McDermott, Ryon C.; Schwartz, Jonathan P.; Lindley, Lori D.; Proietti, Josiah S. (2014).*"*Exploring men's homophobia: Associations with religious fundamentalism and gender role conflict.domains*". *Psychology of Men & Masculinity. 15 (2): 191–200. doi:10.1037/a0032788.*

³¹"Code of Ethics, American Association of Christian Counselors" (PDF). www.aacc.net. American Association of Christian Counselors. Retrieved May 2015.

³² Boswell, John (2005). "Christianity, social tolerance, and homosexuality". University Of Chicago Press.

³³Dynes, Wayne; Donaldson, Stephen (1992)."Asian homosexuality".Routledge.

³⁴Carpenter, Edward (1914). "Intermediate Types among Primitive Types: A Study in Social Evolution". New York: Mitchell Kennerley.

³⁵Gay Histories and Cultures, Routledge, p. 438, George Haggerly.

³⁶"'Hinduism does not condemn homosexuality'''. 3 July 2009. Retrieved 22 August 2015.

9.1. judaism

The Torah (first five books of the Hebrew Bible) is the primary source for Jewish views on homosexuality. It states that: "[A man] shall not lie with another man as [he would] with a woman, it is a הועבה *toeba* ("abomination")" (Leviticus 18:22). (Like many similar commandments, the stated punishment for willful violation is the death penalty.

9.2. christianity

Most Christian denominations welcome people attracted to the same sex, but teach that homosexual acts are sinful.^{[37][38]}Liberal Christians are supportive of homosexuals. Some Christian denominations do not view monogamous same sex relationships as bad or evil.^[39] Within the Anglican communion there are openly gay clergy; for example, Gene Robinson and Mary Glasspool are openly homosexual bishops in the US Episcopal Church and Eva Brunne in Lutheran Church of Sweden.^[40]

9.3. catholic church

The Catholic Church teaches that those who are attracted to persons of the same sex are called to practice chastity,^[41] just like everyone else.^[42]

9.4. mormonism

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints teaches that no one should arouse sexual feelings outside of marriage, including those towards members of the same sex.^[43]

9.5. islam

"Do you approach males among the worlds and leave what your Lord has created for you as mates? But you are a people transgressing."^[44]All major Islamic schools disapprove of

³⁷"Human Sexuality". The United Methodist Church. Retrieved 16 May 2008.

³⁸"Catechism of the Catholic Church".

³⁹NYTimes.com "United Church of Christ Backs Same-Sex Marriage."

⁴⁰ Schnabel, Landon (2016-01-01). "Gender and homosexuality attitudes across religious groups from the 1970s to 2014: Similarity, distinction, and adaptation". (Social Science)

⁴¹Catechism of the Catholic Church 2359.

⁴²Catechism of the Catholic Church 2348.

⁴³"Chastity", lds.org.

⁴⁴Quran, Surah 26 (165-166).

homosexuality.^[45]The 'fuqaha' are agreed that "there is no *hadd* punishment for lesbianism, because it is not *zina*. Rather a *ta'zeer* punishment must be imposed, because it is a sin."^[46]

9.7. indian religions

In 2005, an authority figure of Sikhism condemned same-sex marriage and the practice of homosexuality. However, many people in Sikhism do not oppose gay marriage.^[47] Hinduism is diverse, with no supreme governing body, but the majority of swamis opposed same-sex relationships in a 2004 survey, and a minority supported them.^[48]

9.7.1. hinduism

A "third gender" has been acknowledged within Hinduism since Vedic times. Several Hindu texts, such as Manu Smriti^[49] and SushrutaSamhita, assert that some people are born with either mixed male and female natures, or sexually neuter, as a matter of natural biology. The Indian Kama Sutra, written in the 150 BC,^[50] contains passages describing *eunuchs* or "third-sex" males performing oral sex on men.^{[51][52]} In some Hindu sects (specifically among the hijras), many divinities are androgynous. There are Hindu deities who are intersex (both male and female); who manifest in all three genders; who switch from male to female or from female to male; male deities with female moods and female deities with male moods; deities born from two males or from two females; deities born from a single male or single female; deities who avoid the opposite sex; deities with principal companions of the same sex, and so on.Several Hindu priests have performed same-sex marriages, arguing that love is the result of attachments from previous births and that marriage, as a union of spirit, is transcendental to gender.^{[53][54]}

9.7.2. buddhism

 $^{{}^{45}}http://the true religion.org/modules/wfsection/article.php?articled{=}45.$

⁴⁶Islamqa.com.

⁴⁷"World Sikh group against gay marriage bill". CBC News. 29 March 2005.

⁴⁸Malik, Rajiv (October–December 2004). "Discussions on Dharma". Hinduism Today Magazine. Archived from the original on 26 July 2011.

⁴⁹Manu Smriti, 3.49.

⁵⁰GradeSaver. "Vatsyayana Biography - List of Works, Study Guides & Essays". Retrieved 22 August 2015.

⁵¹Kama Sutra, Chapter 9, "Of the Auparishtaka or Mouth Congress". Text online.

⁵²Pattanaik, Devdutt (2001). *Homosexuality in Ancient India*, Debonair 2000 or 2001.Essay available online from GayBombay.org.

⁵³Gay couple hold Hindu wedding Tuesday, 29 May 2001, 11:29 GMT, BBC News.

⁵⁴As Tide Turns on Same-Sex Marriage, Churches Lag Behind New America Media, News Feature, Sandip Roy.

Traditionally, homosexual conduct and gender variance are seen as obstacles to spiritual progress in most schools of Buddhism; as such monks are expected to refrain from all sexual activity, and the *Vinaya* (the first book of the Tripitaka) specifically prohibits sexual intercourse, then further explain that anal, oral, and vaginal intercourse amount to sexual intercourse, which will result in permanent exclusion from Sangha.^[55]When interviewed by Canadian TV news anchor, Evan Solomon on CBC News: Sunday about whether or not homosexuality is acceptable in Buddhism, the Dalai Lama responded that "it is sexual misconduct."^[56] Buddhist leaders in Thailand have also condemned homosexuality.^[57] However, Japanese Buddhist scholar and author of *Wild Azaleas* Kitamura Kigin argued that there was a tendency in monasteries to avoid heterosexuality and to encourage homosexuality.^[58]

9.7.3. sikhism

Sikhism has no written view on the matter, but in 2005, a Sikh religious authority described homosexuality as against the code and law of nature. They have asked to support laws against gay marriage.^[59] Marriage in Sikhism is seen as a union of souls. In Sikhism, the soul is seen as genderless. Same-sex marriage advocates refer to this fact.^[60]

9.8. zoroastrianism

It details the penance for a worshipper who submits to sodomy under force as "Eight hundred stripes with the Aspahe-astra, eight hundred stripes with the Sraosho-charana."(equal to the penalty for breaking a contract with the value of an ox).^[61]However, many Zoroastrians, termed

⁵⁵ See, for example, the Pandakavatthu section of the Mahavagga. 1:61, 68, 69; Vinaya: Mahavagga, 1:71, 76. Additionally, "The Story of the Prohibition of the Ordination of Pandaka" justifies the ban by giving an example of a monk with an insatiable desire to be sexually penetrated by men, thus bringing shame upon the Buddhist community. Vinaya, Vol. 4, pp. 141–142.

⁵⁶ The Huffington Post, 07/13/09, Gay Marriage: What Would Buddha Do?, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/james-shaheen/gay-marriage-what-would-b_b_230855.html.

⁵⁷Ibid.

⁵⁸Kumagusu, Miinakata; Ihara Saikaku (1996). Stephen D. Miller, ed. Partings at Dawn: An Anthology of Japanese Gay Literature. trans. Paul Gordon Schalow (2nd ed.). San Francisco: Gay Sunshine Press. p. 103. ISBN 0-940567-18-0. The Buddha preached that Mount Imose (a metaphor for the love of women) was a place to be avoided, and thus priests of the dharma first entered this way as an outlet for their feelings, since their hearts were, after all, made of neither stone nor wood.

⁵⁹World Sikh group against gay marriage bill, CBC News, Tuesday, 29 March 2005.

⁶⁰Naad, Project (2/9/2010). "Sikhism, Yoga and Sexuality" (PDF).Project Naad.p. 33. Archived from the original (PDF) on 2 September 2010. Retrieved 2 September 2010.

⁶¹"Avesta: Vendidad (English): Fargard 4.Contracts and offenses".

"reformist", not conveying the original message.^[62] Reformist Zoroastrians are openly accepting and supportive of the LGBT community and same-sex marriage.

9.9. eastasian religions

This territory has the 28% area of the Asia continent.⁶³ There are varieties of religions and their beliefs.

9.9.1. confucianism

Homosexuality is not mentioned in the Analects of Confucius.^[64]

9.9.2. taoism

The literature of some schools included homosexuality as one of the forms of sexual misconduct.^[65]Tang dynasty when Taoist nuns exchanged love poems.^[66]

9.9.3. satanism

Satanism, in both the theistic and the LaVey tradition, are open to all forms of sexual expression, and does not preclude homosexuality.^[67]

9.10. humanism

Humanism is a lifestance that supports full equality for LGBT individuals, ^{[68][69]} including the right to marry.^{[70][71]}

⁶²"VENDIDAD - The Law Against Demons".

⁶³The population figure is the combined populations of China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Taiwan, Mongolia, North Korea, South Korea and Japan as listed at <u>List of countries by population</u> (last updated Feb 22, 2011).

⁶⁴ Jeffrey S. Siker, Homosexuality and Religion: an encyclopedia. page 210. 2007. ISBN 0-313-33088-3

⁶⁵ The Great Dictionary of Taoism (道教大辭典), by Chinese Taoism Association, published in China in 1994, ISBN 7-5080-0112-5/B.054.

⁶⁶Homosexuality in China on glbtq.com.

⁶⁷LaVey, Anton Szandor (1969). The Satanic Bible. New York: Avon Books. p. 66. ISBN 978-0-380-01539-9. OCLC 26042819.Retrieved 22 April 2010.

⁶⁸ http://iheu.org/content/homosexual-rights.

⁶⁹"LGBTQ Humanists - About the LGBTQ Humanist Council". LGBTQ Humanists.Retrieved 22 August 2015.

⁷⁰"Humanists Tell Supreme Court: Marriage Equality is the Right Choice". American Humanist Association.Retrieved 22 August 2015.

⁷¹"Resources for Celebrants".Retrieved 22 August 2015.

10. BANGLADESH AND LGBT:

Bangladesh is one of 75 countries that currently have laws criminalizing homosexuality.^[72]In December 2008, Bangladesh was one of 59 countries that signed a statement opposing LGBT rights at the United Nations General Assembly.^[73]The Constitution has several provisions that could apply to LGBT citizens:^[74]

- Part II Article 19 Promises equal opportunity for all citizens.
- Part III Article 27 Promises equality before the law for all citizens.
- Freedom of religion and the press are both promised, but subject to restrictions based on "decency or morality".
- A citizen is not eligible to be a member of Parliament if they are convicted of a "criminal offense involving moral turpitude".

According to Section-377 of Bangladesh Penal Code, 1860, **Unnatural offences**: Whoever voluntarily has carnal intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal, shall be punished with imprisonment for life, or with imprisonment of either description for term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine.

Explanation: Penetration is sufficient to constitute the carnal intercourse necessary to the offense described in this section.^[75]

In 2013 the *Dhaka Tribune* wrote and editorial against section 377 of the Bangladesh Penal Code stating their belief that while most people in Bangladesh were against homosexuality, they did not want to see people put in jail for it or for the government to waste resources treating it as a crime.^[76]

The first attempt to form a LGBT community in Bangladesh was made by Rengyu, an indigenous in 1999. The "Gay Bangladesh"^[77] got over 1000 members till the death of Rengyu. In 2002, two more groups named "Teen Gay Bangladesh" and "Boys Only Bangladesh" were formed in "Yahoo" though banned by the authority afterwards. "Boys Only Bangladesh"

⁷² - See more at: http://archive.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2016/apr/27/where-does-bangladesh-stand-homosexuality-issue.

⁷³ http://archive.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2016/apr/27/where-does-bangladesh-stand-homosexuality-issue.

 ⁷⁴"Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh".bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd.Retrieved 27 April 2011.
⁷⁵"Sodomy Laws Around the World". 24 April 2007. Retrieved1 September 2007.

⁷⁶http://www.dhakatribune.com/editorial/2013/aug/29/decriminalising-same-sex-relations

⁷⁷"The Boys of Bangladesh".pink-pages.co.in.Retrieved9 January 2013.

changing name for several times started working for making a LGBT community and repealing section 377 from 2009.^[78] In 2010, Dr. Avijit Roy in association with Mukto-Mona wrote a book on "Homosexuality"^[79] dealing with the LGBT people and their rights.^[80] In 2014, the first LGBT magazine "Roopbaan" was published to promote power of love.^[81]There was a pride event of "Rainbow Rally" organized yearly from 2014. But it was threatened and cancelled in 2016. Even the founder of Roopbaan, Xulhaz Mannan with his two friends was killed in an apartment.^[82]

In 2009 as well as in 2013, the Bangladeshi parliament has refused to overturn section 377.^[83] In 2013 there were two cases where two girl couples (Lesbians) fled to marry one another. But they were arrested and imprisoned.^[84] The last couple was charged under section 209 for unsocial activities.^[85] There are 10,000 Hijras in our country. They are now recognized as the Separate Sex.^[86]

Bangladesh is predominantly a Muslim Country. And recognition of lesbian, gay, bisexuals and transgender is against the values of society. The UN Population Fund and Non-Government Organizations have put pressure on Bangladesh to address issues such as gay rights and sexuality education.But both in 2013 and 2014, the permanent representative of Bangladesh to the UN, Abdul Momen, refused the rights to lesbians and gay community.^[87] Bangladesh is a predominantly Muslim country. A few Islamic foundations such as the Al-Fatiha Foundation which is based in the United States support homo-sexuality.However,

⁷⁸"Bangladesh: Treatment of homosexuals including legislation, availability of state protection and support services". www.unhcr.org. Retrieved 9 January 2013.

⁷⁹"Samakamita: The first Bengali book on homosexuality". lgbtbangladesh.wordpress.com. Retrieved 15 January 2013.

⁸⁰ Bengali). www.mukto-mona.com. Retrieved 20 January 2011.

 $[\]label{eq:s1http://www.dhakatribune.com/arts-amp-culture/2014/jan/20/first-ever-lgbt-magazine-launched.$

⁸²"Founder of Bangladesh's first and only LGBT magazine killed". The Guardian.Retrieved 2 May 2016.

⁸³Pawar, Yogesh. Bangladesh Refuses to Abolish Criminalisation of Same-Sex Ties; in Denial about its 4.5 Million-Strong LGBT Community, Dhaka Shoots Down the United Nations Human Rights Commission Recommendations., 2013. Print.

⁸⁴Kuddus, Omar. "Bangladesh Lesbian Couple Threatened with Life in Jail for Getting Married." Gay Star News.N.p.,n.d. Web. 25 Oct. 2014.

⁸⁵Kuddus, Omar, and Tris Reid-Smith. "Bangladesh Jails 'married' Lesbian Couple." Gay Star News.N.p.,n.d. Web. 25 Oct. 2014.

⁸⁶Karim, Mohosinul. "Hijras Now a Separate Gender." Dhaka Tribune. 25 October 2014.

⁸⁷Zaman, Sheikh Shahriar. "Bangladesh Opposes ICPD's LGBT Rights Move | Dhaka Tribune." Bangladesh. Opposes ICPD's LGBT Rights Move | Dhaka Tribune. N.p., n.d. Web. 25 Oct. 2014.. The IPCD proposed to provide rights to the LGBT community.

Bangladesh is lagging far behind from other countries to uphold the rights of the lesbians and gay community.

11. HOW CAN THE PREJUDICE TOWARDS LGBT'S BE REDUCED?

Lesbian, gay and bisexual people who want to help reduce prejudice and discrimination can be open about their sexual orientation, even as they take necessary precautions to be as safe as possible. They can make use of the lesbian, gay and bisexual community, as well as supportive heterosexual people, for support. Heterosexual people who wish to help reduce prejudice and discrimination can examine their own response to antigay stereotypes and prejudice. Heterosexual allies can encourage non-discrimination policies that include sexual orientation. They can work to make coming out safe. Studies of prejudice, including prejudice against gay people, consistently show that prejudice declines when members of the majority group interact with members of a minority group.^[88]Deep conversations can reduce the prejudice towards sexual oriented people.^[89]Even education can reduce the discriminatory behavior against the LGBT community.^[90]

12. MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE CONDITION OF THE LGBT CITIZENS:

12.1. the right to marry

There are almost 23 countries where same-sex marriage is allowed. Still there are lots to do with this section.^[91]

12.2. decriminalization of same-sex relationships and same-sex marriages

Most of the countries have anti same-sex marriage and criminalization of that. This is a big problem. Sexual orientation and same sex marriages are to be made decriminalized.

12.3. 'gay-friendly' nations and lgbt rights

⁸⁸ Author.[Retrieved from www.apa.org/topics/sorientation.pdf.]

⁸⁹ http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2016/04/07/473383882.

⁹⁰ https://tcf.org/content/commentary/can-education-reduce-prejudice-lgbt-people.

⁹¹https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/explainer-the-state-of-lgbt-rights-today.

Day by day positive laws are being enacted by several countries. Articles of Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948 and constitutional provisions are to be applied for the sake of the LGBT citizens around the world.^[92]

12.4. encourage lgbt activism

Years ago some organizations started to build leadership capacity among the LGBT community. Now there are five LGBT-led groups and one sex worker group that have come together to reflect on how to push forward rights defense and protection concerns.^[93]

12.5. more leadership from the un

CEDAW is one of the strongest tools protecting women rights. When you have strong UN mechanisms with ample possibilities of enforcement this can be one of the greatest things for LGBTI rights.^[94]

12.6. unleash parent power

The change of the condition is not so easy. One effective strategy is to involve parents of LGBTI people in public initiatives: this helps fight against attempts to dehumanize LGBTI people.^[95]

12.7. address the legacy of the commonwealth

The UK government has a challenge in advancing human rights by offering technical support to those countries that do want to make policy changes [to decriminalize homosexuality] and encouraging governments to do so through dialogue not lecturing.^[96]

12.8. sometimes it's alright for western governments to interfere

⁹² https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/explainer-the-state-of-lgbt-rights-today.

⁹³ Caleb Orozco, LGBT human rights advocate, United Belizean Advocacy Movement (UniBam), Belize City, Belize, @UNIBAMSupport

⁹⁴SujanPanta, human rights and legal officer, Blue Diamond Society, Kathmandu, Nepal, @sujanktm

⁹⁵ Renato Sabbadini, executive director, International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, Geneva, Switzerland,@RenatoSabbadini.

⁹⁶Lewis Brooks, policy and research manager, the Royal Commonwealth Society, London, UK, @lewibrooks.

No state wants to be interfered with others. But I feel there are subtle ways in which this can be done. There is data to show that international pressure has been a turning point in decriminalizing in certain countries in the past few years.^[97]

12.9. understand the context

In theory the business case should work in Singapore and the public health arguments in east Africa. Sri Lanka is trying to boost its democratic credentials and a commitment to democratic values should work there.^[98] It's time to create a world that recognizes the rights of transgender people.^[99]

12.10. stop the violence everywhere

Over 25% of LGBT youths are high school drop outs because of the discrimination they are faced with in the school atmosphere.^[100]Our priority issue this year is anti-LGBT violence. To eradicate violence, we need to collaborate with other social justice movements because ultimately what we want to change is the culture in our country. That is a gargantuan task. We cannot advocate against violence if we replicate the same within LGBT advocacy.^[101]

12.11. big business can play vital roles

In the case of Vietnam, the business community can act independently from the state, and that's the case for PwC, Baker & McKenzie and KPMG. These businesses in Vietnam have taken actions in their companies to raise awareness of LGBT issues and try to create a safe and inclusive environment for everyone. They have also spoken in many public forums to encourage others in the business community to do the same.^[102]

12.12. usetv and films to change hearts and minds

Media advocacy has been a scalable and effective tool to reach mass audiences and grow acceptance. The media helped exponentially grow the "coming out experience" through which

⁹⁷ Rosanna Flamer-Caldera, executive director, Equal Ground, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

⁹⁸ Jonathan Cooper, chief executive, Human Dignity Trust, London, UK, @HumanDignityT.

⁹⁹NeelaGhoshal and Kyle Knight.

¹⁰⁰"Today's Gay Youth,"

¹⁰¹Naomi Fontanos, executive director, Gender and Development Advocates (Ganda) Filipinas, Quezon City, Philippines.

¹⁰²Tam Nguyen, founder, Viet Pride, Hanoi, Vietnam.

other Americas learned what LGBT meant and who we really are. More than just facts, figures, statistics and moral or ethical debates, we are brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, neighbours and co-workers. With Hollywood being America's largest cultural export, this content will help change hearts and minds globally as well.^[103]

12.13. take discriminatory cases to the courts

If LGBTI people live in countries that have constitutional rights that guarantee equal rights, then use the courts to challenge discriminatory laws and policies. Winning each case makes the next one easier, gives the media the opportunity to report the issue and the public to debate. It also gives inspiration to people who are afraid to express their orientation or gender.^[104]

12.14. increase acceptance with creative ideas

There are so many tactics that can be used to change culture, Art, dialogue, media campaigns and more. A favourite example: Hiker Chiu of Taiwan initiated the global "Free Hugs With Intersex" movement to break down stigma.^[105]

12.15. fight the crackdown on civil society

There is a troubling trend of crackdowns on civil society. This closing of the democratic space has a particular impact on LGBT rights groups. Look at what is happening in Uganda, Nigeria, Russia and central Asia. It is very worrying.^[106]

12.16. celebrate activists

The global LGBT has grown enormously over the last three decades, tens of thousands of people around the world work hard every day to change their respective local and national communities, and this change is becoming more and more real. To credit the work of all these activists can be also an effective way to progress our rights.^[107]

¹⁰³Omar Sharif Jr, actor/ambassador, Human Rights Foundation, New York, US,@omarsharifjr. ¹⁰⁴Michael Vidler, human rights lawyer, Vidler & Co Solicitors, Hong Kong.

¹⁰⁵Leah Entenmann, research and communications coordinator, Alturi, New York, US, @AlturiOrg.

¹⁰⁶Jonathan Cooper.

¹⁰⁷ Rosanna Flamer-Caldera.

12.17. soften the religious principles

We have already discussed about the rigid rules on LGBT citizens. As a result, there must be some practical dialogue and principles for the rights and protection of the LGBT community throughout the world.^[108]

13. WHERE CAN WE FIND CORRECT INFORMATION ABOUT LGBT?

13.1. American Psychological	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
Association	Concerns Office
	750 First Street, NE. Washington, D.C.
	20002
	E-mail: lgbc@apa.org
	http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbc/
13.2. Mental Health America (formerly	2000 N. Beauregard Street, 6th Floor
the National Mental Health Association)	Alexandria, VA 22311
	Main Switchboard: (703) 684-7722
	Toll-free: (800) 969-6MHA (6642)
	TTY: (800) 433-5959
	Fax: (703) 684-5968
	http://www.nmha.org/go/home
	What Does Gay Mean? How to Talk With
	Kids About Sexual Orientation and
	Prejudice
	An anti-bullying program designed to
	improve understanding and respect for youth
	who are gay/lesbian/bisexual/ transgender
	(GLBT). Centered on an educational booklet
	called What Does Gay Mean? How to Talk
	with Kids About Sexual Orientation and
	Prejudice, the program encourages parents

 $^{108} https://www.theguardian.com/global-development-professionals-network/2016/feb/16/13-steps-to-greater-lgbt-equality.$

	and others to communicate and share values
	of respect with their children.
13.3. American Academy of Pediatrics	Division of Child and Adolescent Health
	141 Northwest Point Blvd.
	Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
	Office: (847) 228-5005
	Fax: (847) 228-5097
	http://www.aap.org
	Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Teens: Facts for
	Teens and Their Parents
	A simple and direct discussion of sexual
	orientation for young people who may be
	questioning their sexual orientation, and for
	parents who may first be learning their child
	is lesbian, gay or bi-sexual.

14. CONCLUSION:

One young gay who had dropped out of an honors program angrily protested, "Just because I am gay doesn't mean I am stupid," as he told of hearing "that's so gay" meaning "that's so stupid," not just from other students but from teachers in his school.^[109]Curtis Lipscomb, 51, founder of Hotter Than July and executive director of education and advocacy non-profit LGBT Detroit, echoes Dwight's sentiment. "Just because I'm OK," he says, "doesn't mean that everyone's OK."There is never a reason to classify human beings better or worse than one another. It is time to stop looking upon love with such hatred.^[110]Neutrality is not an option. Neither is polite half-acceptance nor is avoiding the subject. Hide as you might, the issue will come and find you.^[111]Youth homelessness, Violence against trans and queer people, Racial Justice, Immigrant Justice, Health, Economic Justice are to be ensured to these folks.^[112]It should be common knowledge that gay agendas are a myth, and that the LGBTcommunity just wants to live with the same rights as everybody else.^[113]

¹⁰⁹ Human Rights Watch, 2001, p. 35.

 $[\]label{eq:linear} {}^{110} http://www.thejakartapost.com/youth/2016/06/28/the-past-present-and-future-of-the-lgbtq-community.html. \\ {}^{111} http://www.sltrib.com/home/4271534-155/commentary-on-lgbt-equality-middle-ground. \\$

¹¹²https://www.buzzfeed.com/hfetter/7-lgbt-issues-that-matter-more-than-marriage-fk74.

¹¹³http://www.thejakartapost.com/youth/2016/06/28/the-past-present-and-future-of-the-lgbtq-community.html.