

LGBT and Human Rights

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MBA (Rural Management)

2019 – 2021



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Acknowledgements

I would like to give my heartfelt gratitude to my mentors, professor Dr. Anuradha S. Palanichamy and professor Dr. Goutam Sadhu who gave me the wonderful opportunity to do this beautiful research on LGBT and Human Rights which helped me in doing lots of exploration on LGBT communities and I came to know about this beautiful people in detail and also learnt so many new things. I am extremely happy and thankful to them for giving me room to enhance my knowledge through this research paper. Moreover, I would also like to thank my friends who helped me a lot in collecting data and finalizing this paper within the limited time frame.

LGBT and Human Rights

Abstract

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender are a diverse group of people having different sexual orientations. They are typically classified in terms of their behaviour, identity, sexual attraction or it could be also the combination of all these dimensions. This people have existed since years ago, yet they have never gained full support and acceptance from the community, schools and even from their parents. Their human rights are often being ignored. In many countries, people who are engaged in homosexual conduct are either imprisoned or are sentenced to death. LGBT people are subjected to wide-spread violence and discrimination especially regarding the right to marry and live a normal life without any affect in their working life. Thus this paper will be focused on the struggles that are being faced by the LGBT people and how all these unfair judgment towards them had questioned the world today in particular the united Nations Human Rights committee who has been praised as one of the most influential human rights bodies in the world about whether their rights are included in the basic human rights.

Key words: LGBT, Human Rights, Discrimination, Emotional Health Struggles, prejudice, vulnerable group's protection.

Introduction

All human beings shall be equally permitted to the human rights without discrimination on the account of nationality, place of residence, sex, or some other status, for example, health status, age group, sexual direction or sex character. Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, yet Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people constantly encounter human right abuse in many parts of the world. People around the world faces violence and inequality and at times torture even to the extent of execution. They are discriminated simply because they are attracted to same sex and are having unique identity and behaviour.

LGBT people have struggled over the years for their rights. All members of such group had been subject to prejudice controlled by beliefs and traditions of heterosexual attractions and marriage. Many of those who themselves belongs to such category of people and those who have the information and familiar with them have initiated fights for the rights of such people. All though many organisations, which includes GLAD (Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders), Lambda Legal Defence and Education Fund and GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Educators Network) has been shaped in support of LGBTQ individuals, they have never fully achieved to sustain the human rights of LGBT people and defend them against many varieties of abuse.

The social stigma against LGBT needs to be cleared. For that matter, the overall public needs to be educated. Organizations and people in guide of LGBT men and women are encouraged to develop action plans for promoting respect and therefore the protection of their fundamental rights through events and exchanging extra balanced dialogue that involves the general public and religious institutions via media. Further, this paper will be centred on the concept of the LGBT individuals, their history and the difficulties that is being faced by the LGBT people like decriminalization, interpersonal organizations, family and furthermore on the battles that they face genuinely and intellectually. Moreover, the paper likewise centres around how the Universal Declaration of Human Rights law shield the privileges of LGBT individuals.

Problem Statement

The LGBT people have difficulty in facing people's perception of them, and the discrimination they receive for being who they are. They are struggling with problems including pressure of not being accepted by their family, friends, and the community which lead to destructions in their mental fitness leading to conditions like depression. Moreover, the organisation that are formed in support of such individuals also faces difficulty to make the general public understand and accept them as it is not any disorder rather it's been inborn in them hence, it needs to be respected as it is their human rights. For instance, Philippines is considered as a gay- friendly country, even then, the students there are suffering with bullying and discrimination in their schools and the community. Though they are given the right they face such problems due to poor acceptance by the surrounding people.

Aims and Objectives

- ✓ To bring equality and enhance the situation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender.
- ✓ In order to create knowledge and awareness of LGBT people in the community.
- ✓ To encourage people to reduce human right violations and accepting the rights of LGBT community.

Research questions

1. What are human rights?
2. What is the common form of abuse experienced by LGBT members?
3. Why LGBT people are deprived from their human right?
4. How can the prejudice against the LGBT people be reduced?
5. What are the plans or initiatives taken by Universal Declaration of Human rights in support of LGBT people?

Literature Review

In many nations, being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender means living with regular segregation. This segregation should be primarily founded on sexual orientation(who you're pulled in to), sex identity (how one characterize themselves paying little mind to their natural

intercourse), sex (how one unequivocal their sex through dress, hair or make-up), or sex characteristics (for example private parts, chromosomes, regenerative organs, or hormone levels). From ridiculing and harassing, to being denied a vocation or reasonable medicinal services, the scope of inconsistent treatment went up against is broad and harming. It likewise can be a dangerous. In very numerous cases, LGBT individuals are bugged inside the avenues, thrashed and occasionally murdered, just because of what their identity is.

Many intersex human beings across the globe were pressured to undertake risky, aggressive and completely unwarranted surgical procedures that can purpose long standing material and psychological side-effects. Despite of going through social discrimination Amnesty International strands with everybody operating to guarantee the fundamental human rights of every individuals, irrespective of sexual characters or sex identity. Moreover, with the Universal assertion of LGBT human rights in the charter and in its article 2 declaration. LGBT human being got full support and help from every society and its community with less social discrimination. Many nations are running to give equality to LGBT people irrespective of their transgender.

Methodology

This research is based on subjective strategy as it is utilized to increase a comprehension of fundamental reasons, suppositions and inspirations. It is non-numerical based research and focused on the society with theory basis.

Secondary data

In my research, a portion of the data was gathered from the current information as writing, pictures and video recording. Also, the necessary data was gathered from the online journals, articles, diaries, paper and YouTube videos.

Research design

The research work is based on the exploratory investigation of LGBT community people and general individuals from social identity development. This study utilized a subjective exploratory spellbinding structure to recognize, break down and portray the difficulties looked by the LGBT individuals in their regular daily existence, for example, separations, bias, sexual maltreatment and so on. Up until this point, the data and assets accumulated in the paper were from the current information that were at that point done by the past specialists and some data were gathered from web and through the YouTube

recordings that were posted by the LGBT individuals. Further, a portion of the references that are optional data has been taken from newspapers, articles, online journals and blogs.

This research design was intended to reveal insight into social awareness and conundrums of community, development and involvement, related to each other. A portion of the difficulties that I confronted while gathering the information were as most of the data was assembled from the optional sources and it's hard to get precise data.

Research Finding

1. The concept of LGBT

LGBT stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender. These terms are used for describing an individual's sexual orientation and sex characters. It's a term that is also being used for referring to the community. A woman who sexually or emotionally attracted towards other women are referred to as lesbian. Similarly, Gay refers to two men having romantic or emotional attraction towards each other (Homo-sexual). Bisexual are those attracted by men and women to both the sides and transgender means people whose identity or expression that do not match the sex they were assigned at birth.

People who take part in sexual relations with others of a comparable sex don't generally separate themselves as gay, lesbian (gay) or pleasure seeker. The term LGBT is a strategy for delineating sexuality and sex verbalization practically identical to human rights in the social, normal, political, social and financial circles. The term LGBT covers both character and articulation; however, people's sexual practices are not commonly reflected as a part of their character. Two terms at times used are MSM (men who have sex with men) and WSW (women who engage in sexual relations with women). This keeps away from referencing what are viewed as set characters. Men who have sex with individuals who participate in sexual relations with women don't generally describe themselves as gay or indiscriminate or feel any solidarity with others who separate themselves as LGBT. It's basic to hold up under as a principle need that the characters got a handle on by the term don't show themselves also around the globe, and that class' change with time and spot. Close by settings, with their specific social codes and practices, are by and large one of a kind and ought to reliably be while overseeing LGBT issues all inclusive.

2. History of LGBT people

LGBT has been there in the world for a very long time. The first gay person to publicly speak out for homosexual right is **Karl Heinrich Ulrichs**. He was born in Aurich, in the kingdom of Hanover in north western Germany on 28 August 1825. He was a civil servant in Germany unit (lawyer and journalist) and was forced to resign on the account of his homosexuality in the year 1854 although he secured prestigious positions in Hanoverian civil service. He became an activist and published 12 volumes of work about homosexuality. He described a class of persons who faced persecution just because nature planted a sexual nature that is different and opposite to the usual in them. It was innate and that those who experienced it shall be treated the same as anyone else. During his time the concept of same sex attraction was completely new. The word homosexuality itself was only after two years and was coined by the Austro-Hungarian writer named Karl-Maria Kertbeny. Hence, the ideas which Ulrich pointed out turned out to be revolutionary. In his speech at the 1867 conference after publishing a series of pamphlets, he said:

“By publishing these writings I have initiated a scientific discussion based on facts, until now the treatment of the subject has been biased, not to mention contemptuous,” he added “My writings are the voice of socially oppressed minority that now claims its rights to be heard.”

Before the term homosexuality was coined, Ulrich coined the words “Urnings” and “Urinden” which now refer to Gay and Lesbians respectively. He also coined the word “dionings” for those people who are now referred to as heterosexual and “Uranodionism” for what is today called bisexuality. He coined these words inspired by the story of Uranus, the god of the heavens, who was portrayed both as father and mother to the goddess Aphrodite in “Symposium”, a philosophical text by Plato. All though he raised his voice for human rights he was jailed twice in the year 1867 for anti-prussian activities and later he settled in Italy and was not that successful.

Later there came many other people who appeared in support of the LGBT people and moreover, many LGBT people came forward to let the world know about them. One such character includes Barbara Gittings. She is regarded as the mother of the LGBT civil rights movement. She started the New York Chapter of the Daughters of Bilitis (DOB) in 1958. It was the first Lesbian civil rights organization in the United States. She waged a multi-year campaign for the declassification of homosexuality as a mental disorder. In 1973, the American Psychiatric

Association announced the removal of classification and she successfully crusaded to promote Gay literature and eliminate discrimination in nation's library.

3. Universality of Human Right

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) has been taken on by the United Nations General Assembly on its third session on December 10, 1948. At that point, 30 articles are formulated for the rights and freedoms every individual is entitled to. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons are constantly in danger of persecution and gross violations of their fundamental human rights in several countries. Many LGBT persons fear or face imprisonment, torture, abuse and even murder, solely because they live in a context that does not tolerate their sexual orientation, identity or gender expression.

As per the article 2 of UDHR, "everyone is entitled to all the human rights and freedom set forth in this declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status". The term "other status" includes many other forms of individuals who needs to be protected.

This right has been taken up by the people who try to end discrimination based on the sexual orientation and identity. An Indian boy named Akhilesh Godi who was depressed about the communities perception about his sexuality and moreover, was worried to even seek help from a therapist for they will label him as a criminal under Indians law which was against homosexuality became one among the openly gay students who gained justice from the Indian supreme court in 2018. They ruled that gay Indians are to be accorded all the protections of the constitutions which was welcomed by the UN which said, "sexual orientation and gender expression form an integral part of an individual's identity the world over". (United Nations Human Rights)

The some of the important articles formulated by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights were:

ARTICLE 13 & 14:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state" and "Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution" Homosexual acts are banned in more than 85 nations and domains, which builds

the need of LGBT people to look for asylum. This might be the final hotel for somebody living under the steady danger of being uncovered, barred, detained or executed. In like manner, in numerous nations same-sex connections are not lawfully perceived, which may likewise be an explanation behind movement. (United Nations Human Rights)

ARTICLE 23:

“Everyone has the right to work”. In numerous nations' LGBT people are efficiently oppressed inside the work showcase. This prompts hindrances regarding arrangement and money related and social autonomy. (United Nations Human Rights)

ARTICLE 25:

“Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family”. Infringement of the privilege not to endure separation prompts a negative pattern of confined chances, which thusly may prompt destitution. LGBT people's entitlement to wellbeing is disregarded when the human services framework is established on the supposition that all patients are heterosexual. (United Nations Human Rights)

There are still 71 countries, particularly in Africa, the Middle East and parts of south Asia where homo-sexual attractions are criminalised including eight countries where people having same-sex attraction could be sentenced to death.

4. Decriminalisation

Every individual has the right to be treated equally regardless of nationality, race, religion, gender identity, belief, sexual orientations or other status. Discrimination happens when an individual is unable to enjoy his or her human rights simply because of an unjustified prejudice, law or treatment. Prejudice takes the upper role in discrimination. Prejudices based on identity and the need to identify who you are with a certain group of individual results in abhorrence among people. “In Nairobi, Kenya, lesbian rights protester Poulina Kimani showed up on a TV program that tended to the issues of homosexuality. In the weeks that followed, she was obnoxiously manhandled over and over in the road and in

other open spots, and purportedly pursued and compromised with assault by a gathering of men. She has additionally gotten composed demise dangers, left in an envelope discovered outside her place of living arrangement." (Homophobic and Transphobic Violence, 2017). In numerous pieces of the world, people keep on confronting serious human rights maltreatment because of their sexual direction or sex personality. Many people are aware that Sexual orientations are innate, and it is not a choice. Yet, this fact never stops prejudice. LGBT people experience pervasive discrimination that impacts their lives negatively. (American Psychological Association, 2013).

Discrimination due to sexual orientations is faced either directly or indirectly. Direct discrimination includes treating the LGBT people less favourably, abuse or harassment, violent behaviour. All though over the past decades the LGBT people have made several legal and political gains including the liberty to marry in some part of the world like the United States the federal law doesn't clearly prohibit discrimination in the field of employment, housing and access to many of the services. Moreover, only fewer states offer explicit protections for the LGBT people. For this reason, LGBT people are mostly fired, evicted, or are refused to service. Indirect discrimination includes rules, policy or practice which is less likely to be able to meet by LGBT people.

As indicated by Sejal Sing and Laura E. Durso (2017), "Between eleven percent and twenty eight percent of LGBT laborers report losing an advancement essentially as a result of their sexual direction, and twenty-seven of transgender specialists report being terminated, not recruited, or denied an advancement in the previous year". For instance, 80 states in 2014 where the LGBT individuals who are in same sex relations were considered as culprit, illegal, pulling in critical jail sentences.

Furthermore, the degree to which these laws are as a rule effectively implemented gives off an impression of being expanding. For instance, in December 2012, a boy called Claude Roger Mbedo who belongs to LGBT community was given three year of jail sentence by a Cameroon redrafting court for 'homosexuality' considering a text he sent to another man. "In 2010, in Malawi, a judge imposed the maximum sentence of 14 years imprisonment with hard labour on a gay couple convicted of gross indecency and unnatural acts, after they held an engagement ceremony" (Gerber, 2014). LGBT individuals in every corner of the world confront misuse, attack and kill. The base of hate inspired savagery lies not within the sexual course or practice rather it lies within the social benchmarks of the setting in which they live.

“A 23-year – old transgender lady in Comyaguela was discovered dead in a discard, her body noticeably beaten and copied grisly stones close to her carcass demonstrate that the wounds on her body were brought about by stoning. Her body had been determined to fire. utilized condoms likewise demonstrate that she may likewise have been assaulted”. (Homophobic and Transphobic Violence, 2017).

There are a few situations where the children of LGBT guardians additionally experience misuse and provocation. Such incidents include a nine-year-old young girl who goes to Tucker Elementary School in Milton. She was verbally mishandled and was genuinely undermined when she informed them concerning her mom being a lesbian. So as to fill this urgent hole in their insight into the LGBT matters in schools, GLSEN embraced an investigation in association with COLAGE and Family Equality Council in k2 school That report named Involved, Invisible, Ignored shows that most LGBT parents are neglected and at times mistreated by different individuals from the school network. The LGBT parents are appeared as possible resources for any school network. (Kosciw & Diaz, 2008)

The research they directed indicated that numerous children with LGBT parents are not safe in the school. 51% of the students have reported about not having a sense of security in school. From that, 23 % of the student felt risky considering having LGBT guardians and 21% due to their actual sexual directions. 40% of understudies detailed being abused and bugged. Moreover, those with LGBT guardians had encountered trouble due to their peer’s perception of them being Gay or Lesbian just because they belong to such guardians. Abuse to them was from different understudies as well as was likewise structure grown-up individuals from the school network. (Kosciw & Diaz, 2008)

5. Social Networks and Family

LGBT people are frequently at risk of losing their informal communities if their sexual direction or character is uncovered. As per Rashmish Patel (2016), “Today, homosexuality and unusual characters could in like manner be satisfactory to more Indian young people than some other time in late memory, any way inside the constrains of family, school and home, affirmation of their sexuality and chance to straightforwardly convey their sex choices remain a consistent fight for LGBT individuals”. If the guardians of LGBT people acknowledged their kids the way they are, it will make their carries on with a lot simpler, yet the issue is that guardians make some extreme memories tolerating their kids as sexual creatures. In this way, any discussion of sexuality or sex character is defeated and

enveloped by disgrace. This is frequently where the blame and disarray start. In the event when youngsters put forward awkward inquiries, the guardians basically quieten them.

In addition, most of the LGBT individuals in different part of the countries were not able to come forwards to talk their character since they were not getting full support from their family, kin and friends. They were stressed and anxious that if they say something about themselves and their sexual orientations, they might get rejected from their guardians and companions. There are few cases that after knowing their child being lesbian still, they forcefully married their daughters to some other people by overlooking their voice. Moreover, there were lack in communication and misunderstandings between LGBT children and their parents which leads to increased family conflict.

6. Emotionally Health Struggle

In most of the nations, the most concerning issues looked by the LGBT people was their psychological wellness. They're at higher danger of specific conditions, have less access to social insurance, and have more regrettable wellbeing results. They were mostly in danger of Suicide and self-destructive thoughts, State of mind issues and anxiety, Liquor, tobacco, substance abuse and so on because most of these people were facing discrimination, prejudice and lacked support from their parents, friends and community.

Mental exploration infers that bias against the LGBT individuals can be diminished by effectively sharing individuals about what their lives resemble with their families, networks and their workplace and besides, National coming gathering and Tell 3 association energize and encourage contact between the LGBT individuals and non-LGBT people. All however there are associations that demand supporting LGBT individuals, they face issues to approach and stand up their voice. They don't have a clue how others will respond and the outcome they will confront. Making individuals to diminish their bias isn't sans inconvenience regardless. Helping others to conquer their absence of information, lessen their inconvenience and increment their sympathy may work up antagonistic inclination in the psyche of the individual coming out due to the segregation they have encountered. (American Psychological Association, 2013).

According to National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health (2019),

- 39% of LGBTQ youth seriously contemplate attempting suicide in the past year, with the greater part of transgender and non-binary youth having truly thought of.
- 71% of LGBTQ youth detailed inclination pitiful or sad for in any event fourteen days in the previous year Less than half of LGBTQ respondents were out to a grown-up at school, with youth being less inclined to uncover their sex personality than sexual direction.
- 2 in 3 LGBTQ youth detailed that somebody attempted to persuade them to change their sexual direction or sex character, with youth who have experienced transformation treatment more than twice as prone to endeavour self-destruction as the individuals who didn't.
- 71% of LGBTQ youth in our study reported discrimination due to either their sexual orientation or gender identity
- 58% of transgender and non-binary youth revealed being debilitated from utilizing a washroom that relates to their sexual orientation character.
- 76% of LGBTQ youth felt that the ongoing political atmosphere affected their psychological state.
- 87% of LGBTQ youth claimed that it had been essential for them to connect with an emergency mediation association that centres around LGBTQ youth and 98% said a protected space long range informal communication site for LGBTQ youth would be important to them.

7. Organisations Formed in Support of LGBT

In most of the countries, several organisations have been formed in support of LGBT members. Some of the NGOs that helped to promote the human rights of LGBT people were:

1. Allout

This organization “is a global movement for love and equality.” It also promotes LGBT rights through social mobilization. (International NGOS fighting for LGBT rights, 2018)

2. Amnesty International

Amnesty supports numerous rights-based developments, and LGBT rights are just one of numerous issues it addresses. This worldwide association gives research, strategy support and social assembly as required to progress LGBT causes. Among its work is upholding against the section of laws in the US that explicitly victimize LGBTs. (International NGOS fighting for LGBT rights, 2018).

3. Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)

Established in 1978, GLAD works broadly to make an equitable society liberated from segregation dependent on sexual direction, HIV status, and sex personality and articulation. (Collins, 2011).

4. Lambda Legal Defence and Education Fund

The Lambda Legal Defence and Education Fund is the biggest lawful association in the United States. Since 1973, the staffs have attempted to make sure about social liberties for gays, lesbians and people with HIV through training, open arrangement work and suit. (Collins, 2011)

5. Human rights Campaign (HRC)

The Human Rights Campaign, the biggest national gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender backing association, imagines an America where GLBT individuals are guaranteed of their fundamental equivalent rights, and can be open, legit and safe at home, busy working and in the network. “HRC has near 600000 individuals – all dedicated to making this vision of uniformity a reality. Established in 1980, HRC viably anterooms in congress, gives battle backing to reasonable – disapproved of competitors, and attempts to instruct the general population on a wide cluster of subjects influencing GLBT Americans, including relationships revamping, working environment, family and health issues. The HRC Foundation participates in the exploration and gives publics instruction and programming”. (Collins, 2011).

6. Transgender Law Centre (TLC)

Transgender Law Centre attempts to change law, strategy, and perspectives so all individuals can live securely, legitimately, and liberated from separation paying little mind to

their sexual orientation character or articulation. “They imagine a future where sexual orientation self – assurance and true articulation are fundamental rights and matters of normal human nobility”. (Collins, 2011).

7. Arc International

Arc International participated in the drafting of the Yogyakarta Principles. It diagrams the essential privileges of people as it identifies with sexual direction and sex inclinations. Thus, the Yogyakarta Principles, upheld by the United Nations, is a significant milestone in global law which emphasizes that human rights don't have any exemptions. (International NGOS fighting for LGBT rights, 2018)

8. Rainbow Bhutan

Founded towards the end of December 2015, initially it was called the 'LGBT+ community in Bhutan' to represent their community to address the various needs of the LGBT+ population living in Bhutan. (The First LGBT + Network in Bhutan, 2015)

Mission Statement:

- Build a unified network of people that stimulates minds and empowers community competence.
- Create a supportive environment where individuals with diverse gender & sexuality are acknowledged by families, friends and communities alike.
- Enable a legal and social conduct of speech, advocacy, information and learning on SOGIE (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Expression) issues.
- Enhance access to health care services and education irrespective of sexual orientation, gender identity & expression.
- Be part of our nation building and contribute towards Gross National Happiness.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, yet Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people continue to face human right abuse in many parts of the world. People around the world faced violence and inequality and at times torture even to the extent of execution. They are discriminated simply because they are attracted to same sex and are having unique identity and behaviour. Over the past years' LGBT individuals were struggling and fighting for their rights and for that matter, the social stigma against LGBT needs to be cleared. There for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) has been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on its third session on December 10, 1948. At that point, 30 articles were formulated for the rights and freedoms of every individual including Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community (LGBT). Moreover there were several organizations or NGOs all over the countries such as Arc International, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (NLGLA) and Rainbow Bhutan were formed to support and promote the rights of LGBT community. The exploration that I have done on this context is just an introduction and the data or information gathered so far is very sketchy giving plenty of room for further research.

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