

Human Rights and LGBTQ Community in Sri Lanka

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Abstract

Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that every human being is born with. Human rights are universal and apply to all people regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. But unfortunately, LGBTQ+ people often face human rights violations and discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender. This includes the criminalization of same-sex relationships or transgender identities, as well as legal discrimination such as social stigma, exclusion and violence. The situation of the LGBTQ community is very pathetic, especially in countries with traditional attitudes and culture like Sri Lanka. Homosexuality is still considered a crime in Sri Lanka. The purpose of this study is to study the challenges that led to the violation of the basic rights of the LGBTQ community in Sri Lanka and to investigate the legal protections taken in Sri Lanka to protect their rights. It also examines the role of non-governmental organizations in protecting the human rights of the LGBTQ community. For this qualitative research based on primary and secondary data, primary data is collected through interviews and journal articles, research reports, magazines, electronic media are used as main sources for secondary data collection. This data can provide a better understanding of the situation of human rights and the LGBTQ community in Sri Lanka. It highlights the challenges faced by Sri Lankan LGBTQ people in terms of discrimination, legal barriers and social stigma. By examining the efforts of non-governmental organizations to promote and protect the human rights of the LGBTQ community, including legal reform, advocacy and awareness initiatives, this research provides great insights for advocates, policy makers and all those interested in human rights.

Keywords: *Discrimination, Human Rights, LGBTQ, Social Stigma, Sri Lanka*

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