



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS LGBTI PERSONS IN RWANDA



Together we can fight injustice and homophobia perpetrated to the LGBTI community. Report any acts of discrimination, violence and torture to the nearest authorities or at **Human Right First Rwanda**

Association Office KK 510 ST
Tel 0788623625

Email: rightsrwanda@gmail.com

SOLUTIONS TO THESE CHALLENGES

Society Perceptions must change by accepting LGBTI's as Human beings just as any other person.
Support by the State and its instruments in upholding these rights
LGBTI Advocacy from the Civil Society Media and all Stakeholders alike



DEMYSTIFYING THE LGBTI COMMUNITY

The term L.G.B.T.I. stands for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Intersex individuals a global family that celebrates their uniqueness through their natural sexual orientation.

FACT

L.G.B.T.I sexual minorities face discrimination violence and stigmatization

LEGAL BACKING

Non-discrimination and equality are fundamental principles of human rights law. Non-discrimination provisions are found in all international human rights treaties. Sexual orientation has been recognized as a prohibited ground of discrimination

Torture, and other cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment and punishment are part of a wider pattern of violence against sexual minorities, which is instigated within their homes, workplaces, schools or communities. Sexual minorities are at particular risk of violence on account of the stigma and discrimination associated with the sexual orientation.

LEGAL BACKING

Torture and violence are violations of international human rights law and Rwandan laws which are prohibited

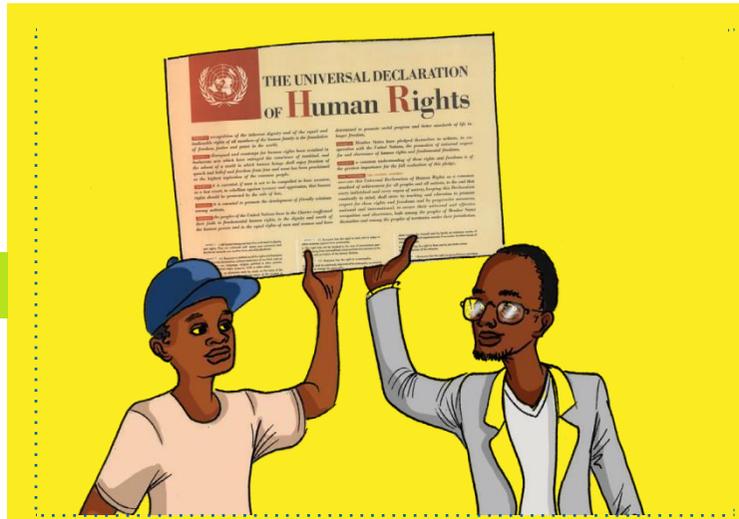
COMMON MYTHS AND TRUTHS ABOUT LGBTI

It is criminal to be an LGBTI in Rwanda.

Truth: LGBTI Freedoms are upheld and respected by Rwandan as well as International Law and it is not criminal for one to be free with his /her sexual preference and orientation.

The Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda portrays the human being as a sacred person who is entitled to the enjoyment of his/her freedoms at all times and any other form of discrimination is prohibited and punishable by law.

The Rwandan Penal Code which is the instrument that prescribes punishments for particular crimes committed by citizens does not mention being Gay or Lesbian as an offence.



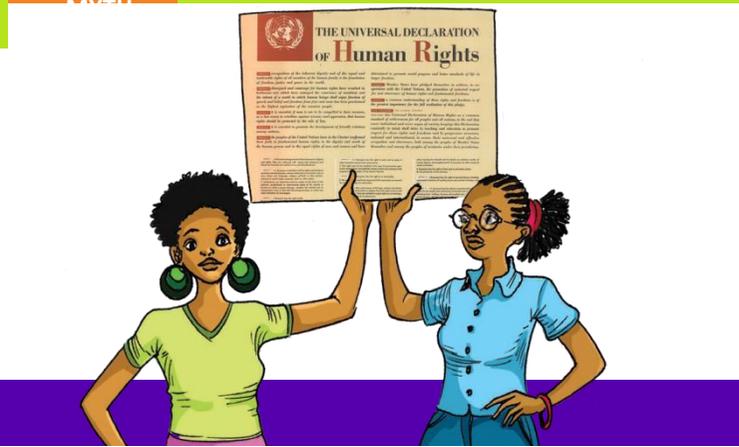
THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Basic principles of Human Rights dictate that the rights and freedoms given to all human beings, without distinction of any kind, based on the recognition that all humans are born equal and with inherent dignity.

The African Charter on Human and People's Rights also states that

All peoples shall be equal; they shall enjoy the same respect and shall have the same rights. Nothing shall justify the domination of a people by another.

MYTH Homosexuality is an evil practice that should be condemned by society.



TRUTH

Genuine religious practices teach on love and not hate Unity, support and understanding instead of discrimination. All these are even written within the Holy books. So Rwandans from whichever religious affiliation should embrace the LGBTI community as their fellow brothers and sisters.

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE LGBTI

COMMUNITY IN RWANDA

Discrimination by society.

Verbal and physical abuse from radical conservatism

Self-fear and self-censorship by some members of the LGBTI community



