



THE INITIATIVE FOR  
EQUAL RIGHTS

# 2024

## HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS REPORT

BASED ON REAL OR PERCEIVED  
SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY/  
EXPRESSION AND SEX CHARACTERISTICS  
(SOGIESC) IN NIGERIA







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## **PERTINENT ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>LGBTQIA+</b>	–	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Asexual
<b>SOGIESC</b>	–	Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity/Expression and Sex Characteristics
<b>SSMPA</b>	–	Same Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act, 2014
<b>SSMPL</b>	–	Lagos State Same Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Law, 2007
<b>TIERs</b>	–	The Initiative for Equal Rights
<b>UNHRC</b>	–	United Nations Human Rights Council
<b>VAPP Act</b>	–	Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act 2015

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**F**or this report, these terms have the following meanings.

- **Asexual:** Asexual, often called “ace” for short, refers to a complete or partial lack of sexual attraction or lack of interest in sexual activity with others. Asexuality exists on a spectrum, and asexual people may experience no, little or conditional sexual attraction.<sup>1</sup>
- **Homosexual:** A person who feels emotional, romantic, and/or sexual attraction toward individuals of the same gender. This term broadly includes various gender identities drawn to similar-gender partners.
- **Lesbian:** A woman who is attracted to other women emotionally, romantically, sexually, or in terms of relational connection. This orientation focuses on relationships and attractions between women.
- **Gay:** A term commonly used as a synonym for homosexuality. In some contexts, especially here, it specifically refers to men who are attracted to other men. It includes both cisgender and transgender men who feel romantic or sexual attraction toward men.
- **Bisexual:** A person who is emotionally, romantically, or sexually attracted to more than one gender, although not necessarily to the same extent or at the same time. This attraction can shift or change as the individual’s identity evolves.
- **Pansexual:** Pansexuality is an orientation generally defined by romantic or sexual attraction to people of any sex or gender identity. For example, a pansexual person could be open to someone who is male, female, transgender, intersex, or agender/genderqueer.<sup>2</sup>
- **Transgender:** Describes individuals who live in their true gender, even if it differs from the gender assigned at birth. Traditionally an umbrella term, ‘trans’ is now more commonly used for inclusivity among diverse trans identities.
- **Intersex:** People born with natural variations in their physical or biological sex characteristics—such as reproductive organs, chromosomes, or hormones—that do not fit typical male or female categories. Intersex individuals can have any gender identity or sexual orientation.
- **LGBTQIA+:** An inclusive term for those identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, intersex, and asexual, representing a wide spectrum of sexual orientations and gender identities.
- **Kito:** A Nigerian term for a form of extortion targeting queer individuals, involving blackmail by threatening to reveal their sexuality to family or community. It is a form of homophobic violence designed to exploit and control queer people.
- **Gender Identity:** A person’s deeply personal sense of their own gender, which may or may not align with the sex assigned at birth. It includes internal experiences and any chosen modifications to one’s body to express their identity.
- **Gender Expression:** The outward display of one’s gender, through appearance, behaviour, and other expressive choices. This expression may or may not match one’s gender identity and includes personal style, mannerisms, and presentation.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.hrc.org/resources/understanding-the-asexual-community>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.oulgbtq.org/what-do-bisexual-pansexual-mean.html>

- **Sexual Orientation:** A natural and enduring attraction—emotional, romantic, sexual, or relational—toward others, which could involve people of the same, opposite, or multiple genders. It differs from sexual preference, which relates to specific sexual interests or choices.
- **Sex Characteristics:** Physical attributes related to a person's sex, including genitalia, reproductive anatomy, chromosomes, and secondary features like body hair or voice changes that emerge during puberty.
- **Outing:** Publicly revealing someone's LGBTQ+ identity without their consent, which can be damaging or dangerous in contexts where it may cause discrimination or harm.
- **Coming Out:** The process of recognizing and embracing one's LGBTQ+ identity, followed by choosing to share this identity with others as a form of personal acceptance.
- **Homophobia:** Fear, prejudice, or discomfort toward homosexual people, rooted in negative stereotypes, often leading to discrimination, social exclusion, or violence.
- **Transphobia:** Fear, prejudice, or discomfort directed toward transgender people or those perceived to have non-conforming gender identities. Transphobia can result in discrimination, social exclusion, or violence.
- **State Actors:** Individuals or entities acting on behalf of a government, such as legislators, police officers, or judges, performing duties under governmental authority.
- **Non-State Actors:** Individuals or groups not directly affiliated with a government but still influential in society. They can include civilians, private organizations, NGOs, and religious institutions, among others.
- **SOGIESC:** Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression and Sex Characteristics
- **State-Sanctioned Homophobia:** This refers to laws, policies, or social norms that promote or condone discrimination, prejudice, or violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. It often involves state-sponsored actions that limit the rights and freedoms of LGBTQIA+ individuals.
- **Patriarchy:** This is a social system where men hold primary power and predominate in roles of political leadership, moral authority, social privilege and control of property. Women and children, especially daughters, are often excluded from public life, and men control most aspects of political and economic life.
- **Misogyny:** This is the dislike of, contempt for, or ingrained prejudice against women. It can be manifested in numerous ways, including sexual discrimination, violence against women, and the belief in female inferiority.
- **Marginalised Women:** Marginalised women are women who are treated as inferior or insignificant, due to their identity or the group they are part of and are placed in positions of little or no power, influence, or importance. They include, LGBTQIA women, socio economically disadvantaged women, women with disability, female sex worker etc.



# STATISTICS



<b>Cis Man</b> 649	<b>Non Binary</b> 47
<b>Cis Woman</b> 73	<b>Intersex</b> 4
<b>Trans Woman</b> 60	<b>Queer</b> 5
<b>Trans Man</b> 12	



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# INTRODUCTION

**F**or the past decade, The Initiative for Equal Rights (TIERs) has consistently documented human rights violations based on real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) in Nigeria. These reports serve as a critical lens into the lived realities of LGBTQIA+ individuals in a society marked by systemic homophobia, institutionalized queerphobia, and entrenched cultural biases. The 2024 Annual Human Rights Violations Report highlights the ongoing harassment, discrimination, and violence endured by LGBTQIA+ individuals in Nigeria, shedding light on the urgent need for inclusive legal reforms and societal change.

While the Nigerian Constitution provides for freedom from discrimination and guarantees fundamental rights to all citizens, as evidence in chapter four of the constitution<sup>3</sup>, evident in Section 42 and Section 17 on equality and human dignity, these protections remain inaccessible to LGBTQIA+ individuals. The Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act (VAPP Act), domesticated in 35 states, is similarly underutilized for LGBTQIA+ cases due to pervasive stigma and fear of reprisal. These legal frameworks are undermined by laws such as the Same-Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act (SSMPA) of 2014, which legitimizes systemic discrimination and violence against sexual and gender minorities.

Since TIERs' first official publication in 2014 of 124 documented cases of human rights violations in the immediate aftermath of the SSMPA, reported cases have steadily risen, with 556 cases of violation - affecting 850 victims - recorded in the 2024 reporting period of December 2023 to August 2024. These figures represent only a fraction of the true scale of violations. Fear of "outing," reprisals, and societal rejection silences many victims, leaving numerous cases unreported. Although there seems to be a decline in the number of cases recorded in 2024 in comparison to 2023, which recorded 996 cases of violation affecting 1694 victims, this is due to the

reporting period (December to August) adopted for this year's report. Subsequently, the reporting period will span September of the previous year to August of the current year.

The 2024 reporting period was marked by widespread misinformation and targeted harassment of LGBTQIA+ individuals. False narratives about the Samoa Trade Agreement, signed by Nigeria, fuelled hate speech and online abuse. Social media platforms such as X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook became arenas for doxing and digital harassment. This year's report also underscores the persistence of "Kito" schemes, where LGBTQIA+ individuals are lured under false pretences, only to face blackmail, extortion, physical assault, and other forms of abuse. Systemic challenges persist, with LGBTQIA+ individuals routinely denied justice and support by the very institutions tasked with upholding their rights. Reports of unlawful arrests, extortion, and abuse by state actors, coupled with evictions, employment terminations, and familial disownment, reveal the multifaceted nature of discrimination in Nigeria. Furthermore, societal complicity—manifesting in prejudiced beliefs and discriminatory practices—exacerbates the vulnerability of this community.

This report represents a decade-long commitment by TIERs and its partners to document and amplify the voices of LGBTQIA+ Nigerians. It provides a comprehensive analysis of violations recorded across the reporting period, identifies emerging trends, and presents actionable recommendations for government bodies, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders. This year marks a significant milestone, not only in the breadth of cases documented but also in the growing coalition of 24 partner organizations committed to advancing equality and justice. In the face of rising hostility, it is imperative to affirm the humanity and dignity of all Nigerians, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression. This report calls for collective action—through legal reforms, societal education, and unwavering advocacy—to eradicate violence, discrimination, and injustice against LGBTQIA+ individuals in Nigeria.

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<sup>3</sup> Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999

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## LEGAL FRAMEWORK

In 2024, Nigeria remains a country where legal and societal frameworks often conflict with the fundamental rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals, with laws that criminalize non-heteronormative sexual activities and restrict LGBTQIA+ advocacy. These legal constraints create an environment of fear, stigmatization, and violence, directly undermining the human rights of people based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC).

In Nigeria, there are at least four legal frameworks that criminalize non-heteronormative sexual practices. These include the Same-Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Law 2007<sup>4</sup> of Lagos State, the Armed Forces Act, the Sharia Penal Code Laws<sup>5</sup> applicable in states like Zamfara, Borno, Bauchi, Gombe, Jigawa, Kebbi, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Niger, Sokoto, and Yobe, the Prostitution and Immoral Acts (Prohibition) Law<sup>6</sup> of Kano State 2000, and the Prostitution, Lesbianism, Homosexuality, Operation of Brothels, and Other Sexual Immoralities (Prohibition) Law 2000<sup>7</sup> of Borno State.

These laws, particularly the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act (SSMPA) of 2013, go beyond the criminalization of same-sex relations, extending to the prohibition of same-sex marriages and the public display of same-sex relationships. The SSMPA not only impedes the recognition of same-sex relationships but also introduces punitive measures against LGBTQIA+ organizations, limiting their ability to operate freely in the country. It is important to note that in 2022, a federal high court in Lagos declared sections of the SSMPA unconstitutional, specifically those limiting freedom of expression and the registration of LGBTQIA+ organizations. However, this ruling has yet to be fully implemented, and the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals

and organizations continue to be restricted.

In addition to these national laws, the Nigerian Constitution guarantees fundamental rights and freedoms for all citizens. This includes adherence to international human rights instruments, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). Particularly noteworthy is Section 39 of the Nigerian Constitution, which protects the right to freedom of expression, including the liberty to hold opinions and communicate information without interference. The Constitution also ensures rights to freedom of assembly and association, life, privacy, dignity, thought, conscience, religion, and movement.

Despite these constitutional protections, the SSMPA and other laws have posed significant challenges for LGBTQIA+ individuals in Nigeria, particularly in relation to their right to freely form and operate organizations. Furthermore, debates surrounding new bills, such as those aimed at regulating gender identity, continue to foster uncertainty and further infringe upon the rights of gender-diverse individuals. In the face of these legal and societal hurdles, civil society organizations (CSOs) like TIERs continue to advocate for the enforcement of constitutional rights and the recognition of LGBTQIA+ protections under international law. In addition to the Nigerian Constitution, various other national, regional, and international legal frameworks offer safeguards for individuals' rights regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or sex characteristics. The following sections explore these provisions in greater detail, highlighting both

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<sup>4</sup> CAP A20 of the Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004. The offences in this Act as in section 81 are similar to those criminalized in the Criminal and Penal Codes

<sup>5</sup> These provisions/laws are enforced by the states morality police (Hisbah).

<sup>6</sup> This law targets sex workers, transgender persons and cross-dressers.

<sup>7</sup> The Initiative for Equal Rights, 'Discriminating against persons based on their sexual orientation and gender identity in Nigeria – Bad Laws: A compendium on discriminatory laws'

the ongoing challenges and the evolving legal landscape in Nigeria. Despite the challenging legal landscape for LGBTQIA+ individuals in Nigeria, there are still domestic and international frameworks that offer protection against violence, discrimination, and abuse.

## National Legislations Affecting LGBTQIA+ Rights in Nigeria

### **Same-Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act (SSMPA) 2013**

The Same-Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act (SSMPA)<sup>8</sup>, enacted in 2013, remains one of the most significant legal challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ individuals in Nigeria. This law criminalizes same-sex marriages, same-sex relationships, and any public expression of same-sex affection, with penalties including imprisonment for up to 14 years for individuals found guilty of engaging in or advocating for same-sex acts. Organizations promoting LGBTQIA+ rights are also subject to penalties under the law, creating a hostile legal environment for activism and advocacy. The SSMPA has reinforced societal stigma by discouraging public visibility of LGBTQIA+ individuals and organizations. It not only criminalizes same-sex unions but also extends to acts of affection in public spaces, further suppressing LGBTQIA+ rights to expression and assembly. For LGBTQIA+ persons and groups, the law exacerbates the climate of fear and discrimination, discouraging open participation in society and restricting their ability to organize and advocate for their rights.

This legislation also poses a significant challenge to the constitutional rights of Nigerians. While the Nigerian Constitution guarantees freedoms such as expression, assembly, and association, the SSMPA curtails these rights for LGBTQIA+ individuals by directly targeting

the recognition and formation of same-sex unions and organizations. The law perpetuates legal and social discrimination, effectively isolating LGBTQIA+ people from enjoying the full protection and recognition of their rights under the Constitution.

Though there has been some progress through legal challenges, such as the 2022 federal court ruling declaring certain provisions of the SSMPA unconstitutional, the judgment has yet to be fully implemented. As such, LGBTQIA+ individuals and organizations in Nigeria continue to face the impact of this restrictive legislation, which remains a key obstacle to equality and justice for sexual and gender minorities in the country.

### **Penal Codes and Criminal Codes**

Nigeria's northern states, where Sharia law is practiced, impose harsh penalties for same-sex sexual activity, including the death penalty in certain cases. These laws not only criminalize homosexual acts but also enforce discriminatory practices against LGBTQIA+ individuals, with interpretations rooted in conservative religious beliefs that further marginalize these communities. In contrast, southern and middle-belt states governed by the Criminal Code Act<sup>9</sup> criminalize "carnal knowledge against the order of nature," which includes same-sex sexual activity, though without the death penalty provisions found in Sharia law. Despite the lack of such extreme punishments in these regions, the laws still contribute to a culture of discrimination and violence. These criminal provisions, though not universally applied with the same intensity, work together to create an environment in which LGBTQIA+ individuals face significant legal and social challenges, including violence, harassment, and limited access to justice. These punitive measures, deeply embedded within Nigeria's legal systems, exacerbate the oppression faced by LGBTQIA+ individuals. While some laws vary

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.refworld.org/legal/legislation/natlegbod/2013/en/19556>

<sup>9</sup> <https://lawsofnigeria.placng.org/laws/C38.pdf>

in severity between regions, the consistent thread is the criminalization of sexual diversity and the denial of basic rights to individuals based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. These legal provisions hinder progress toward equality and contribute to an atmosphere where LGBTQIA+ people are at risk of legal consequences and social ostracism.

Nigeria's Criminal Code also contains provisions related to "indecent" and "immorality" that have been selectively applied to target LGBTQIA+ persons and gatherings. These laws, which are often used as supplementary instruments to harass and criminalize LGBTQIA+ individuals, pose a significant challenge to the rights and freedoms of this community. Specifically, the laws targeting "indecent" often focus on acts or expressions that deviate from heterosexual norms, with authorities using such laws to suppress LGBTQIA+ visibility and activities.

For example, Section 214 of the Nigerian Criminal Code criminalizes any form of "indecent" act, which has been used to prosecute and arrest LGBTQIA+ individuals for engaging in consensual same-sex acts. Similarly, provisions around "immorality" in public have been manipulated to target public expressions of same-sex affection, further limiting the freedoms of LGBTQIA+ persons. These laws are often used in tandem with other restrictive legislation, such as the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act, which has resulted in a legal environment hostile to LGBTQIA+ persons and organizations.

While the intent of these sedition and morality laws may be to maintain societal order or protect public morality, in practice, they disproportionately impact the LGBTQIA+ community, often with the justification of preventing perceived moral decay. The selective enforcement of such laws, aimed primarily at LGBTQIA+

persons, reflects a broader pattern of discriminatory legal practices that fail to protect individuals' rights to expression, privacy, and association, as enshrined in both national and international legal standards.

### ***HIV/AIDS (Anti-Discrimination) Act 2014***

The HIV/AIDS (Anti-Discrimination) Act 2014, enacted in 2015, seeks to eliminate all forms of discrimination against individuals based on their HIV status or perceived HIV status. Section 5 of the Act emphasizes the prohibition of discrimination in employment, service delivery, and access to benefits, while also mandating affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunities and the elimination of barriers for people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

This is particularly significant for key populations in Nigeria disproportionately affected by HIV, including gay and bisexual men, men who have sex with men (MSM), and transgender women. According to UNAIDS, these groups represent priority populations in global HIV response efforts due to their heightened vulnerability and the significant barriers they face in accessing healthcare services<sup>10</sup>. Section 5(3) of the Act specifically calls for measures to:

"Ensure equality of opportunities and treatment in employment and other spheres for people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS. Identify and eliminate systemic barriers that negatively impact these populations. Foster diversity, including gender diversity, grounded in respect and equal dignity for all individuals."<sup>11</sup>

The Act's provisions provide a framework for addressing inequities in healthcare access and workplace protections, which are critical for gay and bisexual men, MSM, and transgender women. However, the Act's silence on sexual orientation and gender identity

<sup>10</sup> UNAIDS (2022). *Key populations and HIV prevention: Ensuring no one is left behind*. Retrieved from [unaids.org](https://www.unaids.org).

<sup>11</sup> <https://archive.gazettes.africa/archive/ng/2014/ng-government-gazette-dated-2014-11-28-no-125.pdf>

limits its ability to fully address the unique challenges faced by these key populations. For instance, while the Act prohibits HIV-related discrimination, the criminalization of same-sex relationships and gender non-conformity under Nigerian law discourages gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals from accessing HIV prevention, treatment, and care services<sup>12</sup>. This creates a paradox where the protections offered by the HIV/AIDS (Anti-Discrimination) Act are undermined by other legal frameworks, such as the Same-Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act (SSMPA) and Sharia Penal Codes, which foster an environment of fear and stigma<sup>13</sup>.

Civil society organizations, including TIERS, have been instrumental in advocating for the inclusive application of the HIV/AIDS (Anti-Discrimination) Act. These efforts focus on ensuring that gay and bisexual men, MSM, and transgender women can access healthcare services without fear of discrimination, in line with global best practices for HIV response. Advocacy also highlights the need for more explicit protections that address the intersection of HIV-related stigma, sexual orientation, and gender identity, ensuring that key populations are not left behind in Nigeria's HIV/AIDS response (TIERS Annual Report, 2023).

### **Cybercrimes Act (2015)**

The Cybercrimes Act<sup>14</sup>, introduced in 2015, was primarily designed to combat cybercrime in Nigeria. However, certain provisions within the Act have been used to target LGBTQIA+ individuals, especially those involved in online activism or discussions on sexual orientation and gender identity. Provisions related to online fraud and cyber harassment have been misapplied to intimidate and silence LGBTQIA+ advocates and digital communities. This misuse of the Cybercrimes Act undermines the right to freedom

of expression and digital safety for these individuals, including freedom of press.

The Act criminalizes activities such as cyberstalking and online defamation, but these provisions have been selectively enforced against LGBTQIA+ persons, stifling their ability to engage in online spaces. As more LGBTQIA+ Nigerians turn to social media to discuss issues surrounding their identities, the Act has been weaponized to accuse individuals of violating the law through their online presence. This is particularly evident in cases where LGBTQIA+ individuals face harassment and legal consequences for merely engaging in public conversations about their rights or sexual identities.

This misapplication of the Cybercrimes Act not only restricts freedom of expression but also poses a threat to digital privacy, making online spaces unsafe for LGBTQIA+ Nigerians to express themselves without fear of legal repercussions. In effect, the law has created an additional barrier for the LGBTQIA+ community, impeding their access to both physical and virtual spaces where they might seek support, engage in advocacy, or simply communicate freely.

### **The Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act (VAPP Act) 2015**

The VAPP Act<sup>15</sup> was enacted to provide comprehensive protections against various forms of violence, including domestic violence, sexual violence, and harmful traditional practices. While the Act does not explicitly mention LGBTQIA+ individuals, it criminalizes forms of violence such as physical assault and abuse, which disproportionately affect LGBTQIA+ persons. The Act also provides a legal framework for the protection of individuals from violence, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and can be used as a

<sup>12</sup> Human Rights Watch (2016). *Tell Me Where I Can Be Safe: The Impact of Nigeria's Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act*. Retrieved from [hrw.org](https://www.hrw.org).

<sup>13</sup> Amnesty International (2020). *The State of the World's Human Rights: Nigeria*. Retrieved from [amnesty.org](https://www.amnesty.org).

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.nfiu.gov.ng/images/Downloads/downloads/cybercrime.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> <https://fida.org.ng/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Violence-Against-Persons-Prohibition-Act-2015-1.pdf>

basis for seeking justice in cases of violence against LGBTQIA+ persons.

However, the implementation of this law has been inconsistent across Nigeria, with some states yet to domesticate the law, leading to gaps in its enforcement. Furthermore, in 2024, there have been ongoing legislative discussions surrounding the repeal of the VAPP Act. A proposed bill, the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Bill 2024, is currently under review in the Nigerian Senate. This bill seeks to replace the VAPP Act and expand protections against violence. However, its critics argue that repealing the VAPP Act could reverse some of the critical protections it offers, particularly for vulnerable groups such as LGBTQIA+ persons. The potential repeal of this law creates uncertainty regarding the legal recourse available to survivors of violence in Nigeria, especially for sexual and gender minorities who have historically faced barriers in reporting and accessing justice.

If the repeal progresses and the bill is passed, LGBTQIA+ individuals may lose a crucial tool for addressing violence, as the VAPP Act did not explicitly protect LGBTQIA+ individuals, its broader scope had been used effectively to pursue justice for those affected by violence, including the LGBTQIA+ community.

## International Treaties and Human Rights Instruments

### **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)**

Nigeria, as a signatory to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)<sup>16</sup>, is obligated to uphold several key human rights principles, including the rights to life, freedom from torture, freedom of expression, and non-discrimination. Although the ICCPR does not specifically mention LGBTQIA+ rights,

the prohibition of discrimination has been interpreted to extend protections to individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. This interpretation has become an essential tool in legal challenges against discriminatory laws, such as the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act (SSMPA), which directly affects the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals in Nigeria.

The non-discrimination clause within the ICCPR offers a strong legal basis for advocates seeking the repeal of laws that criminalize same-sex relationships and limit the rights of LGBTQIA+ people to freely express their identities. By invoking the ICCPR's broader human rights protections, activists have worked to highlight the contradiction between Nigeria's obligations under international law and its domestic legal practices, which continue to marginalize LGBTQIA+ communities. The ongoing challenge lies in the implementation of the ICCPR in the Nigerian legal system. The provisions of the ICCPR have not been fully integrated into domestic law, which complicates the process of holding the government accountable for violations of these rights. The absence of explicit LGBTQIA+ protections within the ICCPR further limits its direct application to the rights of sexual minorities, and while the principle of non-discrimination has been recognized, its practical enforcement remains an ongoing struggle. Legal avenues for LGBTQIA+ advocacy remain constrained by laws like the SSMPA, which contradicts the ICCPR's promise of equality and freedom from discrimination.

### **African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR)**

Nigeria is also bound by the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights<sup>17</sup> (ACHPR), which calls for the protection and promotion of human rights without discrimination. The Charter guarantees fundamental

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-covenant-civil-and-political-rights>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.refworld.org/legal/agreements/oau/1981/en/17306>

rights such as dignity, security, and equal protection under the law for all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Article 2 of the ACHPR mandates that every person is entitled to enjoy the rights and freedoms recognized in the Charter, without distinction based on factors like sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity. This provision challenges discriminatory laws like the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act (SSMPA), underscoring the need for equal treatment of LGBTQIA+ individuals. Despite this, the SSMPA remains a significant barrier to the recognition of same-sex relationships and LGBTQIA+ rights in Nigeria. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights has taken steps to address violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). In its resolution on "Protection against Violence and other Human Rights Violations based on Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity," the Commission urged African states, including Nigeria, to adopt measures that protect individuals from violence and discrimination related to SOGI. This includes calls for comprehensive legal protections, thorough investigations into violence against LGBTQIA+ persons, and holding offenders accountable.

However, in Nigeria, these protections are often undermined by the enforcement of laws such as the SSMPA, which penalize same-sex relationships and the operation of LGBTQIA+ organizations. This directly conflicts with Nigeria's obligations under the ACHPR, leaving LGBTQIA+ individuals vulnerable to state-sanctioned discrimination and violence.

### **The Yogyakarta Principles**

The Yogyakarta Principles<sup>18</sup>, established in 2006, provide guidance on how international human rights law should address issues related to sexual orientation,

gender identity, and expression. These principles are applicable to all states, offering clear standards for the protection of the rights of LGBTQIA+ persons, particularly in areas such as non-discrimination, freedom of expression, and security. While Nigeria is not legally bound by the Yogyakarta Principles, they are a crucial reference in advocating for the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals in the country.

The principles emphasize the need for states to protect LGBTQIA+ individuals from violence and discrimination and ensure their access to justice. In Nigeria, however, these protections are not fully reflected in domestic laws, particularly as the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act (SSMPA) of 2013 and other legal frameworks continue to criminalize same-sex relationships and public displays of LGBTQIA+ identities. These laws stand in direct opposition to the Yogyakarta Principles, which call for the decriminalization of same-sex conduct and the freedom to express one's gender identity without fear of persecution.

While the Yogyakarta Principles offer a significant moral and legal guide for the protection of LGBTQIA+ rights, they highlight the stark contrast between international human rights standards and Nigeria's legal stance on LGBTQIA+ issues. The ongoing criminalization of LGBTQIA+ persons in Nigeria, as well as the limited enforcement of international treaties and conventions that protect these individuals, leaves LGBTQIA+ communities vulnerable to legal challenges, harassment, and violence. The application of the Yogyakarta Principles in Nigeria would require substantial legal reforms that are currently hindered by existing national laws and societal attitudes.

### **United Nations Human Rights Council Resolutions**

The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) has passed resolutions that address the rights of

<sup>18</sup> See the Yogyakarta Principles and the Yogyakarta Principles plus 10 here: <https://yogyakartaprinciples.org/>



LGBTQIA+ individuals, notably the 2011 Resolution on Human Rights, Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity. These resolutions call for the decriminalization of same-sex sexual activity and urge governments to take steps to protect LGBTQIA+ persons from violence and discrimination. They also stress the need for equal access to justice and the protection of LGBTQIA+ persons under the law.

Despite these international commitments, Nigeria has not fully implemented the UNHRC's resolutions. The country's legal system continues to uphold laws that criminalize same-sex relationships, like the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act (SSMPA), which directly contradicts the spirit of these resolutions. The lack of enforcement of UNHRC recommendations reflects the broader legal challenges LGBTQIA+ individuals face in Nigeria, where societal and governmental resistance to LGBTQIA+ rights remains strong. Although these resolutions provide an important framework for advocacy and international support, their impact in Nigeria has been limited, and the protection they promise has not been fully realized within the country's legal system.

### ***African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) trade agreement (Samoa Agreement)***

The Samoa Agreement, a broad partnership between the European Union and 79 countries from Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific, stirred significant controversy in Nigeria when the country signed onto it. The agreement focuses on promoting sustainable economic growth, climate change mitigation, and human rights, emphasizing democratic values and the rule of law. However, it does not explicitly address or promote LGBTQ+ rights, a key point raised by the Nigerian government in response to widespread public backlash.

The uproar<sup>19</sup> surrounding the Samoa Agreement largely stemmed from misinformation and claims that the agreement could undermine Nigeria's position on LGBTQIA+ rights, particularly the country's stance on same-sex relations and marriage as prescribed in Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act (SSMPA) of 2013. These concerns were amplified by social media narratives that suggested the agreement would force Nigeria to change its laws or recognize same-sex relationships. The government responded by clarifying that the primary focus of the Samoa Agreement was economic, particularly the €150 billion trade and development fund under the EU's Global Gateway initiative.

Despite the clarification, the debate highlighted the tension between Nigeria's international commitments and its domestic legal stance on LGBTQIA+ issues. The public discourse was fuelled by disinformation campaigns, which depicted the Samoa Agreement as a potential threat to Nigeria's traditional values and legal prohibitions. The government has since continued to emphasize that the agreement does not compel the country to alter its existing laws, particularly the SSMPA, which criminalizes same-sex marriages and relationships. However, the disagreement underscored the legal challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ persons in Nigeria, as international treaties and human rights instruments often clash with domestic laws that criminalize same-sex relations.

This controversy also highlights the broader struggle for LGBTQIA+ rights in Nigeria, where international treaties that promise equality and non-discrimination often conflict with national legal frameworks that specifically target and criminalize same-sex relationships. These legal contradictions create significant barriers for LGBTQIA+ individuals, limiting their access to rights and protections under international human rights instruments.

<sup>19</sup> <https://blueprint.ng/the-samoa-agreement-controversy/>

<sup>20</sup> <https://factcheck.thecable.ng/insight-how-misinformation-about-samoa-agreement-caused-uproar-in-nigeria/>

### ***The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Resolution***

The African Commission's Resolution 275<sup>21</sup> strongly encourages African states, including Nigeria, to cease all acts of violence against LGBTQIA+ individuals and to enact and enforce laws that protect LGBTQIA+ persons from discrimination and violence. The resolution calls for states to conduct thorough investigations and ensure the prosecution of perpetrators of violence, further reinforcing the need for legal reforms in Nigeria to protect the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals.

Despite the Nigerian constitution's broad guarantees of fundamental rights, such as freedom of expression, association, and privacy, the country's legal landscape remains fraught with discriminatory laws and practices that target LGBTQIA+ persons.

These laws, both national and regional, have created a hostile and unsafe environment for LGBTQIA+ individuals and human rights defenders. The legal framework continues to evolve in response to local and international advocacy efforts, particularly those championed by civil society organizations like TIERS.

International instruments such as the ICCPR, the ACHPR, and the Yogyakarta Principles provide a foundation for advocating for the rights of LGBTQIA+ persons in Nigeria.

However, the challenge lies in the limited implementation and enforcement of these international norms within the national legal system.

The fight for legal recognition, safety, and equality for LGBTQIA+ persons in Nigeria continues to require persistent advocacy, legal reform, and the international community's support to pressure the Nigerian government to align with its human rights obligations and protect all citizens, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

<sup>21</sup> <https://resolution275.org/resolution-275/>

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## METHODOLOGY

In this report, we present a comprehensive overview of human rights violations against sexual and gender minorities in Nigeria, focusing on the data collected by various human rights organizations. The information within this report has been verified and compiled by 24 partner organizations that work closely with survivors, victims, eyewitnesses, and other stakeholders to document abuses and rights violations. Each partner uses a standardized case report form for routine documentation of reported cases via phone calls, online platforms, peer-to-peer or eyes witness accounts. These organizations have verified a total of 556 cases of human rights violations that occurred in the reporting year. The organizations involved in the documentation and verification process are as follows:

- Access to Good Health Initiative (AGHI)
- Healthcare and Human Rights (DIHHR)
- Hope Alive Health Awareness (HAHAI)
- Improved Sexual Health and Rights Advocacy Initiative (ISHRAI)
- Initiative for Improved Male Health (I-IMH)
- International Centre for Advocacy on Rights to Health (ICARH)
- Kito Diaries (KD)
- Total Health Empowerment and Development Initiative (THEDI)
- Women's Health and Equal Rights (WHER)
- Men's Health Support Initiative (MHSI)
- Initiative for Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights Awareness (ISRHRA)
- Achievers Improved Health Initiative (AIHI)
- Initiative for Gender Equality Health and Rights (GEHAR-I)
- Initiative for Gender Equality and Sexual Reproductive Health (IGE-SRH)
- Community Health Initiative for Youths in Nigeria (CHIYN)
- Pure Hearts for Youth and Vulnerable Persons' Initiative (PHYAP-INITIATIVE)
- International Centre for Total Health and Rights Advocacy Empowerment (ICTHARAE)
- Access to Health and Rights Development Initiative (AHRDI)
- Responsive Action for Sustainable Empowerment Initiative (RASE-I)
- Creme de la Creme House of Fame Foundation (CDLC)
- Response to Health and Rights Initiative (RHRI)
- Wavemakers Initiative for Health and Youth Empowerment (WIHYE)
- Initiative for the Advancement of Improved Health and Development (I-AIHD)
- Minority Watch

In the year 2024, these partners worked together to document the ever-worsening human rights situation faced by sexual and gender minorities, including members of the LGBTQIA+ community in Nigeria. Through their networks, they gathered reports from survivors, victims, and eyewitnesses of human rights abuses, resulting in a total of 556 verified cases of violations.

The reported cases were categorized and analysed based on various demographic and situational variables to offer a deeper insight into the scope and nature of these violations. The categories used for analysis in this report include location, perpetrator identity, gender identity of victims, type of violation, age, and the sexual orientation of the perpetrators. This analysis provides an understanding of the areas most affected by human rights violations and the demographics involved in these violations. The following steps were undertaken in the analysis:

1. **Data Cleaning:** The raw data was cleaned to ensure accuracy and consistency. This process involved removing invalid or incomplete data entries and categorizing the information into relevant variables such as location, gender identity, and age group.
2. **Pivot Table Analysis:** Pivot tables were created to aggregate the data, allowing for easy extraction of key statistics such as:
  - a. Total number of cases by state
  - b. Cases segmented by gender identity and sexual orientation of perpetrators
  - c. Age distribution of victims
  - d. Perpetrator types (state actors, non-state actors, etc.)
  - e. Cases segmented by types of violationThis process enabled us to identify trends and patterns in the data, such as the states with the highest and lowest reported cases, and the most frequent types of perpetrators involved in human rights abuses.
3. **State-wise Reporting:** To obtain a clearer understanding of regional patterns, the data was further segmented by state. This allowed us to highlight the states with the highest number of reported violations and to identify areas where interventions may be most urgently needed.
4. **Gender and Sexual Orientation Analysis:** Data on gender identity and sexual orientation was analysed to assess how these factors influenced the types and frequency of violations. This segmentation provides

insight into the specific vulnerabilities faced by individuals within these groups.

5. **Age Group Breakdown:** The age distribution of victims was assessed to understand the demographic impact of human rights violations. This helped in identifying the age groups most affected by abuse and violence.

It is crucial to acknowledge that these recorded cases, while offering valuable insights, do not represent the entirety of human rights violations experienced by sexual and gender minorities in Nigeria. Many survivors may be reluctant to report due to fear of further victimization, societal stigma, and lack of adequate legal or institutional support. The cases included in this report reflect only those that were reported and verified by the involved organizations, which despite their extensive networks, face numerous challenges in documenting every incident.

The methodology employed in this report was designed to provide a clear, accessible overview of human rights violations, focusing on the systematic categorization and analysis of data that can support advocacy and policy changes aimed at improving the rights and protections of sexual and gender minorities in Nigeria.

Through continued collaboration and accurate documentation, we can better advocate for systemic changes that protect the rights of sexual and gender minorities in Nigeria.

# TRENDS IN VIOLATIONS AGAINST LGBTQIA+ PEOPLE IN 2024

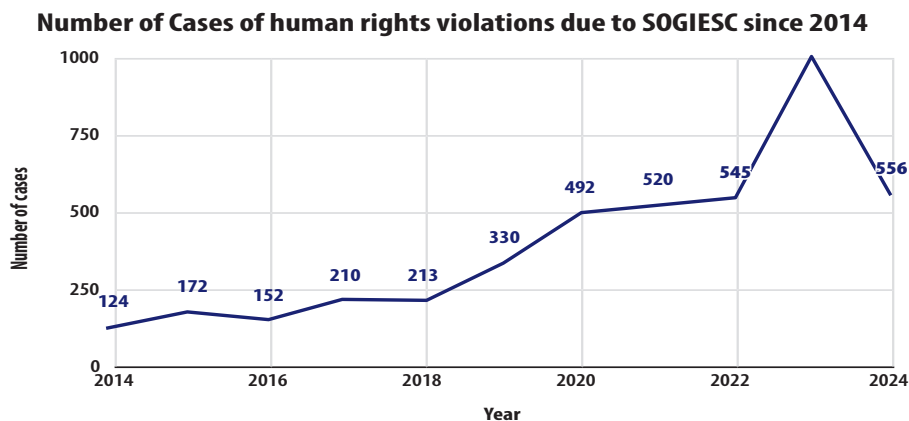
In examining the trends in violations against LGBTQIA+ people in 2024, we must first consider the historical context of LGBTQIA+ lived realities. There are varied accounts of the state of LGBTQIA+ rights across the continent pre-colonialism. Several studies show the infusion of LGBTQIA+ identities, gender non-conformity or gender fluidity in the culture, spirituality, and traditions of diverse tribes. Some studies argue that LGBTQIA+ people were revered through mythology and traditional rites, others say cultures were indifferent and adopted a “don’t-ask-don’t-tell” approach to LGBTQIA+ identities. Regardless, we are certain there were no widely accepted penalties for people who loved the same sex or are gender non-conforming, evident in the absence of historical accounts or local terminologies for such penalties.

With the advent of the slave trade and colonialism began the erasure of the diversity of culture, tradition, and spirituality in favour of a homogeneous and uniform identity fashioned in the image of our colonizers. This occurred in a myriad of ways including the introduction of Christianity and religious fundamentalism through the missionaries and the adoption of old British laws such as the Criminal Code Act 1916, the Penal Code Act 1960 and the Armed Forces Act

1960 which have sections that criminalize same-sex conduct. These laws also dictate penalties for conduct “against the order of nature” for both homosexuals and heterosexuals.

In 2014, the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act was introduced, which became the most relevant anti-LGBTQIA+ legislation in Nigeria. This came amidst public outcry against what was deemed Western influence on Nigerian culture, which was believed to be aimed at introducing and normalizing homosexuality. Upon the introduction of this Act, violence against people who are or perceived to be LGBTQIA+ spiked to unprecedented levels. State actors became emboldened by the existence of the law to carry out arbitrary and mass arrests under pretences, illegal stops and searches based on profiling, and extortion in the name of bail. Incidences of mob violence, invasion of privacy, assault & battery, forced evictions, harassment, discrimination, child abandonment, extortion and blackmail by non-state actors against LGBTQIA+ people became the norm, and has remained consistent throughout our ten years of monitoring and responding to human rights violations based on real or perceived Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC).

Below is a graph that shows the trend in human rights violations from 2014 to date as recorded by TIERS and partner organisations.



There was a sharp increase in the number of cases recorded in 2023 in part, due to the increase in human rights violation based on real or perceived SOGIESC documenting partner organisations, notwithstanding, the data also reflects the normalisation of violence against people for their real or perceived SOGIESC. The trends in human rights violations recorded in 2024 and reported in this section are based on reports of violations received from December 2023 to August 2024.

Human rights violations due to real or perceived SOGIESC categorized according to their perpetrators reveal State Actors, Non-State Actors, and violations involving a combination of both State and Non-State Actors. State Actors typically enact violence through mass arrests, where gatherings such as birthday parties, one-stop shops, clinics, and health talks are raided on accusations of conducting a “gay marriage”. In December, a birthday party in Niger state was raided and 30 people arrested on false claims of gay marriage. They were detained until each detainee paid sums ranging from N10,000 to N50,000. A similar case happened in April, where a birthday party in Lagos state was raided and 13 people arrested and kept in deplorable conditions overnight, their medication and access to legal representation withheld until an exploitative sum was paid per person as alleged “bail”. We received 10 reports of mass arrests across Nigeria which followed the same format. A consistent theme is a refusal to charge the arrests to court, possibly due to an awareness that claims of a “gay marriage” cannot be legally proven. State Actors misinterpret and exploit the SSMPA to enact arbitrary arrests, unlawful detentions and extortion. LGBTQIA+ people are profiled, their privacy invaded and accused of criminality. They are intimidated, harassed and tortured into accepting the allegations presented to them, they are then encouraged to pay exploitative sums to secure their release.

The most consistent human rights violation perpetrated by non-state actors is known as Kito. This typically involves a perpetrator luring a victim through online platforms under pretences, kidnapping, assault, battery, humiliation, invasion of privacy, outing, extortion, blackmail, and sexual assault in some cases. A survivor of this experience is often left traumatized, injured, cut off from family and friends’ support, in debt or wrongfully dismissed from work due to being outed. In seeking justice for their abuse, a survivor is at risk of further extortion and victimization by State Actors when their sexuality or gender identity is brought up by their alleged perpetrator. Lesbian, bisexual, and queer women are also susceptible to Kito. The perpetrator is often revealed to be someone in a law enforcement uniform, who proceeds to publicly humiliate, verbally abuse, blackmail, assault, and extort them. Additionally, LGBTQIA+ people consistently face harassment from passersby, area boys, and neighbourhood vigilante groups who profile and subject them to hate speech, verbal abuse, physical and sexual assault, mob violence, and extortion. Feminine men, masculine women, transgender men and women, and gender non-conforming people are more susceptible to this form of violation from non-state actors. As with the Kito cases, survivors are denied redress due to state-sanctioned homophobia and the criminalization of LGBTQIA+ rights.

Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer women experience sexual assault through Kito, “Corrective rape” and intimate partner violence predicated on their sexual orientation and gender identity. Families and spouses often subject their queer female relatives to sexual assault intended as a tool of conversion practice to change their sexual orientation; and intimate partners take advantage of the corrupt justice system, state-sanctioned misogyny and homophobia, and stigma to enact continuous violence against their victims.

Technology-facilitated targeting of LGBTQIA+ individuals and organizations that provide emergency support, medical and first aid care, and legal interventions to members of the LGBTQIA+ community was heightened this year due to the misinformation around Nigeria's signing of the SAMOA Agreement and the activities of anti-rights influencers. Several organizations, including TIERS, HAHAI, AIHI, Heartland Alliance, Education as a Vaccine, WISE and INCREASE were doxed, harassed, targeted, and threatened for daring to work toward the advancement human rights and health of LGBTQIA individuals in Nigeria. Northern-based organizations were traced to their offices by groups instigated by online hate speech and misinformation, which led them to shut down operations and go into hiding. Intolerant, misinforming and divisive rhetoric against LGBTQIA+ people by popular online individuals is on the rise, leading to increased harassment and blackmail of LGBTQIA+ people online and offline.

Additionally, family members often violate the rights of their LGBTQIA+ relatives through the invasion of their privacy, forceful evictions, and subjecting them to conversion practices, which could involve starvation, forced confinement, torture, sexual assault or talk therapy. This opens LGBTQIA+ people up to long-term trauma, an absence of a foundational social safety net and secondary violations. Landlords are also known to perpetrate forced evictions against LGBTQIA+ people once outed.

Discrimination in all facets of society creates a barrier to accessing non-discriminatory healthcare, justice, education, employment, housing, familial support and denies them their right to freedom of religion. The resulting isolation further encourages the abuse of LGBTQIA+ people, including through inter-community violence within the LGBTQIA+ community. These continued violations underscore the urgent need for increased allyship and advocacy for the protection of the rights of LGBTQIA+ people.

# TYPES OF VIOLATIONS





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## FORMS OF VIOLATIONS

According to the data pulled from reported cases of human rights violations in 2024, the trend of injustice, inhumane treatment and indignity suffered by members of the LGBTQIA+ community for simply existing continue to rise.

In the past year, we recorded a total of 556 human rights violation cases. These violations are multilayered as statistics show that the rights, dignity and well-being of LGBTQIA+ Nigerians are disregarded and trampled upon on both individual and systemic levels. This is made possible by the continued existence of discriminatory laws and regulations, as well as the generally hostile culture that deems LGBTQIA+ people subhuman. This section highlights some of the prevalent forms of violation reported this year.

As was observed from previous years, physical violence continued to be the harsh reality for LGBTQIA+ individuals as reported incidents of assault and battery did not decline. These already marginalised individuals are at greater risk of being subjected to undue aggression and physical harm at the hands of both state and non-state entities based on their sexuality and/or gender.

Another disturbingly persistent trend is blackmail and exploitation. Preying on the existing fear and vulnerability of LGBTQIA+ folks, perpetrators use personal information and threats of physical violence and 'outing' to coerce their victims into submitting to ridiculously unjust demands.

In addition, this year also saw an acutely distressing increase in the unfair dismissal and displacement of vulnerable LGBTQIA+ individuals. From minors getting disowned, to tenants being forcefully evicted from their homes to employees losing their jobs due to their perceived sexuality; employers, landlords and parents appeared to have taken on a secondary role as oppressors, further complicating their struggles.

Furthermore, systemic harassment and discrimination remained persistent. The prevailing fear of stigma and backlash was already a deterrent for LGBTQIA+ victims of human rights violations seeking justice, therefore it is heartbreaking to note that the police, government agencies and even the justice system were complicit in perpetuating abuse like extortion, unlawful arrest and physical abuse against this vulnerable population. Duty bearers and institutions charged with the protection of human rights discarded their responsibilities when members of the LGBTQIA+ community were involved, leaving these vulnerable individuals with nowhere to turn for succour or solace.

Another agitating form of abuse that has persisted over the years is the recurrence of 'Kito' cases in the community. 84 cases of the documented violations reported the harrowing scenes of innocent individuals falling victim to the fake online personas created by the perpetrators of this crime, and the ensuing sexual abuse, physical assault, torture, blackmail, invasion of privacy, degrading treatment and extortion that unfolded.

It is important to acknowledge that society is complicit in the persistent abuse of the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals. The unfairly hostile and prejudiced beliefs held against these already marginalised individuals continue to compound their pain and drown out their cries for relief.

Regardless of gender identity or sexuality, members of the LGBTQIA community are still human. As a progressive society filled with people with compassion and empathy, it is time to recognize that a significant part of the population should not continue to suffer due to unproven myths and prejudiced beliefs. From creating awareness, to learning, challenging biases, and advocating for legal reforms and inclusive laws – a unified effort is required from all to eradicate the extreme violence and discrimination suffered by gender and sexual minorities in Nigeria.

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## CASE STUDIES

**Trigger warning:** This section contains graphic descriptions of violations reported to TIERS and other human rights organizations from December 2023 – August 2024. Some of the descriptions may be disturbing to read. All names have been changed to protect the identities of the victims/survivors.

### ARBITRARY ARREST, UNLAWFUL DETENTION, EXTORTION, TORTURE

#### The Law

1) **Section 36(1) of the Nigerian constitution states:**

*“In the determination of his civil rights and obligations, including any question or determination by or against any government or authority, a person shall be entitled to a fair hearing within a reasonable time by a court or other tribunal established by law and constituted in such manner as to secure its independence and impartiality.”*

2) **Section 364 (2) of the Criminal Code states:**

*“Any person who — unlawfully imprisons any person within Nigeria in such a manner as to prevent him from applying to a court for his release or from discovering to any other person the place where he is imprisoned, or in such a manner as to prevent any person entitled to have access to him from discovering the place where he is imprisoned; is guilty of a felony and is liable to imprisonment for ten years.”*

3) **Section 408 of the Criminal Code states:**

*“Any person who, with intent to extort or gain anything from any person accuses or threatens to accuse any person of committing any felony or misdemeanour, or of offering or making any solicitation or threat to any person as an inducement to commit or permit the commission of any felony or misdemeanour; or threatens that any person shall be accused by any other person of any felony or misdemeanour, or of any such*

*act; or knowing the contents of the writing, causes any person to receive any writing containing any such accusation or threat as aforesaid; is guilty of a felony... the offender is liable to imprisonment for three years. It is immaterial whether the person accused or threatened to be accused has or has not committed the offense or act of which he is accused or threatened to be accused.”*

4) **Section 37 (1a & 1b) of the Police Act states:**

*“A suspect shall- (a) be accorded humane treatment, having regard to his right to the dignity of his person; and (b) not be subjected to any form of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment”*

5) **Section 62 (1) of the Police Act states:**

*“Where a suspect has been taken into police custody without a warrant for an offence other than an offence punishable with death, an officer in charge of a police station shall inquire into the case and release the suspect arrested on bail subject to subsection (2), and where it will not be practicable to bring the suspect before a court having jurisdiction with respect to the offence alleged, within 24 hours after the arrest.”*

6) **Section 34(1) of the Nigerian constitution states:**

*“Every individual is entitled to respect for the dignity of his person, and accordingly – (a) no person shall be subject to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment;”*

- 7) **Section 2 of the Anti-Torture Act states:**  
*“For the purpose of this Act, torture includes; -  
 vii) rape and sexual abuse, including the insertion  
 of foreign bodies into the sex organs or rectum  
 or electrical torture of the genitals, (viii) other  
 forms of sexual abuse,*
- 8) **Section 3 (1) of the Anti-Torture Act states:**  
*(I) No exceptional circumstances whatsoever,  
 whether a state of war or a threat of war.  
 Internal political instability or any other public  
 emergency may be invoked as a justification  
 for torture.*

## **CASES IN VIOLATION OF ARBITRARY ARREST, UNLAWFUL DETENTION, EXTORTION, TORTURE**

### **Case One**

A 9-man Kito gang notorious for kidnapping, blackmailing, extorting, physically and sexually assaulting men lured from online dating apps and other platforms was apprehended in Lekki Lagos through the collective effort of members of the LGBTQIA+ community and the Police. On 20 March 2024, Ade, a lawyer who had accompanied a client to identify his assailant, was falsely implicated as a member of the gang after one of them claimed they had slept with him, and he was gay. Without proper investigation, the police detained him, berated him with homophobic slurs, threatened to expose his sexual orientation, and denied him the right to confer with his lawyer or provide a trusted contact. He was only released after he informed a TIERs representative present at the Police station of his predicament, which led to TIERs providing legal representation and securing his bail. His involvement in the case was struck out by the court due to insufficient evidence linking him to the case.

### **Case Two**

On the morning of April 20, 13 people who had attended a party the night before were arrested in Ikotun after a video of them dancing and expressing themselves was sent to the police. They were arrested on grounds of participating in a “gay party” and released late at night after paying over N135,000 to the police. One of them wasn’t even at the party and had only gone to the hotel to use the pool. Regardless, he was implicated and unlawfully detained. While in detention, the individuals were denied access to life-saving medication or legal representation, leading to one of them having a medical crisis while in custody.

### **Case Three**

Chidi was unjustly detained by Ojo Police officers on April 27 after being profiled and perceived to be homosexual. He was abducted during a stop and search where his phone was searched and chats read. Private photos of him were discovered and used as grounds for his arrest, claiming that it was proof that he was a homosexual. He was subjected to physical abuse, starvation, and death threats. They confiscated his phone, refused his customary call and demanded an exorbitant ransom of N1,000,000, which was negotiated down to N150,000. He was only released after raising money from family and friends and making payment to the Police. He was intimidated into writing a false statement claiming his release was voluntary.

### **Case Four**

On 30 August, Great was stopped by police around Costain, intimidated and searched on his way to work. They saw his private chat between him and another man and immediately started insisting that he had broken the law and needed to follow them to the police station. At the station, he was harassed, threatened and made to write a false statement saying that he was a gay sex worker who

paid people for sex. His phones and bank accounts were searched, and he was made to send them N800,000 to secure his release. After sending them the money, videos were made of him under duress stating that he was gay, and a sex worker and he was threatened that if he told anyone about paying police for his release he would be arrested and the videos used as evidence. The DPO also harassed him and implied he was queer because he was abused as a child. Screenshots of his conversations were made and his phone withheld after he was released.

## KIDNAPPING, BLACKMAIL & EXTORTION

### The Law

- 1) **Section 365 of the criminal code specifies kidnapping as criminal offenses:**  
*“Any person who unlawfully confines or detains another against his will or otherwise unlawfully deprives another of his personal liberty is guilty of a misdemeanour and liable to imprisonment of two years.”*
- 2) **Section 408 of the Criminal Code specifies blackmail and extortion as criminal offenses:**  
*Any person who, with intent to extort or gain anything from any person accuses or threatens to accuse any person of committing any felony or misdemeanour, or of offering or making any solicitation or threat to any person as an inducement to commit or permit the commission of any felony or misdemeanour; or threatens that any person shall be accused by any other person of any felony or misdemeanour, or of any such act; or knowing the contents of the writing, causes any person to receive any writing containing any such accusation or threat as aforesaid; is guilty of a felony... the offender is liable to imprisonment for three years. It is immaterial*

*whether the person accused or threatened to be accused has or has not committed the offense or act of which he is accused or threatened to be accused.*

## CASES IN VIOLATION OF KIDNAPPING, BLACKMAIL & EXTORTION

### Case One

Chike, a student and part-time massage therapist, reported that he was invited to provide massage services to a customer in Lagos on 15 December 2023. Upon arrival at the customer’s apartment in Agungi, Chike was ambushed by the client and a gang of eight criminals who assaulted him, robbed him of two iPhones, his massage equipment and other belongings, and forced him to record himself naked for blackmail content. Once they had finished, they abandoned him at the rented apartment. Chike raised alarm and reported the incident to the police, which was instrumental in the gang’s apprehension on March 17, 2024. He faced further harassment when questioned by the police about having the Grindr app on his phone, which led to requests for his phone to be searched, which Chike refused.

### Case Two

Israel met Chinonso on Badoo on April 17 and Chinonso started pressuring him to pay him a visit. He kept refusing but one day during a power outage, due to a need to charge his phone he agreed to his invite. He was picked up from the bus stop close to Chinonso’s house on a bike. On the way, Israel started getting scared and asked the driver to turn back but was denied. The bike man eventually stopped but had already gotten close to the destination. Chinonso convinced him to come to a bar nearby instead to help calm him down. When he got there, he noticed a crowd of

guys coming in and greeting Chinonso which made him very uneasy. He tried to leave, which caused a scene, and passers-by started asking questions which Chinonso waved away. Eventually, 6 guys came out of the house nearby and started shouting that he was gay and beating him up. They wounded his eye and other parts of his body and passers-by paid no mind once they learned of his sexuality. The number of boys increased to 12 and they took him inside the house where he noticed another person already there being assaulted. They beat him some more before they started looking through his phone to see he had shared his location with 4 people. They called one person and billed her N500,000 for his release to which she responded that she could not raise and eventually blocked them. They made both victims strip and admitted to being homosexuals. They stole his phone and sold it for N80,000 in front of him. They also stole his bag which contained his medication, his Oraimo watch, slippers, sim card and perfume. Both victims were moved to a hotel where the beating and robbery continued in front of the hotel staff who did not intervene.

### **Case Three**

Chika was lured to a hotel on the fifth day in May by a catfish account from TikTok. A man in a law enforcement uniform showed up and threatened to arrest her for entertaining the flirtatious advances from the TikTok account who he claimed was his daughter. He beat her up and took her phone, after which he cleared her bank accounts. Passers-by did not intervene, as he made sure to tell them she was a homosexual.

## **RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT**

### **The Law**

- 1) **Section 352 of the Criminal Code states:**  
*"Any person who assaults another with intent to*

*have carnal knowledge of him or her against the order of nature is guilty of a felony and is liable to imprisonment for fourteen years."*

- 2) **Section 357 of the Criminal Code states that:**  
*"Any person who has unlawful carnal knowledge of a woman or girl, without her consent, or with her consent, if the consent is obtained by force or by means of threats or intimidation of any kind, or by fear of harm, or by means of false and fraudulent representation as to the nature of the act, or, in the case of a married woman, by personating her husband, is guilty of an offence which is called rape."*
- 3) **Section 258 of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act (2015) states:**  
*"A person commits the offense of rape if he or she intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person with any other part of his/her body or anything else, without consent, or if the consent is obtained by force."*

## **CASE IN VIOLATION OF RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT**

### **Case One**

On 5 May 2024, Tamara reported sexual abuse by a pastor his mother took him to for conversion practices and "healing" from diabetes. The pastor took advantage of his vulnerability to sexually abuse him repeatedly which led him to depression and anger. He spoke up about the abuse suffered at the hands of this pastor and was further victimized and harassed by the police.

### **Case Two**

Esther was forcefully married to a man to alleviate her family's economic situation and to convert her sexuality to heterosexual. She had been married to him for a month and faced consistent sexual assault while in his house.

## DISCRIMINATION & ASSAULT

### The Law

- 1) **Section 42(1) of the Nigerian constitution specifies for discrimination and states:**  
*“A citizen of Nigeria of a particular community, ethnic group, place of origin, sex, religion or political opinion shall not, by reason only that he is such a person:-- (a) be subjected either expressly by, or in the practical application of, any law in force in Nigeria or any executive or administrative action of the government, to disabilities or restrictions to which citizens of Nigeria of other communities, ethnic groups, places of origin, sex, religions or political opinions are not made subject; or”*
  
- 2) **Sections 252 and 253 of the Criminal Code specifies for assault and states:**  
*S 252 - “A person who strikes, touches, or moves, or otherwise applies force of any kind to, the person of another, either directly or indirectly, without his consent, or with his consent, if the consent is obtained by fraud, or who by any bodily act or gesture attempts or threatens to apply force of any kind to the person of another without his consent, in such circumstances that the person making the attempt or threat has actually or apparently a present ability to effect his purpose, is said to assault that other person, and the act is called an assault. The term “applies force” includes the case of applying heat, light, electrical force, gas, odour, or any other substance of whatever, if applied to such a degree as to cause injury or personal discomfort. S 253 - “An assault is unlawful and constitutes an offence unless it is authorised or justified or excused by law. The application of force by one person to the person of another may be unlawful, although it is done with the consent of that other person.”*

## CASES IN VIOLATION OF DISCRIMINATION & ASSAULT

### Case One

Peace worked in a restaurant where he was constantly harassed and discriminated against due to his perceived sexual orientation. In January, he was unjustly dismissed without due reason or warning.

### Case Two

On 2 February 2024, Gilbert was unlawfully dismissed from the school where he teaches because someone saw him dancing at his second job. He’s a feminine man and was seen by someone who knew him to be a teacher. He was harassed and filmed, and the video was uploaded to the internet. The viral video got to his employers, and he was dismissed.

### Case Three

Lara was discriminated against by lecturers who claimed she had not attended classes or written any exams thus she could not graduate. She had been outed as transgender in her second year and faced harassment and discrimination from lecturers as a result. The lecturers claimed to never have seen her before, despite her having attended all her classes where she faced transphobic microaggressions from the lecturers.

### Case Four

On 2 February 2024, Kikelomo reported a case of a friend who was sent for conversion therapy by her parents where the pastor subjected her to brutal physical assault to “cast away the demons in her”.

### Case Five

Emeka and friends were walking home on 20 February and were attacked by thugs who questioned their presentation. They were beaten up and one of them was stabbed in the head with a broken bottle.

**Case Six**

Ikenna was accosted by a group of thugs on his way back home. They robbed him of his belongings and beat him up for being feminine presenting, which led them to assume he was gay and deserving of abuse.

**Case Seven**

In April 2023, Pelumi was attacked by area boys for being feminine. A video of him being beaten with planks went viral online and received calls for further violence from the public. Human rights activists and friends responded with psychiatric interventions and emergency shelter; however, she was left traumatized and rendered homeless because of the ordeal.

**CHILD/DEPENDENT ABANDONMENT****The Law**

- 1) **Section 16 of the Violence against Persons Prohibition Act specifies Child/Dependent Abandonment as a criminal offense:**

*"A person who abandons a wife or husband, children or other dependent without any means of sustenance commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a term of imprisonment not exceeding 3 years or to a fine not exceeding #500,000.00 or both"*

**CASES IN VIOLATION OF CHILD/DEPENDENT ABANDONMENT****Case One**

On the 2nd of February 2024, Perpetua was thrown out of their family home for being a transgender non-binary person. Perpetua ran to their cousin's house and was also kicked out of there by their family who tracked them there, causing them to be homeless.

**Case Two**

Nineteen-year-old Richard was outed as a gay man by an ex-partner, which led to him being disowned by his parents due to their intolerance for his sexuality. They threw him out and refused to pay his school fees, putting him at risk of dropping out once the semester was over.

**CYBERSTALKING****The Law**

- 1) **Section 15 of the Cybercrime Act specifies Cyberstalking as a criminal offense:**

*"(1) Any person who, by means of a public electronic communications network persistently sends a message or other matter that -*

*(a) is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character or causes any such message or matter to be so sent; or*

*(b) he knows to be false, for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety to another or causes such a message to be sent; commits an offence under this Act and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not less than N2,000,000.00 or imprisonment for a term of not less than one year or to both fine and imprisonment.*

- (2) *Any person who, through information and communication technologies, by means of a public electronic communications network, transmits or causes the transmission of any communication*

*(a) with intent to bully, threaten or harass another person, where such communication places another person in fear of death, violence or personal bodily injury or to another person;*

- (b) containing any threat to kidnap any person or any threat to injure the person of another, any demand or request for a ransom for the release of any kidnapped person, with intent to extort from any person, firm, association or corporation, any money or other thing of value; or*
- (c) containing any threat to injure the property or reputation of the addressee or of another or the reputation of a deceased person or any threat to accuse the addressee or any other person of a crime, with intent to extort from any person, firm, association, or corporation, any money or other thing of value; commits an offence under this Act and is liable on conviction-"*

## **CASES IN VIOLATION OF CYBERSTALKING**

### **Case One**

In July 2024, 7 organisations focused on providing sexual and reproductive health support for members of the LGBTQIA+ community and other key populations - TIERS, HAHAI, Heartland Alliance, AIHI, Education as a Vaccine, WISE, and INCREASE

- faced online harassment and doxing due to misinformation surrounding Nigeria's signing of the Samoa Trade Agreement. The agreement was misinterpreted in an opinion piece by a Lagos-based lawyer and Chairman of the Human & Constitutional Rights Committee, African Bar Association, who claimed the agreement, which is based on six key priorities which include human rights, democracy and governance; peace and security; human and social development; inclusive, sustainable economic growth and development; environmental sustainability and climate change; and mobility/migration, used coded language to mean legalizing LGBTQIA+ rights in Nigeria. These organisations faced targeted harassment and northern-based organisations were physically traced by angry individuals who demanded their arrest. This caused them to shut down operations and go into hiding.

### **Case Two**

Following the Samoa misinformation, Chikodi was outed as LGBTQIA+ through pictures of him attending community events which were on the website of one of the targeted organizations. He was threatened to vacate his home by his landlord and was disowned by his family.



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## TRENDS IN VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN NIGERIA

Women live multi-issues lives; therefore it is important to examine the various factors that affect their lives and impact their susceptibility to violence. Nigerian women grapple with the strong arm of patriarchy that systematically feeds into the normalised violence meted out on them, however, for marginalised women and girls, it is multiple layers of violence. In Nigeria gender-based violence (GBV) against women and girls remains a significant social issue in 2024, with ongoing challenges heightened by cultural, economic, and systemic barriers. GBV in Nigeria takes various forms, including domestic violence, sexual abuse, child marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM), intersex genital mutilation and physical violence, often stemming from deep-seated gender inequalities and harmful practices.

As of recent data, Nigeria has one of the highest rates of gender-based violence globally, with about 30% of women aged 15 to 49 reporting experiences of physical or sexual violence by intimate partners. Nigeria also ranks third in global FGM prevalence, with an estimated 20 million survivors. These practices are particularly common in rural areas where social norms still enforce traditional gender roles, putting girls and young women at risk of harmful practices from an early age. FGM, for example, is often performed on girls under five, with rates as high as 62% in some regions, despite laws prohibiting the practice.

Legal frameworks to protect women and girls, like the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Act, have been passed in several states. However, enforcement remains inconsistent across

Nigeria's regions, leaving gaps in protections, especially in northern states where GBV rates are disproportionately high due to conflict and displacement.

This year Yobe state has reported over 490 GBV cases from January to April 2024<sup>22</sup>. Organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO) and local civil society groups are actively providing services, including psychological and medical support for survivors, especially in under-resourced areas where fear and social stigma often prevent victims from seeking help. In the first quarter of 2024, at least 66,000 persons were reached with GBV messages through the WHO-supported mobile hard-to-reach teams.<sup>23</sup>

Lagos has also recorded high rates of GBV, with over 24,000 cases documented since 2018, and the state's Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency now fields an average of 300 new reports each month. The agency's comprehensive response includes medical, legal, and psychosocial support, in addition to preventative initiatives such as community awareness campaigns and engagement with religious and traditional leaders. These programs focus on reducing stigma, offering counselling, and encouraging early interventions during premarital counselling to identify signs of potential domestic violence. These examples highlight the pressing need for both immediate support services and long-term societal changes to combat GBV across Nigeria, underscoring the importance of multi-stakeholder involvement and survivor-centred approaches to addressing this crisis. Campaigns like the 16 Days of Activism aim to raise awareness

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.afro.who.int/countries/nigeria/news/creating-safe-space-victims-gender-based-violence-yobe-state>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.afro.who.int/countries/nigeria/news/creating-safe-space-victims-gender-based-violence-yobe-state>

and encourage local communities to take a stand against GBV, but sustained efforts are required to see a lasting reduction in violence against women and girls across Nigeria.

Marginalised women in Nigeria have continued to face extreme gender-based violence, often intensified by the country's legal and social landscape. Female sex workers in Nigeria often face intense levels of gender-based violence, including harassment, physical assault, and sexual violence. Due to stigma and discrimination, they are frequently denied justice and access to medical or legal services, which intensifies their vulnerability. Reports in 2024 indicate that many of these women experience violence at the hands of clients, law enforcement officers, and other community members who exploit their marginalised status. Grassroots organisations, like Heartland Alliance International and other NGOs, have made strides by establishing safe spaces and offering legal support and health services, yet these resources remain limited due to funding and legal restrictions on sex work in Nigeria. The legal system itself presents additional barriers. For example, incidents of violence against sex workers are often not taken seriously by law enforcement, who sometimes contribute to the abuse rather than protect victims. Advocacy groups and human rights organisations are pushing for reforms to increase protections and support services for female sex workers, emphasizing the need for broader societal acceptance and legal protections to ensure their safety and dignity. Nonetheless, significant social, legal, and cultural shifts are required to improve their lives and security in Nigeria effectively.

In addition, the experiences of LBQTI+ women are especially harsh, as they confront high levels of discrimination, stigmatisation, and limited legal

recourse. The Rustin Times and other sources have reported instances of "corrective rape" targeted at lesbian and bisexual women. This practice is rooted in the misguided belief that sexual violence can alter a woman's sexual orientation. Many survivors face significant psychological trauma, as reporting such cases is risky due to the country's criminalization of same-sex relationships, which discourages LBQTI+ women from seeking justice or support out of fear of legal consequences. Additionally, intimate partner violence is another concern among queer women in Nigeria, though it often goes unreported due to societal stigma and the lack of safe, supportive resources specifically tailored for queer individuals. Organisations like the Initiative for Gender Equality and Sexual Reproductive Health (IGE-SRH) are working to advocate for LBQTI+ rights and provide much-needed safe spaces and counselling services. However, these services are limited and often struggle against pervasive societal and legal challenges. The intersection of cultural expectations and legal discrimination creates an environment in which queer women are highly vulnerable, making advocacy and support networks crucial.

The Initiative for Equal Rights (TIERs) and other partner organisations recorded over 100 human rights violations against LBQTI+ women in Nigeria in 2024.

To effectively reduce GBV in Nigeria, a multifaceted approach that addresses root causes, strengthens legal protections, and provides robust support for survivors is essential. This includes and not limited to the decriminalisation of same-sex relationships, strengthening GBV laws, implementing laws that protect the rights of sex workers, building accessible and inclusive health systems, public education and change perception.

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## **AN UNSPOKEN PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIC: Human Rights Violation Based On Real Or Perceived SOGIESC**

**H**uman rights violations targeting individuals based on their real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) are often overlooked, yet the impact of these violations parallel that of public health crises. These violations manifest in various forms, including physical violence, discrimination in healthcare settings, mental health challenges, and restricted access to essential services, all of which have profound public health implications. This issue is especially pronounced due to strong cultural stigmas, punitive legal systems, and limited access to supportive healthcare, all of which heighten the health risks for LGBTQIA+ individuals. This crisis is intensified by the Nigeria's cultural and legal environment, which not only marginalises LGBTQIA+ communities but also fuels broader health and safety concerns that affect society.

There is serious mental health challenge among LGBTQIA+ individuals as many face chronic stress, depression, anxiety, and trauma from a young age, which is amplified by the threat of exposure or persecution against LGBTQIA+ persons in society. This pervasive stigma, discrimination, and violence directed at LGBTQIA+ individuals contribute to increased vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, limited access to healthcare services, and heightened exposure to poverty and homelessness. In Nigeria, where mental health support is already limited, the added stigma around LGBTQIA+ identities means that those in need often don't seek help. This increases the rates of untreated mental health conditions, leading to higher rates of suicide, self-harm, and long-term psychological issues. Access to sexual and reproductive health services is crucial for preventing and managing issues like sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and reproductive

health complications. However, LGBTQIA+ individuals in Nigeria face immense barriers to these services due to both legal restrictions and healthcare discrimination.

Many healthcare providers deny services or offer substandard care to LGBTQIA+ individuals due to biases and fear of legal consequences, especially when the individual is perceived to be "violating" societal norms or laws. High rates of HIV among men who have sex with men (MSM) are a particular concern. Fear of persecution or being outed keeps many from accessing testing, treatment, and preventive measures like PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis). Without access to these essential services, we record higher rates of untreated HIV and other infections spread unchecked within these communities, heightening the overall public health crisis. LGBTQIA+ individuals are at risk of physical and emotional abuse, including "corrective rape," beatings, harassment, and social exclusion, violence, forced marriages, and conversion therapy, which are often used as methods to force compliance with social norms. These abuses lead to severe trauma, substance abuse, chronic illness, and higher rates of suicide, contributing to the mental health epidemic within the LGBTQIA+ community.

In addition, healthcare providers may lack the knowledge to provide inclusive HIV care and gender affirming care which prevent effective public health campaigns targeting key populations like MSM and transgender persons. This results in higher HIV transmission rates in the LGBTQIA+ community, as individuals are either not tested or are diagnosed too late. Furthermore, the lack of knowledge and social support for PrEP and HIV care contributes to increased community-wide vulnerability. When

basic human rights are violated, it impacts public health on a larger scale. People dealing with trauma and fear are less likely to engage with healthcare providers, impacting overall health outcomes and increasing the burden on healthcare systems when untreated conditions escalate.

### **TIERs' Approach in Addressing These Challenges**

- Organising mobile HIV testing units, host community-based educational workshops, Outreaches and other events to reach LGBTQIA+ individuals in discreet, safe spaces. These units can offer confidential HIV tests, prevention education, and mental health services without fear of discrimination or criminal exposure.
- Promoting PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis) and PEP (Post Exposure Prophylaxis) through community outreach, online enrollment, delivering medications and consumables, peer education, and partnerships with local clinics and international organizations.
- Training and encouraging healthcare workers to adopt an LGBTQIA+ inclusion pledge to publicly commit to providing non-judgmental and inclusive services for our clients.
- Using digital platforms, support hotlines and community events to provide safe spaces, run health campaigns, provide comprehensive

sexual health services and to reduce the stigma around seeking help for mental health issues.

- Leveraging on platforms like Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok to spread information about LGBTQ+ health rights, HIV prevention, and mental health, targeting an audience who can drive social change.
- Dispelling myths about LGBTQIA+ individuals, raise awareness about their rights to healthcare, and highlight positive stories of people living with HIV, transgender individuals, and other sexual minorities.

In conclusion, addressing this public health epidemic requires policy reform to decriminalize LGBTQIA+ identities and relationships. Such reform would remove legal barriers that discourage LGBTQIA+ individuals from seeking essential health services. Policy changes that promote inclusivity and protect LGBTQIA+ rights can help reduce stigma, allowing more people to seek care, access treatment, and protect themselves and others from health risks like HIV. Decriminalizing LGBTQIA+ identities and ensuring their inclusion in healthcare settings would benefit public health overall, helping to build a healthier society that supports all of its citizens.

# NATIONAL CASE SUMMARY

(December 2023 – August 2024)

S/N	DATE OF INCIDENCE	CASE TYPOLOGY	PERPETRATORS	LOCATION	REPORTING ORGANIZATION
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## December 2023

1	05/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actors	Imo	AGHI
2	08/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actors	Imo	AGHI
3	08/12/23	Kito, Extortion, Blackmail, Threat to life.	Non State Actors	Niger	CHIYN
4	09/12/23	Harassment, Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
5	09/12/23	Mass Arrest, Extortion, Unlawful Detention	State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
6	11/12/23	Conversion Practices Starvation, Outing, Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
7	12/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
8	14/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
9	14/12/23	Verbal Abuse, Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
10	15/12/23	Assault & Battery, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
11	15/12/23	Invasion of Privacy, Outing, Cyberbullying	Non State Actors	Benue	THEDI
12	16/12/23	Kito, Theft	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
13	16/12/23	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
14	17/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
15	18/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
16	18/12/23	Theft, Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ICARH
17	20/12/23	Unlawful Arrest, Extortion	Non State Actor	Cross River	I-IMH
18	21/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
19	21/12/23	Threat to Life, Harassment	Non State Actor	Cross River	I-IMH
20	21/12/23	Assault, Extortion & Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	ICARH
21	23/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
22	23/12/23	Exortion, Blackmail	State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
23	24/12/23	Kito, Assault & Battery, Forced Confinement, Discrimination	Non State Actors	Niger	CHIYN
24	25/12/23	Forced Eviction, Harassment, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Cross River	GEHAR-I
25	26/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
26	26/12/23	Mass Arrest, Extortion, Unlawful Detention, Invasion of Privacy	State Actor & Non State Actor	Plateau	HAHAI
27	26/12/23	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
28	29/12/23	Harassment, Verbal Abuse, Outing	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN

## January 2024

29	01/01/24	Mob Action, Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actor	Cross River	GEHAR-I
30	01/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Lagos	ISHRAI
31	01/01/24	Kito, Blackmail, Sexual Assault	State & Non State Actors	Imo	MHSI NG
32	02/01/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actor	Cross River	GEHAR-I

33	03/01/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Kidnapping, Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Cross River	GEHAR-I
34	04/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
35	04/01/24	Invasion of privacy, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Cross River	GEHAR-I
36	01/05/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Theft, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Kebbi	TIERs
37	1/5/24	Threat to life, Outing, Blackmail, Emotional Abuse, Assault, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
38	05/01/24	Mob Attack, Theft, Harassment, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
39	05/01/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Cross River	GEHAR-I
40	05/01/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Cross River	I-MIH
41	06/01/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
42	06/01/24	Theft, Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actor	Cross River	GEHAR-I
43	07/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
44	07/01/24	Unlawful arrest, Harassment	State Actor	Cross River	GEHAR-I
45	08/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
46	08/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
47	08/01/24	Extortion	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
48	08/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
49	08/01/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Theft	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
50	08/01/24	Discrimination	Non State Actor	Cross River	GEHAR-I
51	09/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
52	09/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
53	10/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
54	10/01/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
55	10/01/24	Extortion, Blackmail, Invasion of privacy	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
56	10/01/24	Harassment	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
57	10/01/24	Harassment, Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
58	10/01/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Imo	KD
59	11/01/24	Cyberbullying, Sexual Assault, invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
60	11/01/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Imo	KD
61	12/01/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion, Threat to life	Non State Actors	Abia	KD
62	14/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
63	14/01/24	Unlawful Arrest	State Actors	Ondo	ICTHARAE
64	15/01/24	Outing, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Lagos	ISHRAI
65	15/01/24	Harassment, Threat to Life	Non State Actor	Oyo	ISRHRA
66	16/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
67	16/01/24	Blackmail, Wrongful Dismissal	Non State Actors	Akwa Ibom	IGE-SRH
68	17/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
69	17/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
70	17/01/24	Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
71	19/01/24	Extortion, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Abuja	ICARH

72	19/01/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
73	19/01/24	Forced Eviction, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Lagos	RHRI
74	19/01/24	Harassment	Non State Actor	Abuja	TIERs
75	20/01/24	Forceful Eviction, Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
76	20/01/24	Blackmail, Outing, Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
77	21/01/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Lagos	ISHRAI
78	21/01/24	Kito, Theft, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
79	22/01/24	Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
80	22/01/24	Discrimination, Unlawful dismissal	Non State Actor	Rivers	TIERs
81	22/01/24	Extortion	Non State Actor	Borno	TIERs
82	23/01/24	Outing, Forced Eviction, Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
83	23/01/24	Discrimination, Outing	State Actor	Lagos	RHRI
84	24/01/24	Blackmail, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Ondo	ICTHARAE
85	24/01/24	Harassment, Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Lagos	ISHRAI
86	25/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
87	25/01/24	Outing, Threat, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
88	25/01/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
89	26/01/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
90	26/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
91	27/01/24	Unlawful dismissal, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Abuja	TIERs
92	28/01/24	Blackmail, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
93	29/01/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
94	29/01/24	Physical Assault, Verbal abuse	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
95	30/01/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
96	30/01/24	Blackmail, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
97	31/01/24	Blackmail, Theft, Invasion of Privacy, Harassment	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
98	31/01/24	Kito, Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI

### February 2024

99	01/02/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Abia	AGHI
100	01/02/24	Blackmail	State & Non State Actors	Bauchi	HAHAI
101	02/02/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
102	02/02/24	Blackmail, Extortion, Harassment	Non State Actors	Imo	MHSI NG
103	04/02/24	Outing, Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
104	05/02/24	Invasion of Privacy, Threat to Life	Non State Actors	Abuja	ICARH
105	06/02/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
106	06/02/24	Harassment, Verbal Abuse, Outing	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
107	06/02/24	Sexual Assault, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Lagos	ISHRAI
108	02/07/24	Sexual Harassment, Assault & Battery, Harassment, Discrimination	State & Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
109	07/02/24	Discrimination	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
110	07/02/24	Kito, Assault, Blackmail, Threat to life	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD

111	08/02/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
112	08/02/24	Assault & Battery, Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Kogi	CDLC
113	08/02/24	Blackmail, Sexual Assault, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
114	08/02/24	Discrimination, Cyberbullying, Sexual Harassment, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Akwa Ibom	IGE-SRH
115	08/02/24	Kito, Kidnap, Extortion, Blackmail, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
116	10/02/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
117	11/02/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Abia	AGHI
118	11/02/24	Conversion practice	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
119	12/02/24	Extortion, invasion of Privacy	State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
120	12/02/24	Mob Action, Assault & Battery, Unlawful Detention	State & Non State Actors	Bauchi	HAHAI
121	12/02/24	Harassment, Assault & Battery, Extortion, Outing	Non State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
122	13/02/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
123	13/02/24	Forced Eviction	Landlord	Niger	TIERs
124	14/02/24	Mass Arrest, Unlawful Arrest	State Actors	Osun	I-AIHD
125	14/02/24	Mass Arrest, Invasion of privacy	State actors	Cross River	I-IMH
126	14/02/24	Discrimination, invasion of privacy, Forceful Eviction	Non State Actor	Benue	THEDI
127	14/02/24	Discrimination	Non State Actors	Jos	TIERs
128	15/02/24	Assault & Battery, Sexual Assault, Forced Confinement	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
129	15/02/24	Mob Action, Discrimination, Outing, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Edo	EIR-INITIATIVE
130	15/02/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion, Threat to life	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
131	15/02/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Cross River	KD
132	15/02/24	Theft, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Abia	KD
133	15/02/24	Harassment, Blackmail, Outing, Kito	State Actor	Abuja	MW
134	15/02/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion, Theft	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
135	15/02/24	Forced Eviction, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Kaduna	WIHYE
136	16/02/24	Blackmail	State Actor	Nasarawa	ICARH
137	16/02/24	Threat, Assault	State Actor	Abuja	TIERs
138	16/02/24	Kito, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
139	17/02/24	Threat to life, Harassment	Non State Actors	Ekiti	AHRDI
140	17/02/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
141	17/02/24	Sexual Assault, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Gombe	THEDI
142	17/02/24	Mob Action, Assault & Battery	State actor	Abia	AGHI
143	18/02/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
144	18/02/24	Sexual Assault, Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Delta	IGE-SRH
145	19/02/24	Blackmail, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
146	19/02/24	Extortion, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Abuja	ICARH
147	19/02/24	Extortion, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Abuja	ICARH
148	19/02/24	Conversion Practices, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Ogun	TIERs



149	20/02/24	Kito, Harassment, Assault & Battery, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
150	20/02/24	Harassment, Assault & Battery, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
151	20/02/24	Forced Eviction	Family	Rivers	TIERs
152	20/02/24	Harassment, Assault & Battery, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Enugu	TIERs
153	21/02/24	Sexual Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
154	21/02/24	Mass Arrest, Extortion, Unlawful Detention	State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
155	21/02/24	Extortion, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Abuja	ICARH
156	21/02/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
157	21/02/24	Harassment, Assault & Battery, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
158	21/02/24	Harassment, Assault & Battery, Arbitrary Arrest	non state actors	Imo	TIERs
159	22/02/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Ondo	ICTHARAE
160	22/02/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
161	23/02/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
162	23/02/24	Threat to life, Harassment, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
163	24/02/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
164	24/02/24	Arbitrary Arrest	State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
165	24/02/24	Threat to life, Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
166	24/02/24	Harassment, Sexual Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
167	25/02/24	Assault, Blackmail, Forced Marriage	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
168	25/02/24	Sexual Assault	State Actor	Lagos	RHRI
169	26/02/24	Harassment, Assault & Battery, Theft	Non State Actors	Ondo	ICTHARAE
170	26/02/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Lagos	ISHRAI
171	26/02/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
172	26/02/24	Assault & Battery, Invasion of Privacy	State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
173	26/02/24	Kito, Assault, Robbery	Non State Actors	Imo	KD
174	27/02/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
175	27/02/24	Sexual Assault, Assault & Battery, Mob Action, Harassment	Non State Actors	Akwa Ibom	IGE-SRH
176	28/02/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
177	28/02/24	Discrimination	Non State Actors	Ogun	TIERs

### March 2024

178	01/03/24	Assault & Battery, Conversion Practices	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
179	02/03/24	Outing, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
180	02/03/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
181	05/03/24	Discrimination, Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
182	03/06/24	Threat to life, Harassment	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	TIERs
183	06/03/24	Discrimination, Unlawful Detention	State actors	Cross River	I-MIH
184	07/03/24	Harassment, Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
185	07/03/24	Conversion Practices	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
186	07/03/24	Forced Eviction, Harassment, Discrimination, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Kano	TIERs
187	07/03/24	Harassment, Doxing	Non State Actors	Kano	TIERs

188	08/03/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
189	08/03/24	Kito, Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
190	09/03/24	Sexual Assault, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Delta	IGE-SRH
191	09/03/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	State and Non state actors	Anambra	KD
192	09/03/24	Kito, Theft, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
193	10/03/24	Assault & Battery, Theft, Harassment	Non State Actors	Niger	CHIYN
194	10/03/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
195	10/03/24	Discrimination, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Abia	AGHI
196	11/03/24	Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
197	12/03/24	Sexual Assault, Theft	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
198	12/03/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Kebbi	HAHAI
199	14/03/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
200	14/03/24	Sexual Harassment	Non State Actors	Ondo	ICTHARAE
201	15/03/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment, Outing	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
202	15/03/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Theft	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
203	16/03/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Abia	AGHI
204	17/03/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
205	17/03/24	Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
206	20/03/24	Unlawful Detention	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
207	20/03/24	Assault & Battery, Forced Confinement	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
208	20/03/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
209	20/03/24	Kito, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Rivers	KD
210	20/03/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Theft	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
211	20/03/24	Outing, Unlawful Detention	Non State Actors & State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
212	21/03/24	Forced Eviction, Outing, Kito, Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
213	21/03/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
214	21/03/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
215	21/03/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
216	22/03/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
217	22/03/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment, Theft	Non State Actor	Edo	EIR-INITIATIVE
218	22/03/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Imo	KD
219	23/03/24	Mob Action, Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
220	23/03/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actors	Ondo	ICTHARAE
221	23/03/24	Kito, Theft	Non State Actors	Imo	KD
222	23/03/24	Arbitrary Arrest, Unlawful Detention	State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
223	24/03/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion, Threat to life	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
224	24/03/24	Outing, Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Ekiti	TIERs
225	25/03/24	Blackmail, Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
226	25/03/24	Kito, Assault, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Rivers	KD
227	26/03/24	Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Abuja	ICARH
228	26/03/24	Harrassment	Non State Actor	Ondo	ICTHARAE

229	26/03/24	Harassment	Non State Actor	Ondo	ICTHARAE
230	26/03/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Rivers	KD
231	27/03/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
232	27/03/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Rivers	KD
233	28/03/24	Blackmail, Outing	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
234	28/03/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Rivers	KD
235	28/03/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Robbery	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs

### April 2024

236	02/04/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
237	03/04/24	Outing	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
238	04/04/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
239	04/04/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
240	04/04/24	Harassment, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Abia	AGHI
241	04/04/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
242	04/04/24	Extortion, Invasion of Privacy	State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
243	04/04/24	Murder	Non State Actor	Imo	MHSI NG
244	04/04/24	Blackmail, invasion of Privacy, Sexual Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
245	04/04/24	Blackmail, Assault & Battery, invasion of privacy, Harassment	Non State Actors	Benue	THEDI
246	05/04/24	Outing, Harassment	Non State Actor	Abuja	CDLC
247	10/04/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
248	10/04/24	Forced confinement, Conversion Practices	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
249	10/04/24	Forced Eviction, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
250	11/04/24	Blackmail	State Actor	Abia	AGHI
251	12/04/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
252	12/04/24	Threat to life, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
253	12/04/24	Blackmail, Extortion, Outing	Non State Actor	Edo	EIR-INITIATIVE
254	12/04/24	Discrimination, Forced eviction	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
255	13/04/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
256	15/04/24	Forced Confinement	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
257	15/04/24	Invasion of Privacy, Outing, Discrimination, Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
258	16/04/24	Outing, Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
259	16/04/24	Assault & Battery, Extortion, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
260	17/04/24	Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	CDLC
261	17/04/24	Blackmail, Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
262	17/04/24	Harassment	Non State Actors	Imo	MHSI NG
263	17/04/24	Blackmail, Extortion	Non State Actor	Enugu	MW
264	17/04/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Theft, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
265	18/04/24	Forced Eviction, Outing, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN

266	18/04/24	Assault, Unlawful Arrest	State & Non State Actors	Abuja	ICARH
267	18/04/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actors	Ondo	ICTHARAE
268	18/04/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
269	19/04/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Benue	THEDI
270	20/04/24	Harassment, Discrimination	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
271	20/04/24	Blackmail	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
272	20/04/24	Unlawful Arrest, Extortion, Mass Arrest	State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
273	22/04/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Theft	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
274	23/04/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion, Threat to life	Non State Actors	Imo	KD
275	24/04/24	Outing, Conversion Practices, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
276	24/04/24	Kito, Blackmail, Assault & Battery, Extortion, Outing, Kidnapping	Non State Actors	Kaduna	WIHYE
277	25/04/24	Assault & Battery, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
278	26/04/24	Assault & Battery, Outing, Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
279	26/04/24	Blackmail, Assault	Non State Actors	Abuja	ICARH
280	27/04/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
281	27/04/24	Extortion, Assault, Discrimination, Harassment, Unlawful Detention	State Actors & Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
282	28/04/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actor	Lagos	MW
283	29/04/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Ondo	ICTHARAE
284	30/04/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
285	30/04/24	Kito, Kidnapping, Blackmail, Mob Action, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
286	30/04/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment, Cyberbullying, Mob action	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
287	30/04/24	Unlawful detention, Torture, Extortion, Assault & Battery	State Actors	Lagos	TIERs

**May 2024**

288	01/05/24	Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
289	05/03/24	Discrimination, Threats	Non State Actors	Enugu	TIERs
290	03/05/24	Blackmail	Non State actor	Abia	AGHI
291	03/05/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
292	03/05/24	Kito, Blackmail , Extortion, Outing, Discrimination	Non State Actors	Imo	MHSI NG
293	04/05/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
294	04/05/24	Harrasement, mob attack, extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
295	06/05/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
296	06/05/24	Assault, Harassment, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
297	06/05/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
298	07/05/24	Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI

299	07/05/24	Unlawful Arrest, Extortion	State Actors	Gombe	RASE-I
300	08/05/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
301	08/05/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
302	08/05/24	Threat to Life, Assault & Battery, Cyberbullying	Non State Actors	Abuja	ICARH
303	09/05/24	Kito, Assault, Theft, Extortion	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
304	09/05/24	Invasion of privacy, Extortion	State Actor	Abia	AGHI
305	09/05/24	Discrimination, Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
306	09/05/24	Harassment	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
307	09/05/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
308	12/05/24	Cyberbullying, Sexual Harassment, Harassment	Non State Actor	Abuja	DIHHR
309	12/05/24	Mob Action, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Borno	HAHAI
310	12/05/24	Blackmail, Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
311	12/05/24	Harassment, Extortion, Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
312	12/05/24	Sexual Assault, Harassment	Non State Actor	Delta	TIERs
313	12/05/24	Harassment, Invasion of privacy	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
314	14/05/24	Sexual Assault, Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
315	15/05/24	Kito, Assault, Blackmail, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
316	15/05/24	Discrimination, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
317	15/05/24	Unlawful Arrest, Extortion	State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
318	15/05/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Abia	AGHI
319	17/05/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
320	17/05/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment, Unlawful Detention	Non State Actors	Ondo	ICTHARAE
321	17/05/24	Blackmail	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
322	17/05/24	Arbitrary Arrest, Unlawful Detention, Extortion	State & Non state Actors	Kaduna	WIHYE
323	17/05/24	Discrimination, Invasion of Privacy, Defamation of Character, Threat to Life, Extortion	State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
324	18/05/24	Wrongful Dismissal	Non State Actor	Edo	EIR-INITIATIVE
325	19/05/24	Invasion of Privacy	State Actors	Bauchi	HAHAI
326	19/05/24	Outing, Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
327	19/05/24	Discrimination	State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
328	20/05/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
329	20/05/24	Invasion of privacy, Mass Arrest, Extortion	State actors	Cross River	I-IMH
330	20/05/24	Blackmail, Harassment, Mass Arrest, Unlawful Detention	State Actors & Non State Actors	Imo	MHSI NG
331	20/05/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Benue	THEDI
332	21/05/24	Mob Action, Threat to life, Harassment, Unlawful Arrest	Non State Actor	Abuja	DIHHR
333	22/05/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
334	22/05/24	Forced Marriage	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN

335	22/05/24	Forced Eviction, Harassment, Invasion of Privacy, Discrimination, Assault & Battery, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Oyo	TIERs
336	23/05/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Delta	KD
337	23/05/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion, Threat to life	Non State Actors	Rivers	KD
338	24/05/24	Harassment, Outing	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
339	26/05/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
340	26/05/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
341	26/05/24	Assault & Battery, Theft	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
342	27/05/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
343	29/05/24	Arbitrary Arrest, Invasion of Privacy	State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
344	29/05/24	Blackmail, Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
345	30/05/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
346	31/05/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
347	31/05/24	Threat to life, Assault & Battery, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Cross River	IGE-SRH
348	31/05/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Theft	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs

**June 2024**

349	02/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
350	06/02/2024	Sexual Assault, Forced Eviction, Assault & Battery, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Ekiti	AHRDI
351	02/06/24	Arbitrary Arrest, Invasion of Privacy, Mass Arrest	State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
352	03/06/24	Kito, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
353	04/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
354	04/06/24	Forced Eviction, Outing	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
355	06/06/24	Assault & Battery, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Oyo	TIERs
356	06/06/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Theft	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
357	06/06/24	Forced Eviction, Discrimination	Non State Actors	Delta	IGE-SRH
358	06/06/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
359	06/06/24	Kito, Extortion, Assault & Battery, Blackmail	State & Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
360	06/06/24	Extortion, Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actors	Benue	THEDI
361	07/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
362	08/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
363	08/06/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
364	08/06/24	Harassment, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
365	08/06/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
366	08/06/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
367	09/06/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
368	12/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
369	12/06/24	Blackmail, Outing, Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Plateau	HAHAI
370	12/06/24	Kito, Kidnapping, Assault & Battery, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
371	12/06/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Benue	THEDI

372	12/06/24	Mob Action, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Abuja	WHER
373	12/06/24	Assault & Battery, Unlawful Detention	State and Non State Actors	Abuja	TIERs
374	12/06/24	Discrimination	Non State Actor	Rivers	TIERs
375	13/06/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
376	13/06/24	Threats, Cyber Bullying	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
377	13/06/24	Assault & Battery, Theft	State and Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
378	14/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
379	14/06/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Ekiti	AHRDI
380	15/06/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
381	16/06/24	Kito, Sexual Assault, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISRHRA
382	16/06/24	Kito, Kidnapping, Blackmail, Assault & Battery, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
383	17/06/24	Harassment, Mass Arrest <sup>1</sup>	State & Non State Actors	Abia	MHSI NG
384	17/06/24	False accusation, Extortion, Harassment	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
385	18/06/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion, Threat to life	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
386	18/06/24	Outing, Forced Eviction, Harassment	Non State Actors	Abuja	WHER
387	18/06/24	Assault, Threat to life	Non State Actor	Taraba	TIERs
388	19/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
389	19/06/24	Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
390	19/06/24	Assault & Battery, Discrimination, Harassment	Non State Actors	Benue	THEDI
391	20/06/24	Harassment, Discrimination	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
392	20/06/24	Blackmail, Invasion of Privacy, Extortion, Theft, Outing	State & Non State Actors	Delta	ISRHRA
393	22/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
394	22/06/24	Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
395	22/06/24	Kito, Assault, Theft	Non State Actors	Imo	KD
396	22/06/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Gombe	THEDI
397	23/06/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
398	23/06/24	Kito, Kidnapping, Assault & Battery, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
399	24/06/24	Discrimination, Invasion of Privacy, Mob Action, Theft	Non State Actor	Edo	EIR-INITIATIVE
400	24/06/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
401	26/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
402	26/06/24	Sexual Assault, Blackmail	Non State Actors	Abuja	ICARH
403	26/06/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
404	26/06/24	Forced Eviction, Outing	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
405	26/06/24	Assault & Battery, Theft, Kito	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
406	27/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
407	27/06/24	Discrimination, Sexual Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
408	27/06/24	Arbitrary Arrest, Unlawful Detention, Extortion, Blackmail, Kito	State Actors	Kaduna	WIHYE
409	28/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI

410	29/06/24	Invasion of Privacy, Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
411	29/06/24	Harassment, Extortion	State Actors	Lagos	MW
412	29/06/24	Blackmail, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
413	30/06/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI

### July 2024

414	01/07/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
415	03/07/24	Kito, Assault, Blackmail, Extortion, Threat to life	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
416	03/07/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Harassment, Extortion	Non State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
417	04/07/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
418	07/05/24	Conversion practices, Forced confinement	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
419	07/05/24	Blackmail, extortion	Non State Actors	Ogun	TIERs
420	05/07/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
421	05/07/24	Outing, Harassment, Forced Confinement, Discrimination	Non State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
422	07/07/24	Blackmail, Threat to life, Assault, Battery, Rape	Non State Actor	Abuja	TIERs
423	08/07/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
424	08/07/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
425	08/07/24	Arbitrary Arrest, Unlawful Detention, invasion of Privacy	State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
426	08/07/24	Blackmail, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
427	08/07/24	Forced Confinement, Harassment, Assault	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
428	09/07/24	Kito, Assault, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
429	10/07/24	Discrimination	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
430	10/07/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
431	11/07/24	Harassment, Unlawful Arrest, Extortion	State Actors & Non State Actors	Imo	MHSI NG
432	11/07/24	Discrimination, Wrongful Dismissal	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
433	11/07/24	Sexual Assault, Forced Marriage	Non State Actors	Enugu	TIERs
434	12/07/24	Mob Action, Invasion of Privacy, Harassment	State Actor	Katsina	HAHAI
435	13/07/24	Kito, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
436	13/07/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
437	13/07/24	Assault, Harassment	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
438	13/07/24	Discrimination	Non State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
439	14/07/24	Outing, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Benue	TIERs
440	15/07/24	Blackmail, Extortion, Threat to life	State & Non State Actors	Kaduna	WIHYE
441	17/07/24	Conversion Practices, Intersex Genital Mutilation	Non State Actor	Abuja	DIHHR
442	17/07/24	Kito, Assault, Blackmail, Extortion, Threat to life	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
443	17/07/24	Harassment	State Actors	Lagos	RHRI



444	19/07/24	Kito, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
445	19/07/24	Harassment, Threat to life	Non State Actor	Ondo	ICTHARAE
446	19/07/24	Kito, Mob Action, Assault & Battery, Extortion, Theft	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
447	19/07/24	Kito, Kidnapping, Mob attack, Extortion, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
448	20/07/24	Outing, Discrimination	Non State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
449	21/07/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
450	07/2024	Outing, Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Imo	TIERs
451	26/07/24	Sexual Assault, Extortion, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
452	27/07/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Cross River	IGE-SRH
453	28/07/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
454	28/07/24	Assault & Battery, Threat to life, Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
455	30/07/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
456	30/07/24	Theft, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN

### August 2024

457	01/08/24	Forced Confinement, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
458	01/08/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
459	02/08/24	Unlawful dismissal	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
460	02/08/24	Harassment, assault & Battery, Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
461	02/08/24	Extortion	State & Non State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
462	03/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Anambra	AGHI
463	03/08/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
464	03/08/24	Forced Eviction, Sexual Assault	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
465	04/08/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
466	04/08/24	Blackmail, Extortion, Threat to life, Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Kaduna	WIHYE
467	05/08/24	Mob action, Assault, Discrimination	Landlady, Area Boys	Ghana	TIERs
468	05/08/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
469	05/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Edo	EIR-INITIATIVE
470	06/08/24	Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
471	06/08/24	Threat to Life	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
472	06/08/24	Assault, Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
473	07/08/24	Assault & Battery, Kidnapping	Non State Actors	Lagos	WHER
474	08/08/24	Murder	N/A	Abuja	TIERs
475	08/08/24	Harassment, Unlawful arrest	State & Non State Actors	Benin	TIERs
476	08/08/24	Kito, Assault & Battery, Kidnapping, Blackmail	State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
477	09/08/24	Arbitrary Arrest, Unlawful Detention, invasion of Privacy	State Actor	Anambra	AGHI
478	09/08/24	Kito, Sexual Assault, Mob action	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
479	09/08/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI

480	10/08/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
481	10/08/24	Blackmail, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
482	10/08/24	Forced Eviction, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
483	11/08/24	Extortion	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
484	11/08/24	Forced Eviction, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
485	11/08/24	Unlawful Detention, Arbitrary Arrest, Extortion	State & Non state Actors	Kaduna	WIHYE
486	12/08/24	Discrimination	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
487	12/08/24	Blackmail, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actor	Abia	AGHI
488	12/08/24	Blackmail, Assault & Battery, Harassment, Outing	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
489	12/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
490	12/08/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
491	13/08/24	Blackmail, Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
492	14/08/24	Kidnapping, Blackmail, Assault & Battery, Theft, Kito	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
493	14/08/24	Kito, Theft	Non State Actors	Lagos	KD
494	14/08/24	Kito, Kidnapping, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
495	14/08/24	Kito, Assault & Battery	State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
496	14/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
497	14/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
498	14/08/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
499	15/08/24	Forced Eviction, Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
500	15/08/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
501	15/08/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
502	15/08/24	Discrimination	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
503	15/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Abia	AGHI
504	15/08/24	Discrimination	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
505	15/08/24	Invasion of privacy, Extortion	State Actor	Anambra	AGHI
506	16/08/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
507	16/08/24	Invasion of Privacy, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Anambra	AGHI
508	17/08/24	Discrimination	Non State Actor	Anambra	AGHI
509	17/08/24	Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
510	17/08/24	Discrimination	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI
511	17/08/24	Assault & Battery, Mob action	Non State Actors	Anambra	AGHI
512	18/08/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
513	18/08/24	Discrimination, Harassment	Non State Actor	Edo	EIR-INITIATIVE
514	18/08/24	Harassment	Non State Actor	Osun	I-AIHD
515	18/08/24	Unlawful Arrest	State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
516	18/08/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
517	18/08/24	Outing, Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
518	18/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
519	19/08/24	Unlawful Arrest	State Actors	Gombe	RASE-I
520	19/08/24	Invasion of privacy, Extortion	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
521	20/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Ebonyi	AGHI

522	20/08/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
523	20/08/24	Kito, Sexual Assault & Battery, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
524	20/08/24	Kito, Sexual Assault & Battery, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
525	20/08/24	Kito, Sexual Assault & Battery, Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
526	20/08/24	Assault & Battery, Harassment	Non State Actor	Lagos	TIERs
527	20/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
528	20/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
529	21/08/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
530	21/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Anambra	AGHI
531	21/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
532	21/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
533	22/08/24	Harassment	Non State Actor	Niger	CHIYN
534	22/08/24	Assault & Battery	Non State Actor	Ondo	ICTHARAE
535	22/08/24	Conversion Practices, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
536	22/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actor	Imo	AGHI
537	23/08/24	Harassment, Outing	Non State Actors	Lagos	RHRI
538	23/08/24	Forced Eviction	Non State Actor	Enugu	AGHI
539	23/08/24	Arbitrary Arrest, Unlawful Detention	Non State Actor	Anambra	AGHI
540	08/24	Harassment, Forced Eviction	Non State Actors	Lagos	TIERs
541	25/08/24	Extortion, Harassment , Outing, Invasion of Privacy	Non State Actors	Abia	MHSI NG
542	25/08/24	Harassment, invasion of privacy, Forced Eviction, Assault & Battery	Non State Actors	Abuja	MW
543	25/08/24	Kito, Mob Action, Assault & Battery, Extortion	Non State Actors	Lagos	MW
544	26/08/24	Arbitrary Arrest, Unlawful Detention	State Actor	Abuja	ICARH
545	26/08/24	Assault	Non State Actors	Nasarawa	ICARH
546	26/08/24	Blackmail	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
547	26/08/24	Assault & Battery, Conversion Practices, Invasion of privacy	Non State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
548	29/08/24	Threat to Life, Extortion	State Actor	Abuja	ICARH
549	29/08/24	Sexual Assault	Non State Actor	Ondo	ICTHARAE
550	29/08/24	Harassment	Non State Actors	Lagos	ISHRAI
551	29/08/24	Murder, Harassment	Non State Actor	Gombe	RASE-I
552	29/08/24	Harassment, Assault & Battery, Mob Action	Non State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
553	29/08/24	Kito, Blackmail, Assault & Battery, Extortion, Outing, Kidnapping	Non State Actors	Kaduna	WIHYE
554	30/08/24	Kito, Sexual Assault, Blackmail, Assault	Non State Actors	Ogun	MW
555	30/08/24	Forced Eviction, Discrimination	Non State Actors	Gombe	THEDI
556	30/08/24	Harassment, Extortion, Blackmail, Unlawful Detention, Hate Speech	State Actors	Lagos	TIERs

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# RECOMMENDATIONS

## 1. To the Nigerian Government

- Repeal the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act (SSMPA) and similar repressive laws across Nigeria, including those criminalizing same-sex relationships and gender diversity.
- Ensure the full protection of constitutionally provided rights, irrespective of sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Publicly denounce violence and discrimination against individuals based on actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression, as recommended in Resolution 275 of the African Commission.
- Act on the African Commission's call to review laws that restrict the rights to assembly and association.
- Enact and enforce laws to prevent hate speech and actions inciting discrimination against LGBTQIA+ individuals.
- Uphold constitutional and treaty provisions on universal human rights across public and private institutions.
- Reinforce medical ethics around confidentiality and non-discrimination, ensuring access to inclusive healthcare for all.

## 2. To the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

- Provide comprehensive training to commission members on sexual orientation and gender identity to address bias and improve knowledge of legal protections.
- Collaborate with LGBTQIA+ human rights organisations to raise awareness and reduce the exclusion of issues affecting LGBTQIA+ individuals.

- Advocate against statements and actions inciting violence or discrimination by religious, political, and societal leaders.
- Develop accessible and safe processes for reporting human rights abuses based on actual or perceived sexual orientation.

## 3. To the Nigerian Police Force

- Cease arbitrary stops, searches of devices, raids, and arrests targeting LGBTQIA+ individuals.
- Refrain from misinterpreting or misapplying laws to justify extrajudicial actions against LGBTQIA+ individuals.
- Investigate and prosecute incidents of violence against LGBTQIA+ persons, ensuring accountability.
- Partner with civil society organisations to improve officers' understanding of LGBTQIA+ rights and human rights frameworks.

## 4. To Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

- Recognise and mainstream LGBTQIA+ rights as integral to the broader human rights agenda, incorporating them into health, gender, and human rights initiatives.
- Champion the national program of action for the protection of LGBTQIA+ rights, amplifying issues in local, national, and international platforms.
- Act as vocal and visible allies to LGBTQIA+ individuals and organizations, supporting their efforts in combating discrimination and promoting inclusivity.

## 5. To Medical Institutions

- Train healthcare providers to deliver confidential and unbiased services, particularly for LGBTQIA+ individuals and key populations, including MSM, gay men and transgender women, and enforce non-discrimination policies.
- Scale up HIV services and ensure equitable access for key populations disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS.
- Establish protocols to monitor and address discrimination within healthcare systems.

## 6. To Employers and Labour Institutions

- Implement and enforce anti-discrimination policies protecting employees from bias based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and HIV status.

- Foster diversity and inclusion programs to ensure equitable opportunities for LGBTQIA+ individuals.

## 7. To Families and Friends

- Educate families on creating supportive and affirming environments for LGBTQIA+ loved ones.
- Encourage families and friends to seek counseling and educational materials to better support LGBTQIA+ individuals.

## 8. To Religious Institutions

- Advocate for compassion and dignity for all individuals, emphasizing acceptance and inclusivity in faith communities.
- Facilitate conversations that challenge harmful stereotypes and foster understanding of sexual and gender diversity.

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## ABOUT US AND PARTNERS

**The Initiative for Equal Rights (TIERs)** is a Nigeria-based registered non-profit organisation working to create a society where human rights are guaranteed regardless of status, identity, orientation and affiliation. We exist to protect, uphold and promote the rights and humanity of all Nigerians through advocacy, empowerment, education, and the provision of safe platforms of convergence. We were founded in 2005 as a response to the discrimination and marginalisation of sexual minorities in HIV prevention programming, human rights protection, advocacy, and mainstream human rights work.

**Access to Good Health Initiative (AGHI)** is a community-based organisation working for sexual minorities on HIV/AIDS-related issues and human rights interventions within the southeastern states (Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu and Imo state, respectively) with her headquarters in Enugu state Nigeria. AGHI has been serving and supporting LGBTI community members in many diverse ways. Most of the time, with little or no donor funds, AGHI has reached out to many of her community members to sensitize them on basic knowledge and information regarding human rights violations.

**Access to Health and Rights Development Initiative (AHRDI)** was founded in January 2013 with the name Center for Life Development (CLD), due to the registration with Corporate Affairs Commission the name changed to Access To Health and Rights Development Initiative (AHRDI) in Lagos state and they operate as a not-for-profit human rights organization. It came into existence as a platform and response to the health challenges faced by marginalized groups and individuals. AHRDI envisions a society where sexual and reproductive health and rights needs of individuals are guaranteed, with young people playing a critical role. AHRDI's mission is to work with relevant stakeholders to protect and promote the sexual health and

rights needs of individuals and groups especially sexual minorities through capacity strengthening, advocacy, community mobilization, information dissemination and service delivery.

**Achievers Improved Health Initiative (AIHI)** is a Nonprofit organization founded in 2014, duly registered with the Nigerian Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) and began full operation in 2019 to address the health, rights, and wellbeing needs of all persons including diverse marginalized communities in Nigeria. Our primary purpose was to provide quality information and access to services that would reduce stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS, non-conforming identities, and improve quality of life. Today our work has expanded to incorporate broader aspects of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Non-Communicable Diseases awareness and care, mental health, empowerment, and advocacy, and we have adopted Feminist principles to drive actionable steps towards strategic movement building, inclusion, dismantling of biases, advocacy and transformative leadership in the full realization of human rights..

**Community Health Initiative for Youths in Nigeria ('CHIYN')** is a non-governmental organization that is sensitive to the plight of specific groups within our society who are often unjustifiably classified as counterculture. We aim to be versatile to the implementation of the basic needs that are ordinarily not easily accessible to marginalized groups in our society. We engage the community in a number of human rights issues, such as internally displaced children, and women's rights issues. Founded in 2015, CHIYN is registered with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) on the 16th of April 2016. CHIYN Nigeria seeks to advocate for, educate, and empower sexual minorities, with a focus on the marginalized population. CHIYN operates in three (3) States within the country including the Federal Capital Territory.

**Creme de la Creme House of Fame Foundation** is a Trans and Non-Binary Focus Organization in Nigeria working to empower the community through vocational skill training, Economic empowerment, provision of Human Rights Service, Gender base Services, HIV Counselling Services, Provision of Safe Shelters for the Homeless Trans and Non-binary persons, documenting incidents of violence against the community as a tool for advocacy to lobby for Policy and Legal Reforms in the country for a safer environment. CDLC aims to contribute to the improvement of the lives of Trans persons in Nigeria towards Access to Healthcare Services, Rights, Safety and Education through strong Activism, Advocacy, Vocational training and Sensitization.

**Dynamic Initiative for Healthcare and Human Rights (DIHHR)** is a trans/intersex-led organization advocating for the rights of transgenders, intersex persons and gender non-conforming individuals in Nigeria.

**Excellent Improved Reachout Initiative (EIR)** also known as **Pure Heart for Youth and Vulnerable Persons' Initiative** is a non-profit LGBTQI community-based organization for LGBTQI persons living with disabilities.

**Hope Alive Health Awareness Initiative (HAHAI)** is a human rights organisation working within the context of its socio-cultural environment. It was founded in October 2011 following the arrest of some men in Bauchi state. The arrest hit close to home and brought an urgent need to address the rejection and abuse suffered by the LGBT community in the conservative northern part of Nigeria. In addition to this, HAHAI sought to address the self-hatred and blame felt by LGBT individuals within northern Nigeria because of their sexuality. This prompted the founding of HAHAI to support the LGBT population in the North on issues such as

self-acceptance, access to legal issues and health care services.

**Improved Sexual Health and Rights Advocacy Initiative (ISHRAI)** was founded in 2014 and formally registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission in 2017. ISHRAI was formed by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Queer persons who were facing high levels of stigma, discrimination, human rights and health rights violation in their attempt to access basic and fundamental conventional services provided by the State. It was registered to promote the health and rights of marginalised groups in Nigeria, especially, LGBTQ persons, through advocacy, active participation, service delivery and innovative engagement processes.

**Initiative for Improved Male Health (I-IMH)** is a community-based organization dedicated to providing healthcare services to key populations in Nigeria specifically in Cross River state. They are committed to improving the health and wellbeing of men in the community.

**Initiative for Gender Equality and Sexual Reproductive Health (IGE-SRH)** is a sub-national, youth-led organization that has been established to improve the lives of marginalized communities in Nigeria. Our organization was founded in 2020 with a focus on promoting the rights and meaningful inclusion of people in marginalized communities who have been subjected to discrimination and exclusion.

**Initiative for Gender Equality Health and Right (GEHAR-I)** was founded in 2019 to provide HIV prevention, psycho social care and support to Transgender men and women and vulnerable population who are at high risk of HIV infection, empower them with adequate knowledge on sexual reproductive health and right and also issues

associated with gender identity and preference in Nigeria. GEHARI's mission is to facilitate the progress of HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support while eliminating Gender based discrimination and violence against the trans community and their sexual partner through advocacy, empowerment, and capacity building in Nigeria.

**Initiative for Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights Awareness (ISRHRA)** was birthed by a group of young African feminist and sexual minority women who came together to form a formidable force against inequality in Nigeria. ISRHRA promotes, protects and advances the fundamental human rights of lesbians, bisexual and queer women in Nigeria. The Organization is positioned to lead advocacy in ending discrimination and stigmatization of lesbians, bisexual and queer women in Nigeria and inclusion in policy making as equal members of the society. ISRHRA was founded in 2015 and has tried to maintain links between grassroots sexual minority organizations at the national and international level.

**Initiative for the Advancement of Improved Health & Development (I - AIHD)** is a human rights & healthcare non-governmental organisation, providing healthcare services for vulnerable people in Nigeria through public education, direct service delivery and so on.

**International Centre for Advocacy on Rights to Health (ICARH)** is an independent initiative registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission of Nigeria to contribute to policy issues affecting the rights of sexual minorities and PLWHAs in Nigeria through research analysis, training, awareness campaign development and advocacy. ICARH was established in 1999 to fill a vacuum within the civil society's landscape. In healthcare, ICARH works to reduce the incidence, prevalence and impact of HIV/AIDs amongst key populations. Presently,

ICARH implements HIV prevention and Palliative Care programs. These programs include the management of MSM Living with HIV (MSMLHIV) through medical research, community-based HIV prevention project and ARV clinic for members of Key Affected Populations in the FCT. ICARH also supports her target community with human rights and paralegal services to ensure the promotion and protection of the rights of sexual minorities.

**International Centre for Total Health and Rights Advocacy Empowerment (ICTHARAE)** exists to advocate, propagate and resonate the rights of disadvantaged persons to social, legal and wellbeing in-respective of ethnic group, culture, sexual orientation and gender identity.

**Kito Diaries (KD)** started out as a blog that intended simply to tell the stories of LGBT Nigerians and provide the narrative of the community that mainstream media and public would rather bury. But in the years since its creation in 2014, it has grown into a community that does more than tell stories. It provides guidance on issues regarding safety, especially pertaining to the hookup culture amongst gay people, forges connections between community members and the provisions they need, such as healthcare and welfare, and creates an enabling environment that allows for those in the community who would otherwise believe they're alone to know that there's a whole community of people like them who exist.

**Men's Health Support Initiative (MHSI)** is an indigenous non-for-profit organization, birthed to enhance accessible healthcare and quality service delivery towards the vulnerable populations

**Minority Watch** focus areas include providing legal support, engaging in strategic litigation, and advocating for gender justice. Minority Watch



strives to create a more inclusive and accepting society where LGBTQI+ individuals can live without fear of discrimination or persecution. They offer legal representation to LGBTQI+ individuals facing various challenges, such as discrimination, violence, wrongful arrests, and human rights violations based on their sexual orientation and gender identity.

**Responsive Action for Sustainable Empowerment Initiative (RASE-I)** was founded to achieve Gender Equality and Sustainable Development through Community Engagement, Advocacy, Leadership development and Education Research.

**Response to Health and Rights Initiative (RHRI)** is a community-based organization that prioritizes comprehensive care for the LGBTQI+ Community here in Lagos, Nigeria, especially to the GBQMSM, HRM drug users, trans-persons, inmates, and vulnerable children.

**Total Health Empowerment and Development Initiative (THEDI)** was founded in 2010 to promote the health and legal rights of vulnerable persons in Nigeria. THEDI is an LGBTQIA+ led, focused & competent organization, actively contributing to addressing priority community needs like all forms of human rights violations, safety & security challenges, family rejection & homelessness, HIV & other sexual/reproductive health issues, etc.; through community-led approaches. THEDI also leads community advocacies, mobilization and strengthening/ engagement approaches aimed at community sustainability. THEDI has over the years recorded, addressed and documented human rights violations, provided HIV/STI/GBV prevention services to gay men/other men who have sex with men and transgender persons, and linked many to ART, PrEP & PEP services; to mention a few services in Benue & Gombe States.

**Wave Makers Initiative for Health and Youth Empowerment (WIHYE)** is a KP (Bisexual)-Led (LGBTQI+) organisation founded in 2010. It is a Non-Governmental (Community Based) Organization, Non-Political, Not-for-Profit and Non-Religious, Indigenous and Dynamic Organization that provides grass-root access to health, defence of the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of persons with diverse SOGIESC, while delivering comprehensive human-centred HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support, and other Human Rights services to marginalized and vulnerable populations. It is duly registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission and Nigeria Youth Clubs/ Associations Edict. It is also registered with the Nigerian Network of NGOs, the Nigerian Key Populations Health and Rights Network, Civil Society for HIV and AIDS in Nigeria.

**Women's Health and Equal Rights (WHER) Initiative** is a not for profit, organisation, focused on promoting the rights and well-being of lesbian, bisexual and queer (LBQ) women in Nigeria by addressing the psychosocial effect of the dual discrimination faced by LBQ women and their under-representation in Nigeria. WHER aims at promoting a deeper conceptual knowledge of sexuality and sexual orientation, providing access to health and other support services to LBQ women through research, advocacy, education, empowerment and other direct services. Since inception in 2011, WHER has been addressing the issues faced by women which include gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive rights abuses.

# WHERE TO GET HELP FOR LGBTQIA+ PEOPLE FACING VIOLATIONS DUE TO SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY AND GENDER EXPRESSION

ORGANIZATIONS	HANDLES	HELPLINE	STATE
ISHRAI - Improved Sexual Health and Rights Advocacy Initiative	@ishrai_n (Instagram) @ishrainig (Twitter)	08156843504, 08039663031	LAGOS
AHRDI - Access to Health & Rights Development Initiative	@ahrdinitiative (Instagram)	09074611520, 08138520093 07033466851	LAGOS & BENIN
ICARH - International Centre for Advocacy on the Rights to Health	@icarh_ng (Instagram & Twitter)	08002255422774	ABUJA
AGHI - Access Good Health Initiative	@aghinigeria (Instagram & Twitter)	09027770808 08065187179	ENUGU
INCREASE	@increse_nig	08065488417	NIGER
TIERs - The Initiative for Equal Rights	@tiersnigeria (Instagram & Twitter)	09088939562 08134357704	NATIONAL
CDLC – Creme de la Creme House of Fame Foundation	@cdlcf (Instagram)	07035451975 07030452952	ABUJA
THEDI - Total Health Empowerment and Development Initiative	@Thedi__ng (Instagram)	07065858417	GOMBE
CHIYN – Community Health Initiative for Youth in Nigeria	@Chiyn_initiative (Instagram)	07061813401	ABUJA
RHRI – Response to Health and Right Initiative	@Rhri__ (Instagram)	08178688729	LAGOS

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The 2024 Human Rights Violations Report was compiled by Alexandra Maduagwu.

Edited by Chimdimma Ike.

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## APPENDIX

### **SAME SEX MARRIAGE (PROHIBITION) ACT 2013**

**A**n Act to prohibit a marriage contract or civil union entered into between persons of same sex, solemnization of same; and for related matters.

[7th Day of January, 2014] [Commencement]

Enacted by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

#### **Prohibition of marriage or civil union by persons of same sex**

1. (1) A marriage contract or civil union entered into between persons of same sex:
  - (a) is prohibited in Nigeria; and
  - (b) shall not be recognized as entitled to the benefits of a valid marriage.
- (2) A marriage contract or civil union entered into between persons of same sex by virtue of a certificate issued by a foreign country is void in Nigeria, and any benefit accruing therefrom by virtue of the certificate shall not be enforced by any court of law.

#### **[Solemnization of same sex marriage in places of worship]**

2. (1) A marriage contract or civil union entered into between persons of same sex shall not be solemnized in a church, mosque or any other place of worship in Nigeria.

- (2) No certificate issued to persons of same sex in a marriage or civil union shall be valid in Nigeria.

#### **[Recognized Marriage in Nigeria]**

3. Only a marriage contracted between a man and a woman shall be recognized as valid in Nigeria.

#### **[Registration of homosexual clubs and societies]**

4. (1) The Registration of gay clubs, societies and organisations, their sustenance, processions and meetings is prohibited.
- (2) The public show of same sex amorous relationship directly or indirectly is prohibited.

#### **[Offences and Penalties]**

5. (1) A person who enters into a same sex marriage contract or civil union commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a term of 14 years imprisonment.
- (2) A person who registers, operates or participates in gay clubs, societies and organization, or directly or indirectly makes public show of same sex amorous relationship in Nigeria commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a term of 10 years imprisonment.

- (3) A person or group of persons who administers, witnesses, abets, or aids the solemnization of a same sex marriage or civil union, or supports the registration, operation and sustenance of gay clubs, societies, organizations, processions or meetings in Nigeria commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a term of 10 years imprisonment.

#### [Jurisdiction]

6. The High Court of a State or of the Federal capital Territory shall have jurisdiction to entertain matters arising from the breach of the provisions of this Act.

#### [Interpretation]

7. In this Act:

*“Marriage” means a legal union entered into between persons of opposite sex in accordance with the Marriage Act, Islamic Law or Customary Law;*

*“Court” means High Court of a State or of the Federal Capital Territory;*

*“Same sex marriage” means the coming together of persons of the same sex with the purpose of living together as husband and wife or for other purposes of same sexual relationship;*

*“Witness” means a person who signs or witnesses the solemnization of the marriage; and*

*“civil union” means any arrangement between persons of the same sex to live together as sex partners, and includes such description as:*

adult independent relationships;  
caring partnerships;  
civil partnerships;  
civil solidarity pacts;  
domestic partnerships;  
reciprocal beneficiary relationships;  
registered partnerships;  
significant relationships; and  
stable unions.

#### [Citation]

8. This Act may be cited as the Same Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act, 2014.







## THE INITIATIVE FOR EQUAL RIGHTS

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