



JAPAN
METROPOLITAN
MODEL
UNITED
NATIONS

United Nations Human Rights Committee (UNHRC)

Background Guide Topic:
The Rights of LGBTQ People



Senzoku Gakuen Model United Nations February 9-10 2019
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Director's Note

Dear Delegates,

Thank you so much for applying to Japan Metropolitan Model United Nations. My name is May Yamamoto and I will be the Director for the United Nations Human Rights Council. This year, we will be discussing the matters of the protection of LGBTQ rights and hopefully gain knowledge about the process of the conference as well. I am currently enrolled as a second-year student in Senzoku Gakuen High School and I lived in the US for first 8 years of my life. Having participated in Harvard MUN last winter and taking part in last year's JMMUN as a chair in the beginner's committee, I am excited to come back to this platform again and have the opportunity to direct this conference. I am looking forward to hearing each delegate's ideas and excited to see each representative gather to discuss and present thoughtful solutions.

My experience with Model United Nations started five years ago when I had just become a student at this school. Being a younger sister of an active participant in the MUN club, I was drawn into the fresh atmosphere. However, after participating in my first simulation, I had no idea what was going on and cowardly, I took a step back and didn't come back. I was overwhelmed by the frantic talking and the massive amount of information I had to handle. I felt like I didn't belong there and stopped myself from trying something challenging.

This is what some delegates might feel during the two days of the upcoming conference. However, preparing yourself by knowing your country's stance, questioning every small detail and keeping up with the news can build your confidence. Having ideas written in a way that is presentable has helped me be organized and know when to join in debate. We all understand how uncomfortable it is to interact with others and state an opinion in English, thus knowing how to express your country's beliefs and script a speech becomes imperative in the preparation process. I wish for delegates to challenge themselves and to have a meaningful experience in this beginners' committee.

The topic we chose is probably something you have heard of at least once, therefore, we expect depth in the discussions and the ability to understand the basics of LGBTQ rights. Each nation holds different backgrounds so being aware of which countries are in similar situations as your country is the key to finding the appropriate block to be a part of.

Lastly, I am looking forward to an interesting conference full of unique and logical ideas from all the delegates. MUN has taught me so many things starting with public speaking skills, the importance of being able to look at issue from multiple perspectives and the value of engaging in conversations with people all around the world. I hope for delegates to have an experience where they can assimilate something important and share that knowledge with others.

Sincerely,



May Yamamoto

Director, United Nations Human Rights Council

Japan Metropolitan Model United Nations

Dear Delegates,

Thank you so much for applying to the 5th annual Japan Metropolitan Model United Nations. My name is Yuki Mizumura and I will be the director for this committee. This year's topic for the beginners' committee is the protection of LGBTQ rights, and is an extremely relevant one in today's world as it is undergoing a stage where previous concepts, such as opposite-sex marriages, are being questioned and weighed against other values such as religion, customs, and culture. How to structure the delicate balance between modern and traditional ideas will likely be a key clash point in this committee. Differences in each country's values are becoming increasingly prominent than before, and the UNHRC is faced with the difficult task of uniting these countries and accepting differences.

As chair, I sincerely hope that every delegate will gain insight into this topic by holding discussions with fellow delegates, and I myself am eager to note the different stances each country has on this issue and to learn how universal acceptance of minorities can be achieved through delegates' ideas. Beginners at Model UN may find presenting a speech in front of dozens of people and negotiating with them intimidating at first, as I remember feeling so when I first joined this club in junior high school. However, I trust that delegates will overcome their fears and achieve major personal growth by researching the topic extensively, prepare detailed solutions, and being unafraid to speak up.

Sincerely,



Yuki Mizumura

Director, United Nations Human Rights Council
Japan Metropolitan Model United Nations

Introduction

In 2016, The UNHRC (United Nations Human Rights Council) stated that the international community must “ treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing, and with the same emphasis, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind”.¹ The council promises to be responsible for promoting protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity “ regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems”.

The UNHRC has not confirmed the number or percentage of individuals who identify as LGBTQIA or the level in range of which those individuals place themselves in society. In order to tackle this international issue, it is required that each delegation acknowledge their country’s current situation and possible influences this LGBTQIA right may act on to the government and citizens. The chairs also ask the delegates to understand that the intention of the conference is aimed towards all individuals resembling the identities from the range between man and woman and

those who fit outside of this measurement as well. Focusing on just one type of identity is not applicable to the main argument of this conference. In addition, delegates must keep in mind that the focus is to be kept on the political, cultural, and emotional aspects - not on the biological impacts.

History of the Committee

History of UNHRC

The UNHRC (United Nations Human Rights Council) is an intergovernmental body that monitors and investigates situations in nations where international focus is drawn, acting for its responsibility for the protection and the promotion of human rights around the globe. Established in 2006, the council consists of 47 UN member states elected by the General assembly. The council has dealt with situations such as gender-based violence, crimes against humanity, the use of chemical weapons etc. The UNHRC works closely with the OHCHR (The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) as it maintains similar goals to represent the world's commitment to universal ideals of human dignity.²

USA’s Withdrawal

¹ “United Nations Official Document.” *United Nations*, United Nations.

² “OHCHR | Who We Are.” *OHCHR | Convention on the Rights of the Child*,

On June 19th, 2018, the United States of America announced that it has chosen to withdraw from the committee due to the nation's claim of Israel's receiving of political bias. Israel has been in the committee's attention regularly in regard to the situation in the ground of many Palestinians.³ However, this action inevitably raises questions and consideration of fairness, confronting that there are also other nations to focus on which suffer in more severe conditions of the violation of human rights. The United States of America has cleared the fact that this step is not a retreat from human rights commitments but to clarify the nation's true wills to take the appropriate actions for the protection of human rights.

Key Terms and Concept

Sexual Orientation

An enduring emotional, romantic, sexual, or affectional attraction towards other people.⁴

³ Griffiths, James. "What Message Does US Leaving UN Human Rights Council Send to the World?" *CNN*, Cable News Network, 20 June

⁴ "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual Resource Center." *Words That Hurt | Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual Resource Center*,

Gender Identity

A sense of one's identity that may or may not correspond to the assigned sex at birth.

LGBTQ

The abbreviation of the words: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer. This group is a gathering of individuals whose sexual orientation and gender identity are unmatched.

- Lesbian...a person who identifies as female whose affection is towards people of the same gender identity.
- Gay...a person who identifies as male whose sexual and affectional orientation is towards people of the same gender identity.
- Bisexual...a person whose affection is towards both people of the same and opposite gender.
- Transgender...often abbreviated to the term, "trans". Describes a wide range of people who experiences a condition where one's behavior and expression doesn't correspond to their assigned sex according to society.
- Queer...a stance that captures multiple aspects of identities and used to describe people who are exist outside of the heteronormative paradigm.

History

Pre-history of LGBTQ

LGBTQ activism existed from the early days as substantial evidence on whether homosexual activity or same sex love were accepted or persecuted in every culture exists. The forbiddance of homosexuality existed in ancient Europe and has prospered between both men and women in Ancient Greece. On the other hand, same sex desire was inscribed by Sappho in the seventh century BCE and cases that youths were raised as the opposite sex they were born exist within areas ranging from Albania and Afghanistan.⁵ In Kenya, female husbands were a symbol for women in Igboland as women who were considered exceptional in the eyes of society due to their wealth and/or social standing had the authority to possess another woman as their husband, son or siblings.⁶ In the age of European exploration, North African and Pacific islanders such as the Native American Two Spirits, who were male, female, and sometimes intersexed* individuals who combined activities of both men and women, shocked the European invaders.⁷ Having only a limited

understanding of “masculine” and “feminine” roles, European powers enforced their own criminal codes against these “undesired” situations where death penalties were carried out by the Spanish in Florida in 1566.⁸ This incident remains as the first known executions because of homosexual activity.

True Sex Hidden Behind Clothes

Women and girls, economically troubled by the society looking upon them with sexism that kept them out of jobs and education designated for men and boys, made a choice to “disguise” themselves as male. This decision was not made for the purpose of transgender but developed from the will to receive equal treatment from society. Deborah Sampson, an American woman, disguised herself as a man named Robert Shurtleff during the American Revolution where she joined the Patriot forces. For over two years, she kept her true sex secret to maintain her position in the military and fight for her own country.⁹

Another example is, roles in art have limited spots between male and female. In venues from Shakespeare’s theatre to Japanese Kabuki to the Chinese opera, these lead to the creation of a high status

⁵ *Monitor on Psychology*, American Psychological Association.

⁶ “The Fascinating History of Africa’s Female Husbands.” *Face2Face Africa*, 5 Apr. 2018

⁷ “Who Are the Two Spirits?” *Two Spirit Q & A*,

⁸ University of Nebraska-Lincoln. “LGBTQA History Timeline.” *Responding to Bias and Being an Ally | Student Involvement | Nebraska*.

⁹ “Deborah Sampson.” *National Women’s History Museum*,

performance and the recruiting of such cultures even remain to this day. This acceptance of the performers has not only amused audiences with its distinctive characteristics but also revealed that the area of arts is often an accepting sanctuary for LGBTQ individuals.

Modern History

Henry Gerber is the creator of the Society for Human Rights in 1924. This first documented gay rights organization took place in Chicago where sodomy laws were first taken to consideration and protracted all around the world.¹⁰ Following these influences, the first lesbian organization, Daughters of Bilitis (DOB) was generated in 1955 in San Francisco. The organization published the popular magazine *The Ladder* with the determination to promote lesbian rights in the homophile* movement.¹¹

The Stonewall Riots

Six nights of spontaneous, murderous demonstrations lasted starting from June 28th, 1969. Similar to the Black civil right movement, LGBTQ citizens of the United States of America demanding acceptance and equality fought against a

police raid in at the Stonewall Inn Manhattan, a local gay bar. The LGBTQ were in an unmanageable, overpowering the police while the police came back every night, mortified that they had been disgraced by so many “queer” people. 13 were arrested and many were hospitalized, but within months, several activists, newspapers and organizations stood up to fight the discrimination.

This movement was not like any other LGBTQ activism, but an eruption that awakened individuals to the anger and frustration of how gender identity and sexual orientation value to them. This all started because the transgender people of color decided to fight back, protesting the importance and fairness of holding LGBTQ rights. The riots alone would not be remembered today if they had not been followed by organizations that transmitted the raw outrage into an ongoing social force. Violence raised the first awareness of the current situation as LGBTQ movements became more prosperous and sincerer.¹²

Sub Topics

LGBTQ and Religion

Christianity

¹⁰ “Strategies for Sodomy Law Repeal.” *A History of Oregon's Major LGBTQ Equality Organizations*,

¹¹ “FoundSF.” *Women's Liberation Origins and Development of the Movement - FoundSF*,

¹² Wolf, Sherry. “Stonewall: The Birth of Gay Power.” *International Socialist Review*,

The Catholic Church views any sexual act not related to procreation* by couples joined under the Sacrament of Matrimony as sinful, which means all homosexual acts are considered sinful.^{13 14} Basing itself on Sacred Scripture, which presents homosexual acts as acts of grave depravity, tradition has always declared that "homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered." They are contrary to the natural law. They close the sexual act to the gift of life. They do not proceed from a genuine affective and sexual complementarity. Under no circumstances can they be approved.

However, while the church states homosexual acts as sinful, the number of men and women who have deep-seeded homosexual tendencies is not negligible. This inclination*, which is objectively disordered, constitutes for most of them a trial. They must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided. These persons are called to fulfill God's will in their lives and, if they are Christians, to unite to the sacrifice of the Lord's Cross the difficulties they may encounter from their condition.¹⁵

¹³ "Vocation to Chastity." *Catechism of The Catholic Church*,

¹⁴ "The Sacrament of Matrimony." *Catechism of The Catholic*

¹⁵ *Catechism of The Catholic Church*,

Orthodox churches consider homosexuality to be approached as the result of humanity's rebellion against God, and so against its own nature and well-being. It is not to be taken as a way of living and acting for men and women made in God's image and likeness.

Men and women with homosexual feelings and emotions are to be treated with the understanding, acceptance, love, justice and mercy due to all human beings. People with homosexual tendencies are to be helped to admit these feelings to themselves and to others who will not reject or harm them. They are to seek assistance in discovering the specific causes of their homosexual orientation, and to work toward overcoming its harmful effects in their lives. Persons struggling with homosexuality who accept the Orthodox faith and strive to fulfill the Orthodox way of life may be communicants of the Church with everyone else who believes and struggles. Those instructed and counseled in Orthodox Christian doctrine* and ascetical* life who still want to justify their behavior may not participate in the Church's sacramental mysteries, since to do so would not help, but harm them. Assistance is to be given to those who deal with persons of homosexual orientation in order to help them with their thoughts, feelings and actions in regard to homosexuality.

Such assistance is especially necessary for parents, relatives and friends

of persons with homosexual tendencies and feelings. It is certainly necessary for pastors and church workers.¹⁶ On the other hand, certain other Protestant churches with liberal position do not view same sex relationship as sinful or immoral and may approve these couple's marriage.^{17 18 19}

Judaism

The sources of Judaism's traditional position on homosexuality and gay issues are well known. Two verses in Leviticus (Leviticus 18:23 and Leviticus 20:13) express unequivocal condemnation of male homosexual sex (although it is not clear whether what is referred to is intercourse or all sexual acts between men). According to Leviticus 20:13: "If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them."

The traditional Jewish position on homosexuality is still difficult for many liberal-minded Jews, and the liberal denominations have debated the extent to

which gays and lesbians can be fully integrated into religious communities.²⁰

Islam

Islamic scholars overwhelmingly teach that same-gender sex is a sin. The Muslim holy book the Quran, along with the other Abrahamic religions, tells the story of Lot and the destruction of Sodom - and sodomy in Arabic is known as "liwat," based on Lot's name. Men having sex with each other should be punished, the Quran says, but it doesn't say how - and it adds that they should be left alone if they repent. The death penalty instead comes from the Hadith, or accounts of the sayings of the Prophet Muhammad. The accounts differ on the method of killing, and some accounts give lesser penalties in some circumstances. Yet, despite that teaching, Muslims in some countries have indicated support for LGBT rights. Just over 40 percent of U.S. Muslims said they supported same-sex marriage last year, in a survey by the Washington-based Public Religion Research Institute. In addition, a small number of Islamic scholars, mainly in the West, have started re-examining Islamic teaching on same-gender sex and have concluded that the blanket condemnation is a misinterpretation.

¹⁶ "Synodal Affirmations on Marriage, Family, Sexuality, and the Sanctity of Life" *Orthodox Church In America*, July, 1992

¹⁷ Dewan, Shalia. "United Church of Christ Backs Same-Sex Marriage" *The New York Times*, July 5, 2005,

¹⁸ "French Protestant church authorises gay marriages" *The World and All Its Voices*

¹⁹ Sademan, John. "Uniting Church to hold same sex marriages" *Eternity News*, July 13, 2018,

²⁰ "Jewish Views on Homosexuality" *My Jewish Learning*,

However, this review is only just beginning and is not widely accepted.²¹²²

Buddhism

Based on the teachings of Siddhartha Gautama, Buddhism is considered a way of life for more than 700 million individuals across the globe. It is sometimes described more as a philosophy or psychology than a religion. Because of Buddhism's core theme to attain enlightenment, the path one chooses to take within the religion is largely personal, as is one's beliefs. Hence, most Buddhist literature indicates that opposition to or support for marriage rights for same-sex couples is a personal, rather than religious, statement.²³

LGBTQ Discrimination

The people face discrimination and other violations of their rights because of both their real or presumed SOGIESC (sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and/or sex characteristics) and disability. For example, the Russian study showed that 66.4% of LGBTQ persons with disabilities experienced discrimination on

the ground of disability, and 62.1% on the ground of sexual orientation. The study from the UK also showed the extensive discrimination faced by lesbian, gay and bisexual people with disabilities. The results of a survey of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights demonstrate that out of 93,079 LGBTQ respondents, 4% had personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the 12 months before the survey on the ground of their disability. Multiple studies show a higher rate of physical and mental health problems in groups of LGBTQ people compared to non-LGBT counterparts.²⁴

Discrimination against LGBTQ individuals is often exacerbated by other identity factors, such as sex, ethnicity, age and religion, and socioeconomic factors, such as poverty and armed conflict. The impact of such multiple forms of discrimination may be felt at an individual level and a societal one, as LGBTQ persons, deprived of access to such basic rights as employment, health, education and housing find themselves in poverty, cut off from economic opportunity. Studies undertaken in several countries suggest that rates of poverty, homelessness and food insecurity are higher among LGBTQ individuals than in the wider community.

²⁵For example, in the US despite existing

²¹ "Islam and Homosexuality: What Does the Koran Say?" *Haaretz*, May 17, 2018, A

²² "Straight but Narrow" *The Economist*, Feb 4, 2012

²³ "Stances of Faiths on LGBTQ Issues: Buddhism" *Human Rights Committee*,

²⁴ "Written submission relating to the 1st draft of the General Comment on article 5- equality and non-discrimination" October 29, 2017.

²⁵ "Human Rights Council Twenty-ninth session" 2

protections, LGBTQ people face disturbing rates of health care discrimination—from harassment and humiliation by providers to being turned away by hospitals, pharmacists, and doctors.²⁶ Across the ocean in Africa, there are also many legislators working to restrict the rights of LGBT people. Over the past few years, the continent has passed a record-breaking number of anti-LGBT pieces of legislation.²⁷ Also in Asia LGBTQ rights are limited compared to western nations. Even though there are countries which consider same sex activity as legal, most countries lack LGBTQ anti-discrimination laws and most countries disapprove same sex marriage. LGBTQ people are highly marginalized and face varied forms of stigma and discrimination based on their distinct sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions in Asia.²⁸ In recent years, Governments in all regions have pursued a variety of initiatives aimed at reducing levels of violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. For example, since 2011, 14 States have adopted or strengthened anti-discrimination and hate crime laws, extending protection on grounds

of sexual orientation and/or gender identity and, in two cases, also introducing legal protections for intersex persons. Three States have abolished criminal sanctions for homosexuality; 12 have introduced marriage or civil unions for same-sex couples nationally; and 10 have introduced reforms that, to varying degrees, make it easier for transgender persons to obtain legal recognition of their gender identity. Moreover, The Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights have repeatedly urged States to tackle both direct and indirect discrimination against all persons, including LGBT and intersex persons. States have an obligation to ensure that laws, policies and programmes executed by State authorities do not discriminate against individuals. They also have an obligation to address discriminatory practices, including by private actors, and to take action to prevent, diminish and eliminate the conditions and attitudes that contribute to substantive or de facto discrimination.²⁹

Education on LGBTQ

Access to quality and comprehensive health services is difficult for young people all over the world, and their right to health is often violated through this lack of access. For young minorities it is even more difficult, as they are often discriminated against and

²⁶ Mirza Ahmed Shabab and Caitlin Rooney, "Discrimination Prevents LGBTQ People from Accessing Health Care" *Center for American Progress*, January 18, 2018.

²⁷ Alimi Bisi "What role should business play in promoting LGBT rights in Africa?" *World Economic Forum*, May 4, 2016.

²⁸ "Being LGBTI in Asia and the Pacific" *UNDP Asia and the Pacific*,

²⁹ Same as 22

stigmatized, in particular those young people with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. In general, adolescents lack access to HIV and STI testing that does not require parents' or adult's consent and lack access to condoms and other contraceptives, but when an adolescent* is gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) the situation is even worse when it comes to sexual and reproductive health, both physically and mentally. Young people who are gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender face very specific challenges in terms of health such as lack of accurate information. Health providers and education facilitators may not have information or correct diversity training related to sexual orientation and gender identity which may lead to misconceptions, stigma, bullying and discrimination that can be harmful for the health and wellbeing of LGBT people causing depression, substance abuse and even suicide attempts. Comprehensive Sexuality Education is one of the best tools to promote respect, rights and the correct use of language to address sexual diversity in schools and other settings.

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In addition to the lack of access to information, discrimination in education is an issue. The education sector has a responsibility to provide safe and inclusive

learning environments for all students. Addressing homophobic* and transphobic* violence in schools is critical to effective learning, to meet human rights commitments, including the right to education and the rights of the child, and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG4 – ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Effective education sector responses to homophobic and transphobic violence require a comprehensive approach. Such an approach includes all of the following elements: effective policies, relevant curricula and training materials, training and support for staff, support for students and families, information and strategic partnerships and monitoring and evaluation. It also includes both preventing and responding to violence, involves all relevant stakeholders and is implemented at national and sub-national levels. Few countries have all of the elements of a comprehensive education sector response in place. Very few countries have education sector policies that address homophobic and transphobic violence or include sexual orientation and gender identity/expression in curricula or learning materials. In most countries, staff lack training and support to address sexual orientation and gender identity/expression and to prevent and respond to homophobic and transphobic

³⁰ "Submission for the OHCHR report on Children's Right to Health" *youth coalition*

violence. Although many countries provide support for students who experience violence, services are often ill-equipped to deal with homophobic and transphobic violence. Partnerships with civil society organizations with expertise in preventing and responding to homophobic and transphobic violence can contribute to effective responses. Few countries collect data on the nature, prevalence or impact of homophobic and transphobic violence, which contributes to low awareness of the problem and lack of evidence for planning effective responses. Only three countries have conducted large-scale evaluations* of programmes to prevent and address homophobic and transphobic violence in schools.³¹

Case Studies

United States

Although the United States has officially withdrawn from the UNCHR on June 2018, this committee will continue to recognize and respect the efforts the U.S. has made in advocating LGBTQ rights.

The Society for Human Rights

The Society for Human Rights is the first documented gay rights organization in the U.S., founded in 1924 by Henry Gerber, a

Bavarian early gay rights activist who was homosexual himself. As homosexuality was viewed as a medical issue, Gerber was “briefly committed to a mental institution”³² (Baugher) before the first World War. After the War, Gerber was inspired by Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld, the founder of the Scientific Humanitarian Society which aimed “to reform anti-homosexual German law.” In Germany, he found “a thriving gay subculture”, and aimed to create a similar community integrating Hirschfeld’s ideas that realized “the rights of all human beings—not just homosexuals” (Baugher); leading to the establishment of The Society of Human Rights.

In order to establish the Society and to be granted a charter* from Illinois, Gerber did not openly use the words “gay” nor “homosexual” in his application. Instead, the charter was written as:

Promote and to protect the interests of people who by reasons of mental and physical abnormalities are abused and hindered in the legal pursuit of happiness, which is guaranteed them by the Declaration of Independence; and to combat the public prejudices against them by dissemination of facts according to modern science among intellectuals of mature age. The Society stands only for law and order; it is in harmony with any and all general laws insofar as they protect the rights of others, and does in no manner recommend any acts in violation of present laws nor advocate any matter inimical to the public welfare. (Baugher)

³¹ “Out in The Open” *United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*, f

³² Baugher, Shirley. “Not Everyone Was Brave: Henry Gerber and the Beginning of the Gay Rights Movement in Chicago.” *ChicagoNow*, 15 Apr. 2014,

In order to achieve his goal of eliminating discrimination against homosexuals, Gerber took two steps: one, alter the social view against homosexuals; and two, amend the laws which had discriminated against them. Gerber believed that both society and homosexuals “needed to understand that homosexuality was not an illness or a psychiatric* condition” and The Society of Human Rights aimed to spread that belief.

However, Gerber found little support for his ideas -- “Medical and psychological professionals were afraid to ruin their reputations by involvement, and few gays were willing to join.”³³ (First gay rights group in the US). In 1925, The Society for Human Rights has disbanded due to a “wife of one of the co-founders reported her husband, a reputed bisexual, to her social worker who contacted the police.”³⁴ (Henry Gerber). Gerber was put through several trials before charges against him were dismissed. He died in 1972 and was able to see his dreams of liberating the homosexual population come true.

Out and Equal Workplace Advocates

Out and Equal Workplace Advocates is an US-based non-profit organization* that promotes LGBTQ workplace equality. Founded in 1998, it works with “Fortune 1000 companies and government agencies” to achieve their goal and host annual summits where “where employees and experts from around the world gather to

share strategies and best practices.”³⁵ (Who We Are). The 2017 Workplace Summit featured “Over 4000 employees including executives, Employee Resource Group members, HR and Diversity & Inclusion professionals”³⁶ (The 2017 Workplace Summit) and they are one of the leading organizations for supporting LGBTQ equality in workplaces in the U.S.

Lambda Legal

Like Out and Equal, Lambda Legal is a non-profit national organization “committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and everyone living with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work”³⁷ (About Us). It was founded in 1973 as the U.S’s first organization “dedicated to achieving full equality for lesbian and gay people” by Bill Thom.

Due to the prejudice and discrimination against homosexuals, Lambda Legal’s application to form a non-profit was dismissed by “a panel of New York judges” because they saw as the organization being “neither benevolent nor charitable.” Following this rejection, Lambda Legal “appealed to New York’s highest court”³⁸ (Lambda Legal), which approved their application.

³³ “#7: First Gay Rights Group in the US (1924).” *Chicago Tribune*, 20 Nov. 2013.

³⁴ “Henry Gerber.” *Wayback Machine*,

³⁵ “Who We Are.” *Out & Equal*, outandequal.org/who-we-are/.

³⁶ “The 2017 Workplace Summit.” *Out & Equal*,

³⁷ “About Us.” *Lambda Legal*, www.lambdalegal.org/about-us.

³⁸ “Lambda Legal.” *Philanthropedia*, 1

Thom appropriated the basic ideas for Lambda Legal from “the bylaws of another newly established organization—the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund” (Lambda Legal), otherwise known as the LatinoJustice PRLDEF. The Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund was, like Lambda Legal, a New York-based civil rights organization founded in 1972 with the same aims of eliminating discriminatory actions.

In 1973, due to the lack of openly gay lawyers in the U.S, Lambda Legal created a panel of specialists sympathetic to the cause and viewed diversity as one of its key factors in choosing the members of the panel. By the 1980s, men and women were equally represented on the board³⁹ (Shepherd Raimi).

Despite its poor popularity when it was conceived, Lambda Legal has developed through the decades to become one of the leading organizations in advocating LGBTQ rights, with “five offices around the country -- New York, Atlanta, Dallas, Chicago, and Los Angeles.” (Lambda Legal) and boasting a staff of more than eighty members.

Ireland

National LGBT Federation

Located in Dublin, the National LGBT Federation (NXF) is the oldest non-governmental organization* in Ireland that focuses on promoting gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender rights. As Ireland is a mainly Roman Catholic nation in which

78% of its population identified themselves as being Catholic, Christian beliefs hold power over the nation’s overall view.

The National LGBT Federation also publishes the Gay Community News (GCN), “which is a not-for-profit publication for LGBT people”⁴⁰(What We Do) and poses as a “key networking tool” for the LGBTQ population, especially those who lack access to an LGBTQ community where they can intersect* with others.

The National LGBT Federation also hosts an event called the National Coming Out Day. The event is aimed to spark ““necessary courage in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people to “come out” to themselves, their families, friends and work colleagues,”” says Olivia McEvoy, the Chair of the National LGBT Federations. She “looks forward to welcoming them to [their] vibrant* community.”⁴¹ (Today is 'National Coming Out Day').

Transgender Equality Network Ireland

The Transgender Equality Network Ireland (TENI) is a non-profit organization created in 2006 that “seeks to improve conditions and advance the rights and equality of trans people and their families”⁴² (About Us).

Reflecting the rise of the LGBTQ society coming out, the TENI “was contacted 233 times by parents of transgender children”

³⁹ Primary source - original board member, Shepherd Raimi, July 23, 2008

⁴⁰ “What We Do.” *National LGBT Federation*.,

⁴¹ “Today Is 'National Coming Out Day'.” *TheJournal.ie*, 11 Oct. 2013,

⁴² “About Us.” *Transgender Equality Network Ireland*.,

⁴³(Hannon) because of the TENI's work of supporting the LGBTQ community. This number demonstrates the need for a comprehensive* and careful system for not only adults but also children who are discovering their identity. Regarding this, in 2013, an EU advisory panel called the Social Protection Committee has recommended that "the legal age for gender recognition be reduced from 18 to 16." The TENI fully embraced this bill: "In particular, we are happy to see there is concerted effort to improve the conditions of young trans people in this country," said Broden Giambrone, the Chief Executive for the TENI ⁴⁴(Hannon).

This recommendation led to the passing of the Gender Recognition Act of 2017 and amended the Gender Recognition Act of 2015. The modified part of the Gender Recognition Act of 2017 is as follows:

Bill entitled an Act to amend the Gender Recognition Act 2015 to provide a right to self-determination for persons who have reached the age of 16 years; to introduce a right to legal gender recognition for persons under the age of 16 years; and to ensure consideration of the status of non-binary persons in Irish law ⁴⁵ (Gender Recognition (Amendment) Bill 2017)

United Kingdom

The Buggery Act

The Buggery Act was an Act of Parliament that passed in 1533 during Henry VIII's

⁴³ Hannon, Louise. "Column: Lowering the Legal Age for Gender Recognition Is Vital." *TheJournal.ie*, 22 Jan. 2014,

⁴⁴ Same as 42.

⁴⁵ United States, Congress, Seanad Eireann, et al..

reign. This Act was the first U.K. law that made illegal homosexuality and was "punishable by death." ⁴⁶(Dryden). This act continued until 1861 when the Offences Against the Person Act was passed and death was replaced by ten years of imprisonment. Buggery "is historically described to as a 'crime against nature'" ⁴⁷(Legal Dictionary) and is associated with sodomy*.

The Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885

The Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885 prosecuted* all homosexual acts regardless of whether a witness was present, "meaning that even acts committed in private could be prosecuted." ⁴⁸ (Dryden). Section 11, otherwise known as the Labouchere Amendment, especially targeted male homosexuality. Oscar Wilde, the author of notable works such as *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and "The Importance of Being Earnest", was also prosecuted and sent to prison in 1895 due to this section. Wilde was rumored to be a homosexual and it was hinted heavily in *Dorian Gray*; the novel was used against Wilde in court to prove Wilde's homosexuality ⁴⁹ (Wilde, back cover).

UK Gay Liberation Front

⁴⁶ Dryden, Steven. "A Short History of LGBT Rights in the UK ." *British Library*,

⁴⁷ "Buggery Legal Definition of Buggery." *TheFreeDictionary*,

⁴⁸ Dryden, Steven. "A Short History of LGBT Rights in the UK ." *British Library*,

⁴⁹ Wilde, Oscar. *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. Penguin Classics, 2003.

The UK Gay Liberation Front refers to several gay liberation groups, starting in June 1969. Stonewall Inn at New York became the stage to a riot when several police officers, “as part of its policy to raid and close Gay Bars”, attempted to arrest “New York’s finest encountered black and white drag queens, gay men and lesbians”⁵⁰; however, the LGBTQ community resisted as they were “sick of police brutality” (Steven) and the discrimination that was part of it. What started as a small riot in an inn soon spread across the town, and on July 4th, 1969, lesbians and gay men “staged a walk-out ... they founded what became the Gay Liberation Front.”⁵¹(Steven).

Inspired by this movement, Aubrey Walter and Bob Mellor founded UK’s version of the Gay Liberation Front in London on October 13th, 1973. The UK Gay Liberation Front “made the first ever, public demonstration in the UK by lesbians and gay men” (A brief history). In 1972, they also conducted the “first Pride march” which now occurs every year⁵²(Dryden).

Gender Recognition Act 2004

Although this Act actually came into effect on April 5, 2005, The Gender Recognition Act 2004 allowed transgender people to obtain a new birth certificate; however, “gender options were still limited to ‘male’ or ‘female.’”⁵³ (A timeline of LGBTQ

communities in the UK). Although transgender people were still viewed as either male/female and did not allow room for recognition of both, transgender people were legally viewed for their true identity.

Saudi Arabia and other Islamic nations

Saudi Arabia is mainly against LGBTQ rights due to religious teachings.

It opposed the United Nations setting one of its Global Goals in favor of the LGBTQ community and LGBTQ rights, with its Foreign Minister, Adel Al-Jubeir, saying “Saudi Arabia has the right not to follow any agenda* that runs ‘counter to Islamic law,’”⁵⁴ (Osborne) to the General Assembly.

Death if guilty of homosexuality is present in many Muslim nations:

Saudi Arabia, Iran, Yemen, Sudan: Death under sharia law

Syria, Iraq: Death is executed by non-governmental forces (such as the Islamic State)

Pakistan, Afghanistan, UAE, Qatar, Mauritania: Potential death

Similarly, same-sex relations “could lead to a prison sentence in 71 states in all”⁵⁵(Duncan).

⁵⁰ Steven. “A Brief History of the Gay Liberation Front, 1970-73.”

⁵¹ Same as 47.

⁵² Dryden, Steven. “A Short History of LGBT Rights in the UK.” *British Library*,

⁵³ “A Timeline of LGBTQ Communities in the UK.” *British Library*

⁵⁴ Osborne, Samuel. “Saudi Arabia Insists UN Keeps LGBT Rights out of Its Development Goals.” *Independent*, 29 Sept. 2015,

⁵⁵ Duncan, Pamela. “Gay Relationships Are Still Criminalised in 72 Countries, Report Finds.” *The Guardian*, 27 July 2017,.

However, there has been a rise in several Muslim nations such as Botswana and Kenya, following the global trend, have begun to or already decriminalized homosexuality as there have been court cases in which advocates of LGBTQ rights have won.

Japan

Although homosexuality is legal in Japan, there is very little protection against the rights of LGBT people. Article 24 of Japan's Constitution, which came into effect in 1947, clearly states that "Marriage shall be based only on the mutual consent of both sexes"⁵⁶ (The Constitution of Japan) and although same-sex partnership is legal, marriage is still yet to be legalized. One Japanese politician, Mio Sugita, have recently been criticized for her homophobic claims that the LGBT community is "'unproductive' in terms of childbirth, and [warned] that a society that accepts same-sex relationships risks 'increasing unhappy people'."⁵⁷ (LDP lawmaker Mio Sugita faces backlash)

Indonesia

Aside from Africa and the Middle East, Indonesia has the largest Muslim population in Southeast Asia, with 87% of its 266.79 million Indonesians identifying themselves as such⁵⁸ (World Population Review).

In February 2018, an Indonesian city called Depok announced its plan to "curb the activities of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community"⁵⁹ (Smith), with both citizens and the global society being alarmed that this may pose a threat to the existing LGBT community. The mayor of Depok released his plan of a "200-strong force, including police officers, social service workers and religious leaders, would 'anticipate the spread of LGBT' among young people."⁶⁰ (Smith). The United Nations has already criticized Indonesia for its policy regarding the LGBT community; however, Indonesia has shown no change regarding its attitude towards the community and its anti-LGBT culture is especially prominent in the city of Aceh.

On May 23, 2017, four men were arrested in Aceh due to "a local ordinance that criminalizes same-sex conduct." Aceh's Criminal Code rules that they are subject to "up to 100 lashes in public – a punishment that constitutes torture under international human rights law."⁶¹ (Indonesia: Four Arrested for Same-Sex Conduct).

In nations such as Indonesia that do not condone LGBTQ behavior, an equally crucial point regarding this issue is the use of torture as a means of punishment and violation of basic human rights.

Latin and South America

⁵⁶ "The Constitution of Japan." *The Prime Minister and His Cabinet*.

⁵⁷ Osaki, Tomohiro. "LDP Lawmaker Mio Sugita Faces Backlash after Describing LGBT People as 'Unproductive.'" *The Japan Times*, 24 June 2018.

⁵⁸ "Indonesia Population 2018." *World Population Review*.

⁵⁹ Smith, Nichola. "LGBT 'Taskforce' in Indonesian City Adds to Fears of Gay Rights Crackdown." *The Telegraph*, 20 Feb. 2018,.

⁶⁰ Same as 56.

⁶¹ "Indonesia: Four Arrested for Same-Sex Conduct." *Human Rights Watch*, w

OutRight Action International

OutRight Action is a non-governmental organization aimed to eliminate discrimination against the LGBTQ population and acts in favor of their human rights. Although OutRight Action operates in numerous area over the world, in Latin America it “Conduct[s] research and document[s] human rights abuses”⁶² (Latin America) especially in regions such as Chile, Guatemala, and Colombia.

Redlactrans

Oppression against transgenders is significant in Central America “where the life expectancy of a Salvadoran transgender woman is less than 35 years.”⁶³ (Redlactrans). Although being gay or transgender is technically legal, the region’s views towards such people can be extremely hostile. The Inter-American Commission on Human rights reported that “Nearly 600 people died across Latin America from anti-LGBT violence between January 2013 and March 2014”⁶⁴ (Brocchetto). Like so many LGBT organizations, Redlactrans dedicates itself to lessening biased views of the LGBTQ community especially in Latin and South America.

Russia

Russian LGBT Network

The Russian LGBT Network, like other similar organizations, is a non-governmental establishment working for the advancement of LGBT rights since 2006. This organization “helped create LGBT groups and organizations in 20 different regions of Russia [and] a hotline that is available in all parts of the country.”⁶⁵ (Who are we).

The global community is outraged at Russia’s kidnappings and killings of LGBTQ people in Chechnya and the Chechnya government which takes no steps to stop those actions.

Maxim Lapunov, a Russian man who was abruptly taken away by “two men [he] didn’t know” and was “held for 12 days in a blood-soaked cell, beaten with sticks, threatened and humiliated by police”⁶⁶ (Rainsford) is one of the several men who have begun to speak up and share their experiences against the treatment of gay men in Chechnya with the help of the Russian LGBT Network.

Although President Vladimir Putin has spoken against these acts, no drastic steps have been taken. Gay men who have been subjected to similar treatments are afraid to speak up, worried that “reporting it officially would endanger relatives back home” (Rainsford); therefore, Lapunov’s story is significant because this can lead to subsequent investigations for breaches of basic human rights and hopefully will lead to other victims of the anti-gay purges raising their voices against Chechnya.

⁶² “Latin America.” *OutRight Action International*.

⁶³ “Redlactrans - Latin America and the Caribbean Network of Trans Persons.” *Alturi.org*.

⁶⁴ Brocchetto, Marilia. “The Perplexing Narrative about Being Gay in Latin America.” *CNN International Edition*, 4 Mar. 2017.

⁶⁵ “Who Are We.” *Russian LGBT Network*.

⁶⁶ Rainsford, Sarah. “Chechen ‘Gay Purge’ Victim: ‘No One Knows Who Will Be next’.”

Topics to Discuss

- Ethics* of using torture as a punishment for homosexuality and its relations to basic human rights (this committee is a human rights committee anyway)
- Other relevant issues related to LGBTQ
- The relationships of LGBTQ and religion
- Education on LGBTQ
- Medical Care

Questions to consider

- Are the religious texts such as the Bible, the Quran, etc. really against transgender/homosexuality? -- What is their exact wording? Can there be any other interpretations?
- How did your country come to be more accepting/less accepting of LGBTQ people?
- How does this issue relate with other relevant issues in the world today? (i.e. in some Muslim nations, the IS personally punished those guilty of being homosexual = terrorism?)
- How do the citizens view LGBTQ people?
- Does your country acknowledge the difference between sex and gender?
- Has your country taken any countermeasures to protect the rights of LGBTQ people?

Chair Recommendation

Undoubtedly, universal acceptance of all people, including the LGBTQ community, is

this committee's ultimate goal; however, it must be recognized that not all countries may be willing to immediately accept LGBTQ people and their culture as various factors in nations may prevent that from happening (as already seen in Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Russia, and several other nations). However, torture and violation of human rights regardless of whether the government acknowledges it must be stopped.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 5 says "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment." and this forms the basis of the UNHRC.

Countries such as the UK that openly advocate the rights of LGBTQ people should not only continue their work but also keep in mind the various backgrounds (cultural, historical, religious, etc.) of each nation should they choose to spread LGBTQ acceptance to nations who are reluctant to do so.

Resolutions

Past UN Resolutions

Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (adopted 30 June 2016) - **A/HRC/RES/32/2**

Human Rights Council resolution - Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity (adopted 17 June 2011) - **A/HRC/RES/17/19**

Human Rights Council resolution - Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity

(adopted 26 September 2014) -
A/HRC/RES/27/32

UN Reports

UN reports of LGBTQ violence, guidelines, recommendations, etc.

UN News: The UN's first report on gay and lesbian people is released in 2011

Tips from the chair

Accurate data and reliable sources are vital in presenting each delegation's solution and informing current situations. Know where the data comes from and if possible, have back up information ready to be fully involved in discussions even in the verge of alteration in the direction of the debate. Research beforehand the countries that your delegation wishes to work together with and don't be afraid to pass a note or engage in a conversation once debate has been opened. Always come with a position paper written; this will act as the most useful guide to walk around with in unmoderated caucuses. It is recommended to bring few clauses for the resolution so that you can participate in making working papers. Practicing opening speeches is perhaps the most important operation of the preparation process. Speak loudly and clearly and avoid mumbling or looking down at your paper. The chair recommends delegates to create a 1-minute scripted speech stating your country's stance and aims. This allows other nations to seek for delegates to associate with as it is the first time each country can express their intentions of the conference. The chair would also like to remind

delegates that representatives must act by its own will during the conference. Avoid waiting for other delegates to talk to you or staying in a block cluelessly, and simply listening to your opponents. Once again, make sure to fully know your country's stance on the case very well for basic understanding the topic. Without enough preparation it presumably would be hard to participate in the discussion, and occasionally the chair would have to order such delegates to speak up.

Vocabulary list

adolescent: (of a young person) in the process of developing from a child into an adult.思春期

agenda: a list of items to be discussed at a formal meeting 議題

alter: Change in character or composition, typically in a comparatively small but significant way.変更する

ascetic: a person with incredible self-discipline and the ability to deprive herself, or an adjective that describes such a people or their lifestyle.禁欲的な

charter: a document, issued by a sovereign or state, outlining the conditions under which a corporation, colony, city, or other corporate body is organized, and defining its rights and privileges 憲章

doctrine: A belief or set of beliefs held and taught by a Church, political party, or other group.教義

ethics: moral principles 倫理

evaluation: making of a judgement; assessment 評価

homophile: A homosexual person.同性愛者

homophobic: Having or showing a dislike of or prejudice against homosexual people.
同性愛者に対しての恐怖・偏見

inclination: A person's natural tendency or urge to act or feel in a particular way; a disposition 偏り

intersect: Relating to or denoting a person or animal that has both male and female sex organs or other sexual characteristics.交わる

intersex: The condition of having both male and female sex organs or other sexual characteristics.性分化疾患の一種

Non-profit organization: A nonprofit organization is a business granted tax-exempt status ... must make financial and operating information public so that donors are certain their contributions have been used effectively 非営利組織

Non-governmental organization: A non-governmental organization (NGO) is any non-profit, voluntary citizens' group which is organized on a local, national or international level 非政府組織

procreation: The production of offspring; reproduction 出産

prosecute: institute or conduct legal proceedings against (a person or organization). 提訴

psychiatric: Relating to mental illness or its treatment.精神科

sodomy: Anal intercourse.男色

transphobic: Having or showing a dislike of or prejudice against transsexual or transgender people. 疎外性の