

Sexual Inequality and Gender Discrimination

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Abstract

There is a problem with LGBT rights movement. LGBT is a group of people who refer to themselves as lesbian, gays, bisexual and transgender. Its limiting freedom. A lot of members of LGBT are afraid of living with their real identity because of the fear of society. However, in the past decade, LGBT people have made rapid progress in winning and securing their equal rights. LGBT community is more likely to struggle with mental health illness because of the unfair treatment, bad comments and insult that they get from the society. LGBT people go through the most violence. Its time people understand that they cannot control other people's lives. The violence against the LGBT community needs to stop. LGBT community makes up 10%of the world population.

However, in the modern century, LGBT is still considered as sensitive issue and lots of heterosexual are homophobia. The fear of society leads the LGBT community to mental illness. In the labor market, most LGBT people continue to hide their sexual orientation or to endure harassment out of fear of losing their job. Particularly vulnerable are young LGBT people who experience estrangement from family and friendship networks, harassment at school and invisibility, which can lead in some cases to underachievement at school, school drop-out, mental ill-health and homelessness. They should not have to live like this.

Introduction

There are a lot of problems going on with gender and sexuality from culture to culture. There is a problem with LGBT rights movement. LGBT is a group of people who refer to themselves as lesbian, gays, bisexual and transgender. It's limiting freedom. A lot of members of LGBT are afraid of living with their real identity because of the fear of society. However, in the past decade, LGBT people have made rapid progress in winning and securing their equal rights. LGBT community is more likely to struggle with mental health illness because of the unfair treatment, bad comments and insult that they get from the society. LGBT people go through the most violence. It's time people understand that they cannot control other people's lives. The violence against the LGBT community needs to stop. LGBT community makes up 10% of the world population. However, in the modern century, LGBT is still considered as a sensitive issue and lots of heterosexuals are homophobic.

The discrimination and problems LGBT people go through need to be addressed. The little issues are not so little anymore. They are being taken so lightly that it feels like they are invisible. The LGBT people should not be overlooked when studying humans and their relationships, as they are a rapidly growing group. According to sociology, millennials in the United States are more likely to identify as LGBT group member and they are proud of it. The acceptance of LGBT is important at this moment. It will recover a lot of relationships, prevent discrimination, many suicides and encourage people to live with their real identity. It's important to recognize these problems and work on them as a society because those are among us. The right to live with their real identity is a human right. It should not be taken away from them and they should be getting ashamed of who they are. They are normal people like us too. They need more recognition and acceptance.

Background

According to Integrated Household Survey done by the Office for National Statistics, 1.5% of British are considered gay, lesbian or bisexual (Chalabi, 2013). Today, the LGBT community are accepted into British society and are protected by the Equal Opportunities Act. However, this has not always been the case, as historically they have lived outside of society and were severely discriminated against. In this essay, I will overview development of people's attitudes towards LGBT over the years. LGBT Finance (2012) claims that in the mid-13th century, there were large-scale discrimination and persecution of gays with laws punishing homosexuality by death and gay was seen as a sinful deed to the rest in the society. In the Middle Ages, several laws against homosexuality appeared after Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire.

According to LGBT Finance (2012), "consensual gay sex was criminalized by the Buggery Act of 1533 and was punishable by death until the passing of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861." Duffy (1999) states that in the 90s, there was no specific law to protect homosexuals from prejudice. He goes on to mention that even the civil workers such as fire fighters were forced to keep quiet about their sexuality at that time. According to LGBT Finance (2012), "the modern gay rights movement only began in the late 1960s and has developed into today's relatively broad acceptance in the UK and parts of Europe." BBC Newsbeat (2014) states that there is a more open and fluid approach to sexuality nowadays. For example, the decriminalization of homosexuality in 1967 and the introduction of civil partnerships in the new millennium. It is now illegal to discriminate against others based on their sexuality under the Equality Act 2006. According to LGBT (2012), a complaint was made to the local police in Cambridge shire regarding a gay couple who was turned away from staying at a local B&B and the gay couple managed to sue the B&B owners for turning them away.

Problems Faced by The LGBT community

LGBT history dates to the first recorded instances of same sex love and sexuality of ancient civilizations, involving the history of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) peoples and cultures around the world. Most historians agree that there is evidence of homosexual activity and same-sex love, whether such relationships were accepted or persecuted, in every documented culture. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people (LGBTQ) have been publicly advocating for equal rights and responsibilities within U.S. society since the late 1960's. The United States has made considerable progress in its acceptance of sexual diversity, as it has in racial and religious diversity). Scientists are still trying to figure out which hormone causes people to be attracted toward the same sex. Major point one: Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people frequently experience violence directed toward their sexuality or gender identity. Outside the West, many countries are deemed potentially dangerous to their LGBT population due to both discriminatory legislation and threats of violence. It's also illegal in many countries.

Major point two: The fear of society leads the LGBT community to mental illness. In the labor market, most LGBT people continue to hide their sexual orientation or to endure harassment out of fear of losing their job. Particularly vulnerable are young LGBT people who experience estrangement from family and friendship networks, harassment at school and invisibility, which can lead in some cases to underachievement at school, school drop-out, mental ill-health and homelessness. They should not have to live like this. It's sad that some people still think that they have right over other people's life. Major Point three: Impact of exclusion and discrimination. Exclusion and discrimination have led the LGBT community to leaving family, and home. It also led them to dropping out of school earlier, unable to find regular jobs and have less option than others, lack of having family support. Some even migrated to other countries for seeking safer livelihood and acceptance. It's destroying people's lives.

People need to be more careful with other people's feelings. Major point four: Drug addiction among the LGBT community. LGBT populations is more likely to be addicted to drugs and alcohol than general population. Their likelihood for doing so is heightened by personal and cultural stresses resulting from anti-gay bias. It's important that the government take this seriously because it is a very serious issue. Someone getting addicted to drugs and alcohol because of the pressure from society should not be a thing. It's about someone's life. Drugs can end people's lives. They should not have to deal with this just because they chose to be different. It's their choice. We should respect it. People are so busy in judging others that they don't even see how many relationships they are breaking, how many feeling their hurting, how many lives they are taking. No one should have killed themselves just because they wanted to live their life in their way. Just because you don't understand something doesn't mean that you have any right to disrespect that. LGBT people's feelings are valid just like the straight people. The discrimination is against them is so dangerous that it makes them take their lives.

Response Paper

I chose to write about the LGBT community because the issues they are going through needs to be addressed. It is serious. People tend to behave right only with the people that fit their expectations. The fact that people are being discriminated against, assaulted, harassed and murdered for choosing to be who they are, and wanting to live their life the way they want to do not sit right with me. Not liking or agreeing with something is understandable but, in my religion, we were told to respect everyone, regardless of their status, sexual orientation, age and race and I respect their decision. They are indeed human, and people need to realize that they have no right or say in another person's life. LGBT rights are human rights. Denying a person's equal right due to their sexual orientation is no different than denying a person's equal right due to their race. LGBT community is not often talked about because it's a minority community and the majority of the people don't support or are against them.

If you think that discriminating a person because of their skin color is wrong then you should also know that discriminating against a person because of their sexual orientation is also wrong. And if you don't see that, you are a part of the issue here. Majority of people discriminate against the LGBT community because of their religion but if you are so religious then you should know that whatever they decide to do with their life is between them and God. I'm sure there's not any religion that encourages hatred or discriminations. It is a sensitive subject, and it is something to be talked about. People are committing suicides because of the hate they get. I don't think people should be dying or going crazy because they chose to live the way they want to, and therefore I want to talk about this.

Recommendations, Suggestions, Solution

If we come together as a community and address this problem, there are many chances that violence against the LGBT community will end. If actions were taken against these cruel people who decide to attack people for no reason, the violence would decrease. It's important to stop them. We need to talk about it more. Any minor or major violence should be taken seriously, and those people need to be behind the bars. Parents should be talked about it. We should let them know that their children are not a curse, that their feelings are valid, that they cannot just throw them out of the house. If they gave birth to them, it's their responsibility to take care of them until they are adults.

The easiest solution to this problem is raising awareness and taking the violence against them seriously. Respect is another solution. If people just respected each other, it would have been enough. If you are not allowed to support them, then at least give them some respect. The way they decide to live their lives is literally none of other's business. If we had just enough respect for an individual who chose to live they're in their own, be different, make changes in their life, it would have been more than enough. We should just respect whatever other people want to be identified as and move on. There's nothing better that we can do rather than that. We should just respect their choice and let them live their lives.

Conclusion

LGBT people are more likely to experience mental health illness, discrimination, hatred from friends and family and addiction of drugs, which is not fair because they are humans too. As a society, we should respect their right. It's okay if you don't agree with them but we need to learn to respect people's feelings. Any minor or major violence should be taken seriously, and those people need to be behind the bars. Parents should be talked about it. If people just respected each other, it would have been enough. Discrimination is never the right way. They should be treated like other human beings. Hatred will bring nothing but distance between us. LGBT community has been fighting for equal rights since years and they still are. People should not be that sensitive about everything and let people live their lives. They need to realize that what people decide to do with their life is not any of their business. Making jokes and bad comments at them is not funny. Being respectful doesn't take a lot. Raising awareness and giving them respect is all it takes to stop this violence and discrimination against them.

Annotated Bibliography

The first resource that I have used was very useful. It talks about the history of the LGBT community. Where it came from, how it has changes over time, the LGBT community relating to religions the cultures all over the world. The second resource that I have used talks about the LGBT life in America, how they are treated in America, the differences that have, the rights they have, the increasing and decreasing and decreasing population of LGBT community in America and how the life of a LGBT individual is different from those, who are from different part of the world. The third resource talks about the violence against them throughout the whole world, the problems that face in different cultures and different countries. The everyday violence they face and the things those violence leads to.

References

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Appendix

https://www.thenation.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/hatecrime_vigil_ap_img.jpg

