



Global Health Issues:

**Problems and
Challenges
with 2SLGBTQIA+
Healthcare**

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Introduction & Background

2SLGBTQIA+ refers to the people who have varying sexual orientations and gender identities, apart from the traditional genders of male and female and/or romantic feelings for the opposite gender.

Sexual orientations are an overall term for, as stated by UNFE, “a person’s physical, romantic, and/or emotional attraction to others.”

Gender identities are a person’s sense of their own gender, usually aligning with the gender assigned to a person at birth, but can be perceived differently.

History

The first same-sex couple recorded lived in 2400 BCE Egypt. They were named Khnumhotep and Niankhkhnum and were buried together.

Immigration Act of 1952 stated that it was illegal for a homosexual person to enter Canada, and it used to be classified as a mental disorder in the American Psychiatric Association until 1973.

In 1969, homosexual acts were desexualized in Canada, though there was still plenty of bias.

The Immigration Act of 1952, which prohibited LGBTQ people from entering Canada, was lifted in 1976, and in 1991, the first LGBTQ refugee was granted access to enter the country.

In 1995, same-sex couples were allowed to adopt children.

By 2009, same-sex marriages were allowed to take place in Canada.

Current Situation

2SLGBTQIA+ has always existed.

8% felt confident about identifying as LGBTQ+.

2SLGBTQIA+ youth are 2 times more likely to feel suicidal and 4 times more likely to attempt suicide compared to their cisgender/heterosexual peers.



Current Situation

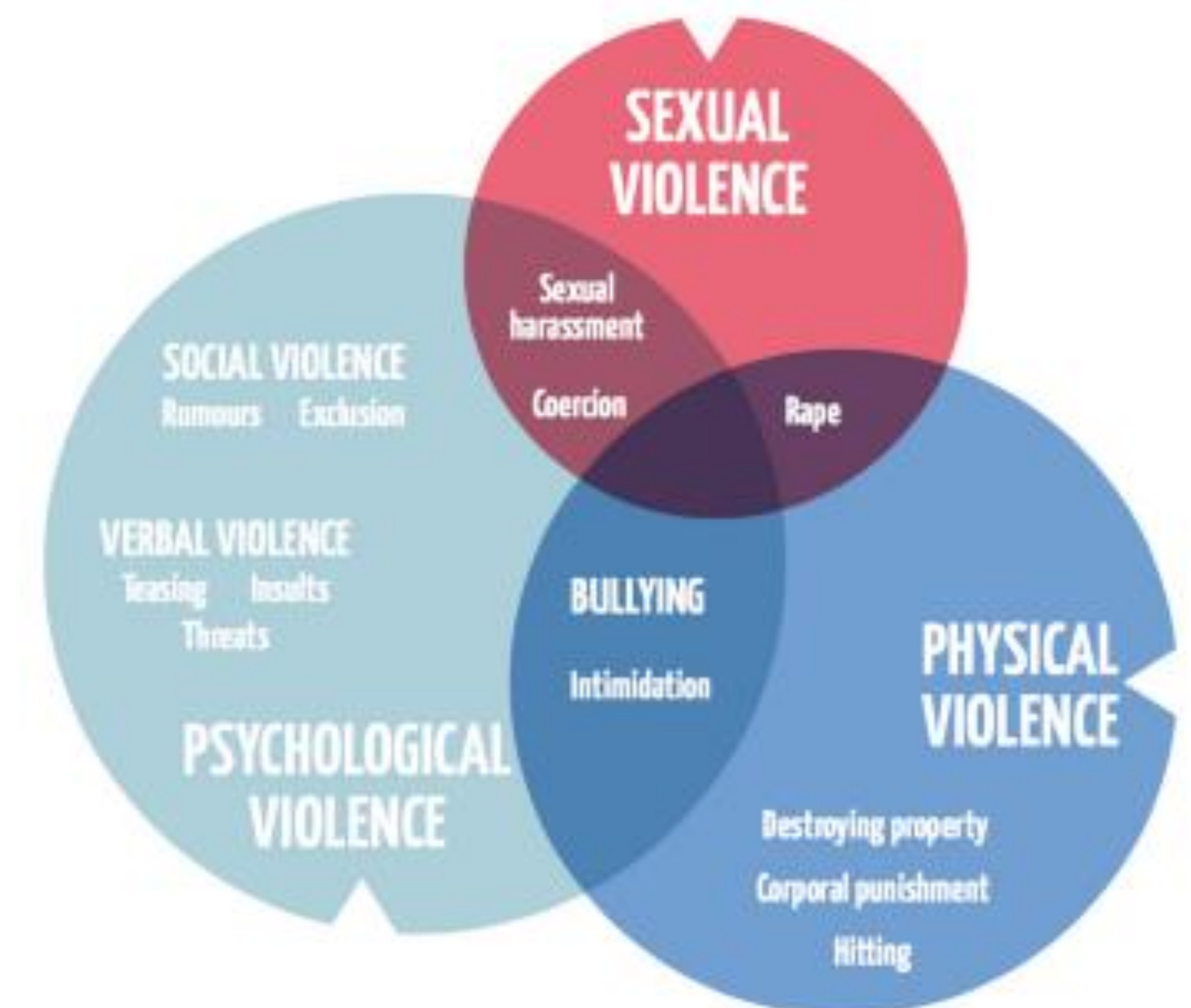
- Only 11 countries that have protection of the 2SLGBTQIA + community.
- In 70 countries it is criminalized.
- 1 million queer people live in Canada.
- The Prime Minister apologized for the cruelty against LGBTQ+ people in 2017
- Recently, some states in the US made new efforts to support those in the LGBTQ+ community.
- In 2010, a speech was made in New York to address the violence and discrimination against LGBTQ+ people.

Current Situation

The oppression against those of the LGBTQ+ community can affect their mental health, due to things such as:

- The possibility of being found out for their sexuality and/or gender identity and being shunned for it.
- The hate against them.

MORE THAN BULLYING:
HOMOPHOBIC AND TRANSPHOBIC VIOLENCE MANIFESTS IN A NUMBER OF WAYS



Data

In Canada, From 2007 to 2008, hate crimes against people with different sexual orientations has doubled.

20% of transgender people had experienced physical or sexual assault.

34% were subjected to verbal threats or harassment.

77% seriously considered committing suicide.

45% had attempted suicide.

LGBTQ+ people are also more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol.

36% more LGBT adults smoke than heterosexual adult.

Use of alcohol and drugs will be about 3 times higher among LGBTQ+ people than heterosexual people.

Data

29% said a doctor or other health care provider refused to see them because of their actual or perceived gender identity.

23% said a doctor or other health care provider intentionally misgendered them or used the wrong name.

21% said a doctor or other health care provider used harsh or abusive language when treating them.

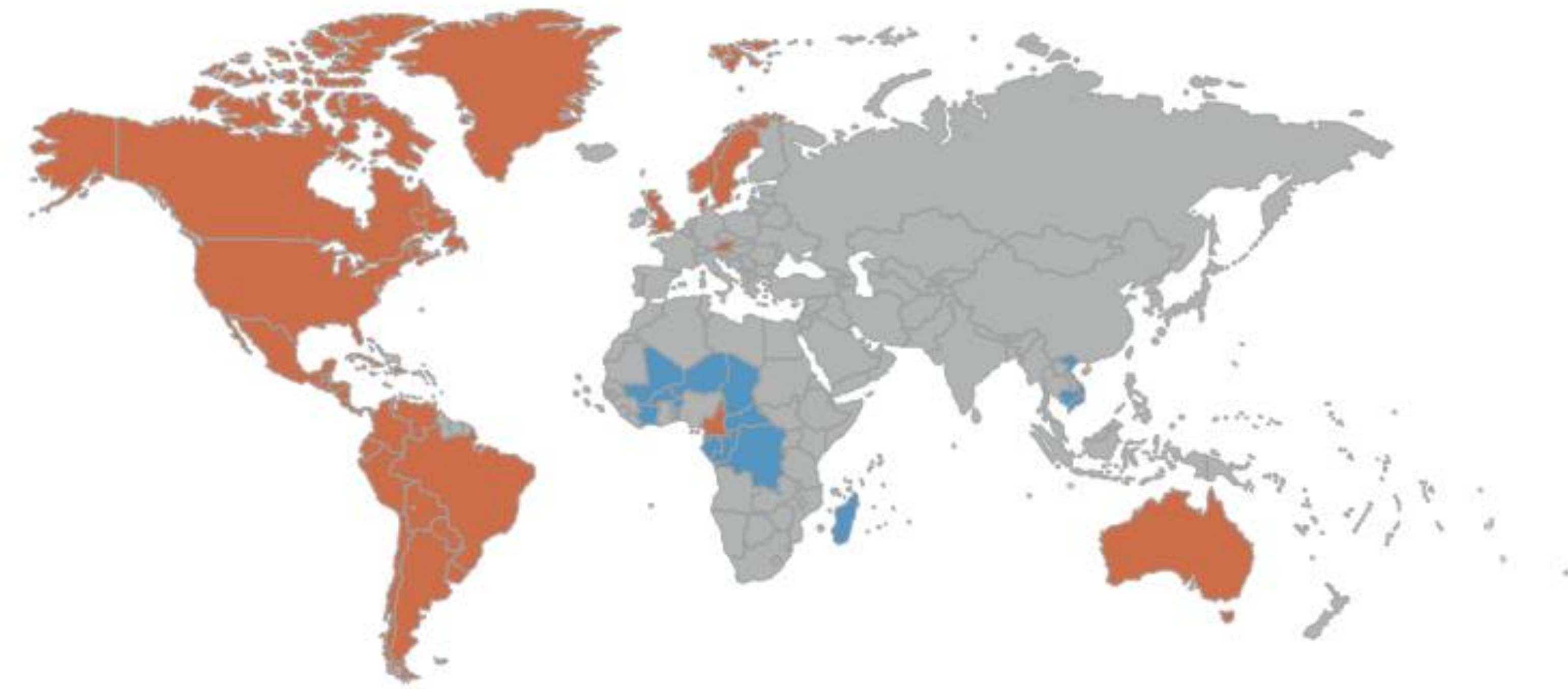
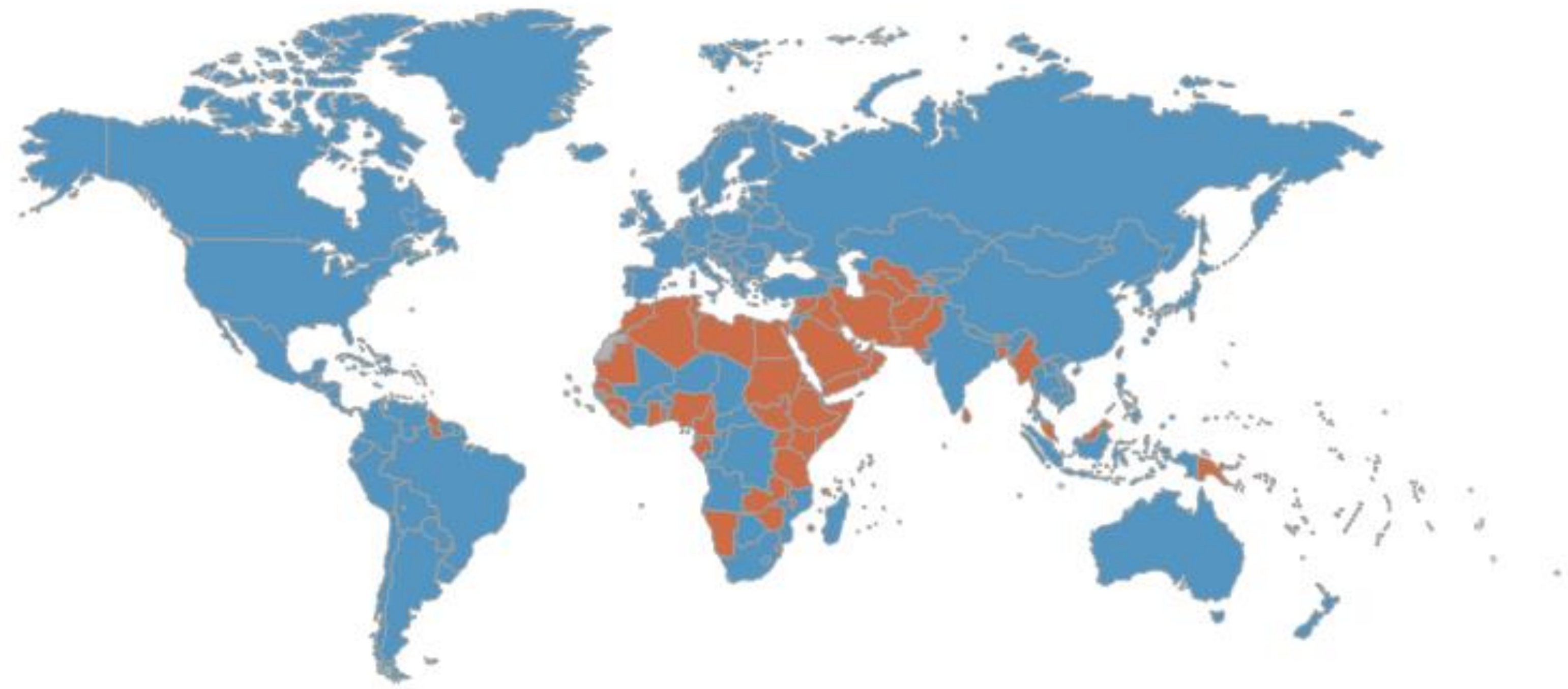
29% said that they experienced unwanted physical contact from a doctor or other health care provider.

7% of LGBTQ people said that a doctor or other health care provider refused to see them because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation.

7% said that a doctor or other health care provider refused to recognize their family, including a child or a same-sex spouse or partner.

9% said that a doctor or other health care provider used harsh or abusive language when treating them.

Criminalization of Same Sex Relations from 1790 - 2022





Causes and Needs

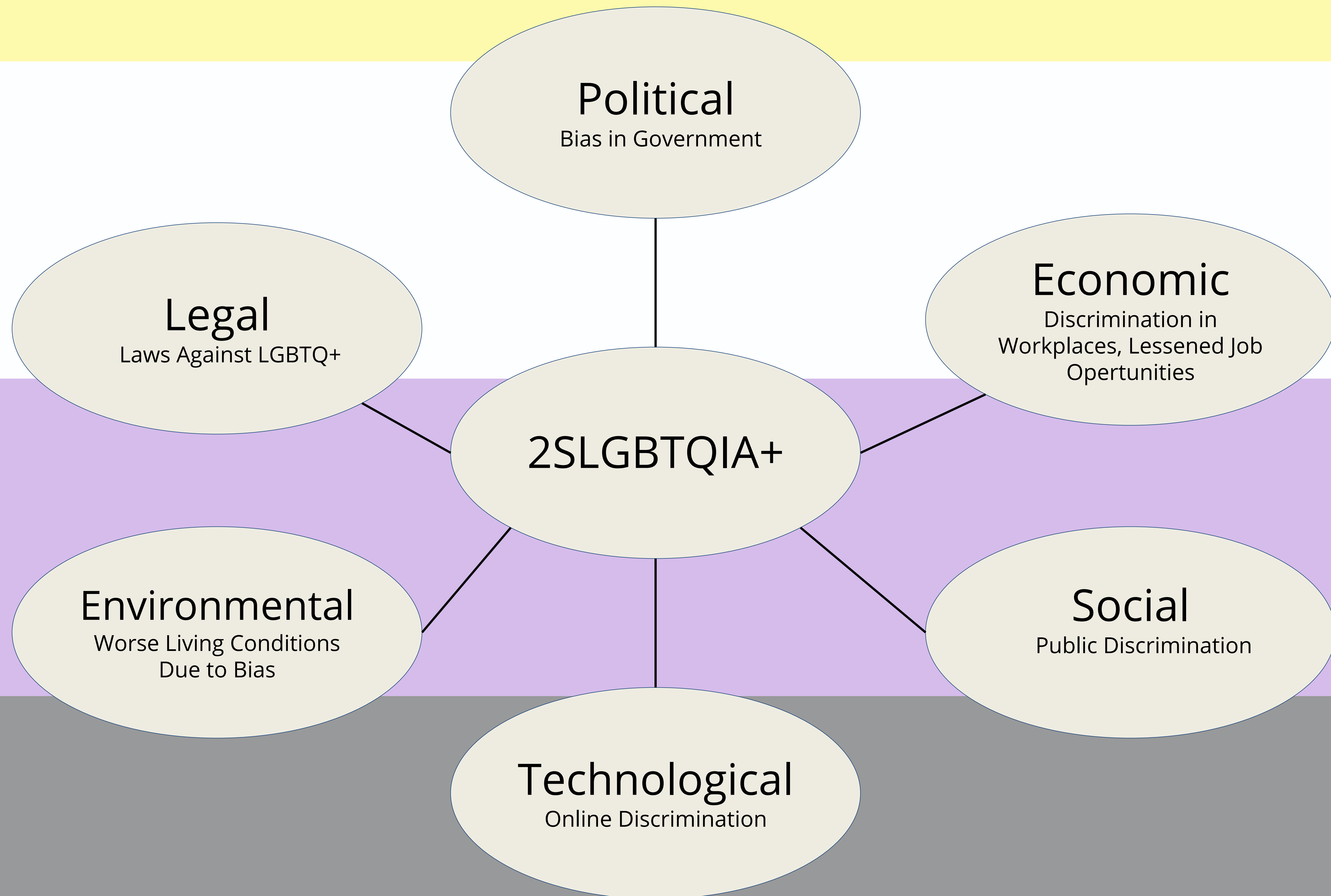
Mental health issues in the 2SLGBTQIA+ are surprisingly common, and one of the reasons for this is discrimination against them.

Needs:

1. Recognition
2. Unanimous Support
3. Raised Awareness

Due to current discrimination, these needs are not yet being met.

Barriers (PESTEL Model)



Next Steps

- Educate people About LGBTQ+ early on
- Spread awareness
- Show your support

“[L]earning about or spending time with people who are 2SLGBTQIA+ does not influence the sexual orientation or gender id

entity of minors nor can it harm their wellbeing.

Rather, it is vital that all youth have access to age-appropriate sexuality education to ensure that they have healthy, respectful physical relationships...Denial of this kind of information contributes to stigma and can cause young LGBTI people to feel isolated, depressed, forcing some to drop out of school and contributing to higher rates of suicide” (UNFE).

Next Steps

Media:

- 1 Give an objective and balanced picture of LGBT people and their rights concerns.
- 2 Include the voice of LGBT people and groups in newspaper, TV and radio coverage.

You, your friends and other individuals can make a difference too:

- 1 Speak out when you see any form of discrimination against LGBT people.
- 2 If you, your friends or family members believe you are the victim of discrimination on grounds of your sexual orientation or gender identity, alert UN human rights special procedures by sending an email to urgent-action@ohchr.org.
- 3 Don't assume that everyone else is heterosexual: ask if someone has a partner rather than assuming they have a wife, if a man, or a husband, if a woman.
- 4 Don't assume all trans and intersex people are lesbian or gay – they may be heterosexual or bisexual.



Media: Give an objective and balanced picture of LGBT people.



Individuals: Speak out when you see any form of discrimination against LGBT people.



Community Partnerships

Support Places:

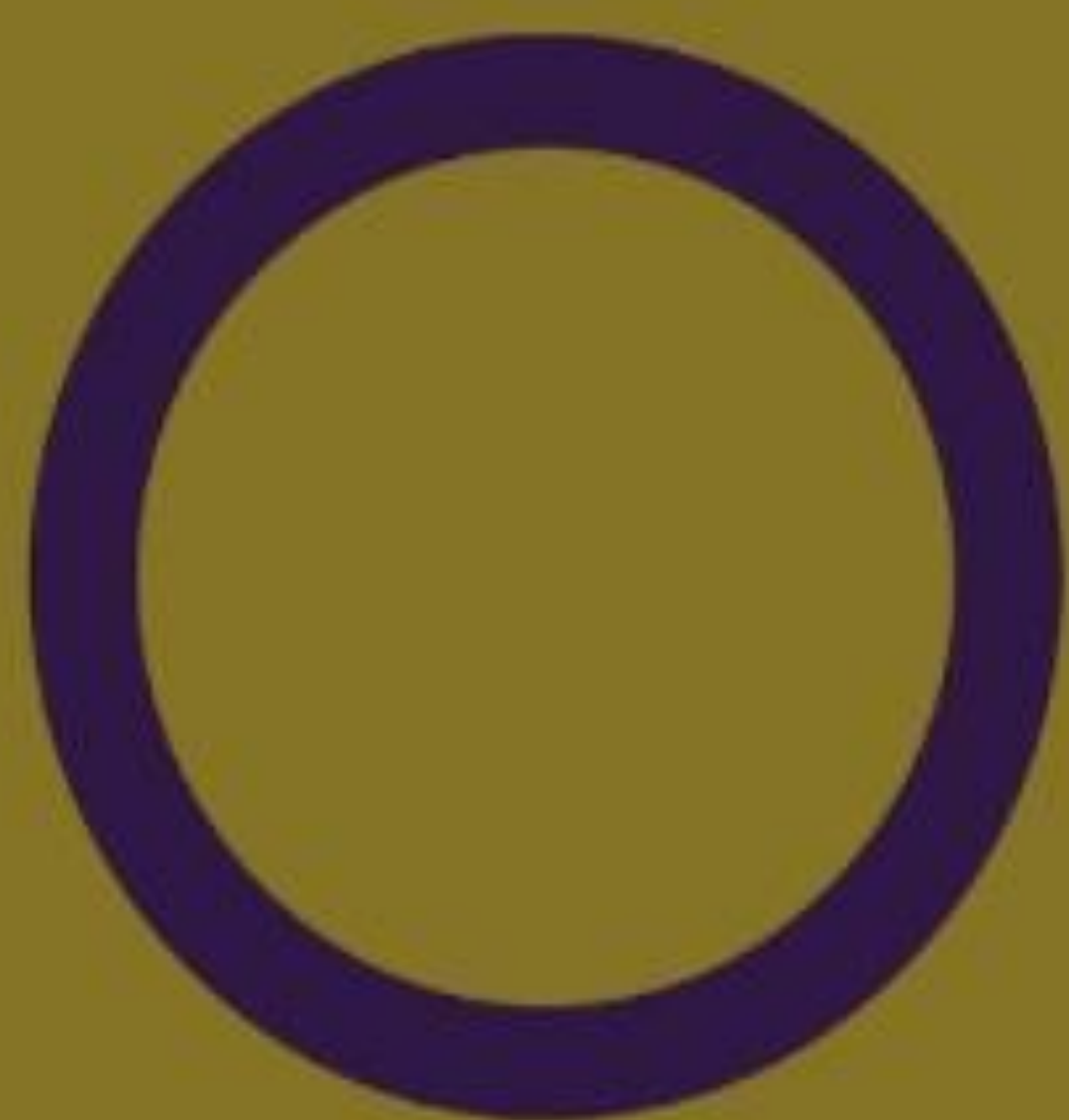
- Churches
- Schools
- Community Centres

Fundraisers:

- CanadaHelps
- LGBT Foundation.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/donate-to-lgbtq-charities/>

<https://lgbt.foundation/what-you-can-do/fundraise>



Thank You

References

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- <https://itgetsbetter.org/>
- <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/how-environmental-and-climate-injustice-affects-the-lgbtqi-community/>
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