



THE GALZ COMPANION FOR:

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

10 DECEMBER 2021



A CELEBRATION AND **REFLECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF LGBTI PEOPLE IN ZIMBABWE**

- · What are Human Rights?
- . What is SRHR?
- · How can rights be fully enjoyed by all including LGBTI People?



Human Rights are a set of basic inalienable rights and freedoms that belong to every person by virtue of being human. They are not granted by the State but are inherent to every person. In the Constitution of Zimbabwe (2013) they are listed in in Part 2: Fundamental Rights and Freedoms. On 10 December every year we celebrate Human Rights Day.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1948, was the first legal document to set out the fundamental human rights to be universally protected. The UDHR, together with the International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights - make up the International Bill of Rights.

The constitutional rights are grounded in universal rights already recognised. Key rights that LGBTI persons experience different applications to other citizens include:

- · Right to Life (s48)
- · Right to Personal Liberty (s49)
- · Right to Human Dignity (s51)
- · Right to Personal Security (s52)
- Equality and Non-Discrimination (s56)
- · Right to Privacy (s57)
- Freedom of Assembly & Association (s58)
- Freedom of Conscience (s60)
- Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media (s61)
- · Right to a Fair Hearing (s69)
- · Right to Education (s75)
- · Right to Health (s76)
- · Marriage Rights (s78)

The 2021 Theme is: EQUALITY - Reducing inequalities, advancing human rights

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights."

-Article 1 of the UDHR

In 2021 Human Rights Day shines a light on the following:

1.Honouring non-discriminatory

Constitutional rights and provisions

2.Breaking cycles of poverty and economic inequality

3.Reducing effects of stigma

4.Building fairer, Human Rights-based economies

5.Addressing vaccine inequality and injustice

6.Promoting diversity and inclusion of all persons in just societies

7. Opportunities for young people

- 8. Advancing climate and environmental rights
- 9. Acknowledging the need for united efforts to fight pandemics
- 10. Improving access to SRHR education and services

"Human rights are indivisible, inter-dependent and interrelated, including sexual and reproductive rights. The rights approach enables the development of an understanding of respect for bodily integrity; autonomy; choice on whether or not to e sexually active; choice of sexual partners; determination of whether or not and when to have children and appreciation of the diversity of sexual identities that are not lesser rights."

- From Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum's factsheet on SRHR

What is SRHR?

SRHR sets standards for personal autonomy and allowance for all individuals to live a full and healthy life including through guarantees for the decriminalization of consensual sexual conduct among adults, protection of individuals from non-consensual sex and guaranteeing availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of sexual health information and services. SRHR includes:

- Access to voluntary, informed and affordable family planning services
- Pre and post natal care
- Menstrual health management
- Prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS
- Prevention of cancers of the reproductive system
- Prevention of gender-based violence for all genders
- Safe, accessible and legal abortion and post-abortion care services
- Sexual health information, education and counselling for the enhancement of personal relationships and quality of life

GALZ is a voluntary membership-based organisation founded in 1990 for the purpose of promoting, representing and protecting the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex (LGBTI) people and other sexual minorities in Zimbabwe. LGBTI rights are not different or special, but pre-existing rights as of all citizens; however LGBTI people face stigma because of the sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sexual characteristics; this discrimination in the form of harassment, hate speech, detention, assault, exclusion and other violations infringes on human rights. GALZ strives for the attainment of full and equal human, social and economic rights in all aspects of life tor LGBTI persons.



How You Can Protect and Promote Human Rights

Any citizen can contribute to a just society. Here are some ways you can be a human rights defender:

- Research human rights issues good intentions require accurate information.
- · Vote in every election. Active participation is one of the few powers you have as a citizen.
- · Donate to organisations that support human rights work especially within your local community.
- Connect to human rights movements
- Support organisations that provide resources for women and children, which are vulnerable groups globally.
- · Take action when you see discrimination. Speak out and call out aggressors, but only after talking to the victim first to know how best you can support them.
- · Support economic rights by reporting corruption and not taking part in corrupt activities.
- · Protest inequalities peacefully by putting pressure on those responsible for upholding human rights, e.g. you can contact local officials, write opinion papers, take part in community-building activities, attend public hearings, engage in debates

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RIGHT TO FREE MOVEMENT IN AND OUT OF THE COUNTRY	RIGHT TO OWN PROPERTY	RIGHT TO SOCIAL SECURITY	FREEDOM FROM SLAVERY	FREEDOM OF OPINION AND INFORMATION	RIGHT OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION
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RIGHT TO EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW	RIGHT TO EQUALITY	RIGHT TO NATIONALITY AND THE FREEDOM TO CHANGE IT	RIGHT TO BE CONSIDERED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY	FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION	RIGHT TO MARRIAGE AND FAMILY
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RIGHT TO LIFE, LIBERTY, PERSONAL SECURITY	FREEDOM FROM ARBITRARY ARREST AND EXILE	FREEDOM FROM TORTURE & DEGRADING TREATMENT	RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT AND IN FREE ELECTIONS	RIGHT TO RECOGNITION AS A PERSON BEFORE THE LAW	COMMUNITY DUTIES ESSENTIAL TO FREE AND FULL DEVELOPMENT
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RIGHT TO REMEDY BY COMPETENT TRIBUNAL	FREEDOM OF BELIEF AND RELIGION	RIGHT TO DESIRABLE WORK AND TO JOIN TRADE UNIONS	RIGHT TO ADEQUATE LIVING STANDARD	RIGHT TO ASYLUM IN OTHER COUNTRIES FROM PERSECUTION	RIGHT TO FAIR PUBLIC HEARING
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RIGHT TO EDUCATION	FREEDOM FROM INTERFERENCE WITH PRIVACY, FAMILY, HOME AND CORRESPONDENCE	RIGHT TO REST AND LEISURE	RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CULTURAL LIFE OF COMMUNITY	FREEDOM FROM STATE OR PERSONAL INTERFERENCE IN THE ABOVE RIGHTS	RIGHT TO A SOCIAL ORDER THAT ARTICULATES THIS DOCUMENT

