

Help and support for LGBTI people facing homophobic and transphobic violence and discrimination



Counselling, support and help reporting
incidents in Berlin.



Berlin State Office for
Equal Treatment and
against Discrimination

LGBTI Unit

Although society has become more accepting and tolerant towards different sexual orientations and gender identities, lesbians, gay men, bisexuals as well as trans* and intersex people (LGBTI) can still become victims of **homophobic and transphobic violence** and experience **discrimination in many areas** of their everyday lives – even in a city as diverse as Berlin.

Homophobic and transphobic violence and discrimination can take many forms, including:

- Verbal abuse in public spaces
- Verbal and physical attacks in pubs and clubs or in public transport
- Verbal and physical attacks because of someone's gender expression
- Discrimination and verbal attacks when using public swimming pools
- Discrimination when looking for a job; bullying at work or at school
- Being refused by healthcare services

**You do not have to tolerate violence or discrimination.
Get support!**



Did you know?

... that if more people **report** hate crimes, homophobic and/or transphobic violence will gain **greater visibility**?

... that you can also **report an incident online**?

... that there are **special LGBTI contact** persons in the Berlin Police Department and at the State Prosecutor's Office to whom you can report confidentially?

... that there are **specialized LGBTI counselling centres** in Berlin that offer advice and support to victims of violence and discrimination?

... that when a **charge** is brought forward of a suspected homophobic or transphobic incident, public interest in prosecution is generally assumed and **legal proceedings** are initiated?

...that the contact persons within the police or at the prosecutor's office can **take your report**?

Counselling, accompaniment and support



In 2015 projects funded by the Berlin Senate to combat discrimination and violence documented around 540 new cases of discrimination and violence against LGBTI people. The exact number of LGBTI people who fall victim to violence and discrimination every year is unknown, but it is estimated that there is a large number of unreported cases.

If you experience **discrimination**, you should seek advice on what action you can take. This could range from making a formal complaint to taking legal action under the **General Equal Treatment Act (AGG)**. You can report **attacks, verbal abuse and similar offences** as this is **considered criminal conduct**. You should also seek advice if you wish to pursue this option.

The counselling infrastructure in Berlin makes reporting an incident straightforward. The various centres



where complaints can be made are well connected both with each other and the LGBTI community. Whether you are a victim or if you have witnessed a crime or discriminatory act you will find counselling and support in Berlin.

Here you will find out more information!

Berlin Police Department

LGBTI contact persons at LKA | Präv 1
Platz der Luftbrücke 6, 12101 Berlin

Contacts: Det Ch Insp Maria Tischbier, Det Ch Insp Harald Kröger

Phone: +49 30 4664979444

Fax: +49 30 4664979199

Email: lsbt@polizei.berlin.de

Web: www.berlin.de/polizei/aufgaben/ansprechpersonen-fuer-lsbt

Target groups:

Gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, trans* and intersex.

Services:

Responding to any queries from authorities, projects or citizens concerning LGBTI issues directed specifically towards the police, such as violence prevention, what to do after an offence, filing a report, operational support, offence evaluation, facilitating contact as well as training.

Languages:

German and English.

Berlin State Prosecutor's Office

LGBTI contact persons

Salzburger Straße 21-25, 10825 Berlin

Contacts: Ines Karl and Markus Oswald

Phone: +49 30 90142697 (Ines Karl)

+49 30 90145889 (Markus Oswald)

Email: lsbt@sta.berlin.de

Web: www.berlin.de/sen/justva/beauftragte/ansprechpartnerin-homophobe-hass-kriminalitaet

Target groups:

Gay men, lesbian, bisexual, trans* and intersex victims of homophobic and transphobic hate crimes.

Services:

Assistance ranges from filing a report and completing an investigation to enacting a penalty order or an arraignment, as well as representing the case in a hearing. Throughout the process, the victim is kept continually updated on each step as well as on the outcome of proceedings. Victims can also address any queries and concerns to their contact person at the state prosecutor's office.

Languages:

German, English, Arabic, Russian (for emergencies and prearranged appointments only). We recommend attending any advisory meetings with someone who speaks a good level of German. A sworn (court) interpreter must be present when filing a report or during interviews. Always arrange your appointment by phone (or ask someone to do it on your behalf) and mention any interpreting needs in advance.



LesMigraS

Anti-violence and anti-discrimination counselling at
Lesbenberatung e.V.

Kulmer Straße 20a, 10783 Berlin

Phone: +49 30 21915090

Fax: +49 30 21917009

Email: info@lesmigras.de

Web: www.lesmigras.de

Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 2 pm to 5 pm,

Tuesday and Thursday: 10 am to 7 pm.

Target groups:

Lesbian/bisexual people, black lesbians, lesbians and bisexuals with a migration background, trans* and intersex people and their relatives.

Languages:

German, Arabic, Farsi, French, Kurmancî, Russian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Spanish, Italian, English, Turkish and Dutch. Counselling in other languages (including German sign language) is also available through an interpreter upon request.



MANEO

Anti-violence project for gay men at
Mann-O-Meter e.V.
Bülowstraße 106, 10783 Berlin

Phone: +49 30 2163336
Fax: +49 30 23638142
Email: maneo@maneo.de
Web: www.maneo.de

Opening hours:

Emergency helpline for gay men and face-to-face individual counselling: every day 5 pm to 7 pm. Calls outside of these hours will be recorded on an answering machine.

Target groups:

Gay and bisexual men.

Languages:

German and English. Additional languages are available through an interpreter upon request.

StandUp

Anti-discrimination counselling at
Schwulenberatung Berlin gGmbH
Niebuhrstraße 59/60, 10629 Berlin

Phone: +49 30 23369080
Fax: +49 30 23369098
Email: l.wild@schwulenberatungberlin.de
Web: www.schwulenberatungberlin.de

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday: 9 am to 8 pm.

Target groups:

Gay and bisexual men, persons living with HIV and AIDS, trans*.

Languages:

German, English, basic knowledge of Spanish and French. We also work together with Turkish- and Arabic-speaking colleagues (Syrian Arabic). Upon request we can also contact community interpreters.

An overview of counselling centres for LGBTI persons who have experienced discrimination can be found on the website for all anti-discrimination counselling projects [German only]: www.lsbtqi-berlin.de.

Do you want to know more?

For further information please consult our website www.berlin.de/lads/lbsbti. You will find background information including:

- Factsheet 10: Violence and discrimination against the LGBTI community
- Survey on the life situation and experiences of discrimination of gay and bisexual men - study headed by Dr. Anne Bachmann
- Survey of the European Fundamental Rights Agency FRA on LGBT persons in the EU

Berlin State Office for Equal Treatment and against Discrimination (LADS)

Senate Department for Justice,
Consumer Protection and Anti-Discrimination

Cosmo M. Dittmar-Dahnke
LGBTI Unit

Phone: +49 30 90281791

Salzburger Str. 21-25, 10825 Berlin

Email: LSBTI@senjustva.berlin.de

www.berlin.de/lads/lbsbti [German only]



**BERLIN SUPPORTS
SELFDETERMINATION
AND THE ACCEPTANCE
OF SEXUAL DIVERSITY** INITIATIVE