

Failure of gay women in health services, a violation of human rights

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Abstract

Women throughout history have been discriminated against on condition of sex and gender, to paraphrase Monique Wittig itself being a non-born women, but women do not escape these categorical concepts that define the individual woman, with their particular in context, they create identity, roles, and somehow draw a path of life, a way of being a woman in a patriarchal system that has been enriched by these binary and complementary categories.

Gay Women, Health Services, Violation of Human Rights.

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Introduction

In this article I refer specifically to lesbians or homosexuals, which is important to clarify that delve to discuss the "lesbian identity" or "lesbian" concept women is an issue that can be approached from different theoretical horizons, for which we should dedicate its own study on the subject.

Therefore I shall itself in this text to a lesbian woman as the woman who likes to exercise or not, one or some aspects of their sexuality in relation to the links it establishes with other women, whether or not a couple, including the affective-erotic relationships and sex with other women; It is a sexual orientation towards persons of the same sex (female-female).

This is where promptly discuss lesbians or homosexuals, their vulnerability and the violation of their human rights. A major human rights violations that are constantly present in these women is related to inadequate or no access to health services, particularly sexual and reproductive health, where the omission, invisibility are present, as in appearance this problem is nonexistent and paradoxical, for this fallacy omission allows the non-existence of the problem.

Homosexual or lesbian, in the state of San Luis Potosi, Mexico and elsewhere in the community or individuality women are invisible women, who in many situations to access to health services, these have to alienate the heteronormative system omitting its status as a gay woman and thus their specific needs that arise from their own condition, and this ultimately turns into a situation of vulnerability, by condition of sex, gender and sexual orientation, a triple condition of vulnerability, it is so subject to discrimination and violated their human rights vigorously.

Today you have agencies, institutions, legal instruments, treaties, pacts, conventions, legislative, international, national and state codes in the specific case of Mexico geopolitical and San Luis Potosi, which through conventions such as CEDAW, Mexico among others countries are seeking a life free of violence for women.

Thanks to these contributions, regulatory mechanisms, monitoring, action and punishment, not only in his brief creation, but in the concrete implementation of both laws, programs, public policies, etc. many women have been and we have benefited, as has been achieved recognition of rights and actions in favor of women as a human being; say benefited, because the fact of being a woman talking in this text on lesbian or gay women would not be possible at this time without the structural and systemic changes that have disrupted society, it has been a reorganization, restructuring, shift towards a recognition of women's rights, it has taken years.

However, it is important to stress that talking about women, there are women's collectives or individuals that some features or specific conditions such as socioeconomic status, indigenous women, women with a non-heterosexual sexual orientation, including in situations of most vulnerable, where their human rights are violated.

Failure to homosexual women as an act of violence Violence against women says Garcia & Salcedo is a problem that society denigrates, violates human rights and social fall leaves individual, family and irreversible.

This violence perpetrated systemically and is led by a dominant driver of patriarchy and capitalism thread perpetuates continue brewing conditions of discrimination against women, and in the case of homosexual women, their sexual orientation is a condition that is opposed to the hegemonic system that ignores, these invisible and oppresses women.

When we talk about discrimination we do in terms of distinction or differentiation toward a person or group of persons, whether because of their ethnic origin, color, nationality, language, religion, opinions or sexual orientation, noting that they have the same rights and therefore they cannot have equal treatment to those who are considered normal.

In the case of homosexual lesbian women with or without identity, being gay and being a woman is a challenge to the system, the social structures of patriarchy heterosexist and misogynist, so be lesbian or gay woman threatens thinking and existence androcentric, social, economic and legal status sense, is these challenges that the system turns against any movement that threatens him, becoming a kind of encirclement against homosexual women, where they are if not violent to deploy that threat challenging, they are pushing them towards violent immobility, to become an omission from them.

From this perspective, and considering the many ways of being a woman and living sexuality, homosexual sexual experience of these women omitting the particularities, is silenced, invisible, for that double condition of vulnerability, being a woman and being gay.

The omission of female couples or homosexual women, particularly in health services is due to the still existing prejudices in this social fabric that is wrapped by heteronormativity.

Some of these prejudices are that women are disinterested in sex or are totally dependent on men for pleasure, this invisibility as Riquelme means our denial as a group and individuals within society, for Alejandra Aquino invisibility refers to the omission which it is awarded to a person by the indifference of it, acting as if this were not present.

The logic of non-recognition appeal to moral categories as the offense, humiliation, ridicule, indifference, all directly linked to the lack of recognition or omission. This condition of vulnerability in a macho hostile environment in which homosexual women, as a result of this hostility is living, is difficult and / or no visible elements to integrate the integral development of society, without the need of concealment their sexuality, homosexual and lesbian women are therefore at risk in greater discrimination, abuse and violence against women.

Thematic lesbian health

Being lesbian or homosexual women is a challenge sexist structures, heterosexist and misogynist patriarchy, being lesbian or gay woman threatens thinking and existence with androcentric, social, economic and legal sense of the state.⁵⁸

This logic of non-recognition and hostile environment conducive lesbophobic behaviors themselves that are present in the health sector, specifically in dealing with sexual and reproductive health, as this does not escape the patriarchal system, which through heteronormative mechanisms intended to alienate homosexual or lesbian woman, forcing her to:

⁵⁸ (Rodriguez, Alma Margarita Ocegüera, 2011)

1. To deny their sexual orientation in order to access to health services if they feel threatened.

2. Do not go to medical examination or health care problems, threatening their safety.

Health services, and education programs in the area of health sciences, is designed based on criteria, standards, and binary systems heterónomo beliefs, male-female, heterosexual. It is also important to mention that regarding sexual health, there are specialized institutions, programs and greater openness, the recognition of rights in homosexual men, specifically on diseases and sexually transmitted infections, HIV-AIDS promptly.

Gay and bisexual men, in different states of the Mexican State, or no health programs that are inclusive, consider prevention, promotion; care and monitoring of the health of these women or women are few and focused on cities as the Federal District.

This in one way or other causes that lesbians or gay disqualify health services and in turn not regard the exercise of their right to health protection. By not attending health services in many cases, women are subject to greater health risks factors where their right to good living is seriously violated.

For lack of sexual education and scientific information, there are also many misconceptions about the lesbian sexual health, one is that the women there is minimal risk and / or cannot be transmitted STIs and STDs⁵⁹, there is a false perception that lesbian sexual practices are safe.⁶⁰

Women who have sex with women are also exposed to STIs and STDs, these are less prevalent than in heterosexual or bisexual women,⁶¹ But to have a lower prevalence is questionable, it would have to contemplate that a large number of women does not indicate its status as a gay woman and noted that a lower prevalence, is not synonymous with lesser or greater value or importance, as the value and health a person is not quantified by statistical data.

4. Some diseases affecting the population Lesbian

Based on three studies Dr. Carlos Cáceres (Peru), states:

1. Breast cancer is the most studied health issue in women who have sex with women. These appear to be at increased risk of developing this problem due to the higher prevalence of risk factors such as obesity, alcohol use and nulliparity, and also because of its lower frequency of breast examinations (Haynes, 1995).

2. cervical cancer; Risk factors are the carrying of human papilloma virus (HPV), which can be transmitted from woman to woman in sexual intercourse, but the major risk factor is not often performed gynecological exams, which prevents early detection. (Laura Eiven).

3. the most serious situation from the point of view of health-is to those who are "in the closet" with themselves, ie those who deny having desires and feelings for other women struggling to repress them.

⁵⁹ ITS, infección de transmisión sexual. ETS, enfermedad de transmisión sexual.

⁶⁰ (Martos, 2012)

⁶¹ (Degen & Waitkevicz, 1982).

As all acts of repression, it carries a severe cost in terms of physical and emotional health as well as social integration and development of the potential itself (Laura Eiven).

4. Family violence between couples of women, adolescents and young people in their immediate family or social environment or appear to be lesbian.

5. Reproductive health and rights, the inability to fully exercise their reproductive rights produce significant psychological damage to many lesbian or gay women and added to the list of factors that conspire against the exercise of their right to health (Laura Eiven).

Female homosexuals... Whose human rights?

Rosillo Martinez notes that feminists have denounced the current patriarchal construction of rights that constitutes this from a guy who claims to be universal, objective and neutral. The "subject of rights" (male), abstract, a historic, symmetrical, which when considered in this way, ultimately social struggles of women.

The closure, closet, invisibility, is a manipulative institution, apart from an instrument of torture and submission; It works as a decoy and as ideological shackles, like a mirage and as a tax trap for power in the service of a social order.⁶² A different view of the subject (as) human rights, leading to a patriarchalization of DH, questioning the universality and male hegemony is necessary.

This male hegemony that feeds on fears it causes, because the conditions of women are different from men, these conditions rests primarily on several factors such as oppression, discrimination, inequality and the undervaluation by gender.

Human rights under this Universalist perspective would ideological instruments that would eventually justify the oppression of some subjects over others. Invisibility means our denial as a group and individuals within society.⁶³

Consider the subject, subject of law as a subject or sole and absolute subject, pushes us to play dogmas, then anyone who has to be considered irrational and shall be liable (a) oppose, and repression often extends its dark wings to prevent , in one way or another ... anyway, the manifestation of the threat.⁶⁴

The woman and anyone who is not only subject and all, would therefore excluded, not subjects of law, here the feminist complaint, that the right is sexist⁶⁵ and sexism feeds on the fears that cause ...

Rosillo states should grant a viable construction of a plural subject that recognizes the historical dynamics of DH and therefore even stronger but a final solution only provisional nature is not considered, it must be constantly reviewing the situation before poor, oppressed and the victims.

If something does not change, says Beuchot, it is the dignity of human beings, and something that changes the way the mad men (and women) individual. Foucault himself said that both the complete difference, as the full identity, are unattainable, would be madness.

⁶³ (Riquelme Ugarte, 2005, pág. 274)

⁶⁴ (Lizarraga Cruchaga, 2012, pág. 290)

⁶⁵ (Rosillo Martínez, *Filosofía de la Liberación, Feminismos y Derechos Humanos*, 2014)

⁶² (Lizarraga Cruchaga, 2012, pág. 277)

Never get the full significance, to absolute truth, to reality as such, all things that connote identity.⁶⁶

End the situation of social and historical invisibility and influence everyday social environment in which women live involves breaking the stigma, prejudice and discrimination and promote a culture of respect for diversity, recognition of the other and others, Of course, fight for our rights, exercise praxis of liberation.

While there is no human being, human that is not conditioned by their environment, and these somehow predispose certain decisions only through a process of awareness and sensitivity which these environments and historical processes are analyzed, you can change that thinking.

A critical community and individual reconstruction, come to break with the patriarchal system, but a unity that respects and recognizes the plurality of subjects, subject and their rights is an arduous task to achieve, it is not only competition of subjects and subject isolated or organized community, a transformation that cleave the system and foster a new thinking, aware of the diversity that we are as human beings and possibilities is necessary.

Conclusions

The shape is that it suffers discrimination based on race, sex, religion or disability varies considerably: there are differences within the difference.

The common factor is the damage inflicted on the dignity of persons because of their belonging to certain groups ... For gays and lesbians, history and experience teach us that the most damage arises not both poverty or powerlessness, but from invisibility. It is the pollution of desire, the attribution of perversity and shame of a physical affection spontaneous, the prohibition of expression of love, the denial of full moral citizenship in society as one who is, in violation of the dignity and rights group.

Albie Sachs,

Judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, 1998.

Because of an exclusive social environment and heteronormative homosexual or lesbian women little demand proper care of health services, including trained personnel services free of stigma and discrimination, adequate and scientific information, an inclusive sexual education and health programs that meet their specific needs, must be promoted free of stigma and discrimination, safe spaces in which these women generate a sense of identity itself, where the threat to their health and integrity is not what prevails, where the voices of these women They are heard, their needs are identified, empower and create social movements that make visible their existence. I predict it will not be easy because of the many factors that can be brought, but is a constant struggle and obligation of the Mexican State ensure that everyone has access to health protection and that is suitable to the needs is sector population, since "Homosexual and lesbian women are people too."

⁶⁶ (Beuchot, *Hermenéutica analógica y filosofía del derecho*, 2010)

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