

Decriminalization of Homosexuality – Road ahead for LGBTQ community of India

Description

Theme:-

• On 6th September, 2018, Supreme court gave judgement on section 377, which decriminalized homosexuality in India.

Things to cheer for :-

- <u>India joined 25 other nations</u> in decriminalizing homosexuality. And hence India is a step closer to becoming equal and inclusive society.
- As per surveys, acceptance of same-sex relationships is increased in India.

Present challenges for LGBTQ community in India:-

- Though homosexuality is decriminalized, same-sex marriages are not yet legal in India. As long as the same-sex marriages get legal status, <u>LGBTQ</u> (<u>Lesbian</u>, <u>Gay</u>, <u>Bisexual</u>, <u>Transgender & Queer</u>) community will face legal issues in <u>adopting children</u> and passing properties to their adopted children as <u>inheritance</u> etc. And most importantly, legal status for the same-sex marriages will bring the feeling that all couples are equal.
- Though more and more people are understanding and accepting people who have different sexual orientation from majority, still they often face social stigma and abuse.
- Religious extremist groups are against to the same-sex marriages, and often causes trouble for the LGBTQ community. Many of these religious extremists are not aware of the fact that homophobia (prejudice against homosexual people) came to India with Britishers and wasn't there in India before. Section 377, which criminalizes homosexuality was introduced in India under British rule.

Conclusion:-

It's a victory for everyone that India has finally decriminalized homosexuality. But we have a long way to go in achieving equal rights and complete acceptance for the LGBTQ community in India.

Your Turn...

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